



Board of Trustees

MESSENGER

~ Notable News from the Board ~



Ward 71
TERRY HARRIS
Cell: 780 937-8268
terence.harris@ecsd.net



Ward 72 • (Vice-Chair)
SANDRA PALAZZO
Cell: 780 965-6083
sandra.palazzo@ecsd.net



Ward 73
CARLA SMILEY
Home: 587 408-3589
carla.smiley@ecsd.net



Ward 74
DEBBIE ENGEL
Cell: 780 970-7160
debbie.engel@ecsd.net



Ward 75
ALENE MUTALA
Cell: 780 242-5926
alene.mutala@ecsd.net



Ward 76
LISA TURCHANSKY
Cell: 780 903-2033
lisa.turchansky@ecsd.net



Ward 77 • (Chair)
LAURA THIBERT
Cell: 780 231-6312
laura.thibert@ecsd.net

"Take delight in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart."

Psalms 37:4

Our Board gathered together with the rest of our ECSD family on Tuesday, November 27 for our regular meeting. This month, we commemorated the Holodomor – which took place on November 23 in our District schools and sites – and celebrated some wonderful awards and achievements within our District.

Walking Together in God's Love: Selena Posteraro & the Sister Annata Brockman Story

This month, the Board profiled the story of Selena Posteraro and Sister Annata Brockman (SAB) School as we continue celebrating the District school year theme of "Walking Together in God's Love" and the heartwarming work that happens daily in our schools.

Selena is the fundraising lead at Sister Annata Brockman School and works in collaboration with the school council and staff to ensure that fundraising goals are aligned with student's needs to give them opportunities for physical, emotional and spiritual growth beyond their existing curricular and extracurricular options.

Over the years, Selena has organized, coordinated and led family BBQs, dances, countless fundraising opportunities and, her most rewarding job, the planning, building and maintenance of the outdoor skating rink. Selena is driven and works tirelessly for the school community. Her consistent and reliable support, determination and energy are evident in everything she does and on any given day she can be seen clearing the snow and correcting water/ice levels on the rink, researching, purchasing and delivering skates and helmets for the SAB students.

Thank you, Selena, for your absolute dedication to the students at SAB and our District!



~ Notable News from the Board ~ cont'd

Joan Carr Receives Alberta Catholic Schools Trustees' Association Appreciation Award

The Board of Trustees is delighted to share that Superintendent Joan Carr received an Appreciation Award from the Alberta Catholic School Trustees Association (ACSTA) at their annual general meeting held November 16-18.

The Board was honoured to nominate Superintendent Carr for this award for her unwavering commitment to and attainment of excellence in Catholic education for our students and families and for her generosity in sharing our best practices with jurisdictions across the province and beyond.

Superintendent Carr's faith permeates everything that she does both professionally and personally and she is a visionary leader to whom unity is important. Trustee Sandra Palazzo continued: "We praise God, and Kevin, of course, for blessing us with a servant leader in every respect of the word whose outstanding commitment and dedication makes her an inspiration, a mentor and a role model for us all."

In 2016, Superintendent Carr was the recipient of the prestigious Canadian Association of School System Administrators (CASSA) EXL Award, which recognizes excellency in superintendency.





~ Notable News from the Board ~ cont'd

ECSD's Personal Pathways Program Receives ASBA Award for Innovation & Excellence

The Board of Trustees announced on Tuesday that the District's Personal Pathways Program was selected as the winner of the ASBA School Board Innovation and Excellence Award! The Personal Pathways Program is a shining example of the steps that our District is taking to reach our goal: that every one of our students graduates from high school.

The program uses community recreation centres as authentic community hubs, where incredible alternative learning environments exist. These sites can help students grow their skills to better support their transition into the real world. It is an excellent example of what happens when community partners, in this case the City of Edmonton, join with us to support vulnerable children and youth. Click [here](#) for more information on the Personal Pathways Program.

The ASBA School Board Innovation and Excellence Award recognizes school boards for their role in launching innovative programs and initiatives that enhance student achievement.

Congratulations to Superintendent Joan Carr and Assistant Superintendent Corine Gannon and her team on receiving this well-deserved award!

Holodomor Memorial in Edmonton Catholic Schools

In May 2011, the Board of Trustees approved a report on Edmonton Catholic Schools' plan to commemorate the Holodomor – Ukrainian Famine Genocide – which was committed against the Ukrainian population in 1932-1933 under the Soviet regime.

Our plan included declaring the last Friday in November as Holodomor Memorial Day in our District and to encourage schools to undertake a moment of silence or other activity during Holodomor Memorial Day, in recognition of the millions of Ukrainians who died as a result of this genocide.

We are pleased to recognize one of our District's teachers from St. Martin, Olga Chasse, who recently won third place in a national contest: 2018 HREC Educator Prize: Holodomor Lesson Plan Development. Olga's lesson was developed for the Grade 5 level and has, as its aim, to educate students about the Holodomor and to engage them in discussions and activities that promote analytical, critical and creative thinking.

Congratulations, Olga!



~ Notable News from the Board ~ cont'd

Audited Financial Statements & Updated District Budget

On Tuesday, the Board also approved the release of the [Audited Financial Statements](#) for the year ended August 31, 2018. This update is provided to Alberta Education each fall.

In addition, Trustees received an update on the District budget. The budget has been adjusted to reflect actual student enrolment. The net result of the changes is a continuation of the balanced budget for 2017-2019 with total expenses of \$525.2 million.

Revision to 2019-2020 District School Year-Round Calendar

The Board approved a change to the 2019-2020 District School Year-Round calendar which makes August 29 a non-instructional day.

The year-round school calendar is followed by St. Teresa of Calcutta, St. Alphonsus and St. Catherine schools.

Year-Round School Calendar 2019-2020



July 2019	August 2019	September 2019
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
7 8 9 10 11 12 13	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	11 12 13 14 15 16 17	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
21 22 23 24 25 26 27	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	29 30
October 2019	November 2019	December 2019
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	29 30 31
January 2020	February 2020	March 2020
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4	1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	29 30 31
April 2020	May 2020	June 2020
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29 30
	31	

First Day of Operation
August 9, 2019

First Day of Instruction
August 12, 2019

Last Day of Instruction
June 26, 2020

Last Day of Operation
June 29, 2020

Labour Day Sept 2
Fall Break Oct 7-18
Remembrance Day Nov 11
Christmas Vacation Dec 23 - Jan 3
Faith Development Day Feb 4
Family Day Feb 17
Teachers' Convention Feb 27-28
Spring Break Mar 16-27
Good Friday Apr 10
Easter Monday Apr 13
Victoria Day May 18

MONTH	Operational # of Days	Instructional # of Days
August	16	14
September	20	20
October	13	13
November	20	20
December	15	15
January	20	20
February	19	16
March	12	12
April	20	20
May	20	20
June	21	20
Total	196	190

Non-Instructional Days
 Cancellation of early dismissal
 Non-Operational Days
 Early Dismissal



~ Notable News from the Board ~ cont'd

A Year in Review: 2017-2018 Annual Education Report Results (AERR) and Three-Year Education Plan 2018-2021

The AERR and Three-Year Strategic plan were approved by the Board at the last meeting.

The Annual Education Results Report 2017-2018 celebrates the District's achievements in the past year. These include:

- The District's three-year high school completion increased to 85.6%, which is above the provincial rate of 78 %
- Our drop-out rate of 1.2% is almost half the provincial rate of 2.3%
- A plan was developed for transportation to implement tiered bussing which is an expansion of the shared bussing with Edmonton Public Schools for a total cost savings in 2018/19 of \$1.8 million
- For the third year in a row, Edmonton Catholic Schools was named one of Alberta's Top 70 Employers

The Three-Year Education Plan looks ahead to 2021 and our continued commitment to enhance the distinctiveness of Catholic education and to help students develop to their full potential. This includes numerous strategies so that our First Nations, Métis and Inuit students can continue to excel, the completion and opening of Ben Calf Robe/St. Clare replacement school, to ensuring learning environments embrace diversity and promotes inclusion.

Click [here](#) to view the 2017-2018 Annual Education Report Results and Three-Year Education Plan in its entirety.

*The next meeting of the Board will be held on December 11, 2018.
This edition of The Messenger is from the November 27, 2018 meeting.*

The Messenger: Notable News from the Board is published following the public Board meeting and is an opportunity for the ECSD Board of Trustees to communicate the accomplishments and pay tribute to the wonderful initiatives that our District undertakes.

If you would like to view the latest Board meeting, here is a link to the webcast:

https://www.ecsd.net/BoardofTrustees/Reports-and-Resources/public_board_meeting/Pages/Default.aspx