



Board Meeting Digest

Monday, March 29, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board

DISCUSSION/DECISION

Consent Items: The first items on the agenda, marked with a star, were received by the Board of Education through a single motion that indicated trustees approved of all recommendations contained in the items.

☆ **Accounts Paid January 1 – January 31, 2010 and February 1 – February 28, 2010 and Financial Statements for Periods Ended January 31, 2010 and February 28, 2010.**

☆ **Staffing Report**

The staffing report includes staff complements for instructional, service and support staff as of February 1, 2010.

St. Frances School Cree Bilingual Program Update

Supt. Gordon Martell and a delegation from St. Frances School, including Principal Jenise Vangool, spoke to the Board about the St. Frances Cree Bilingual Program, which is in its third year of operation at the school. Grade 3 will be added for Fall 2010. It is a product of our division's mamawohkamatowin partnerships with the Saskatoon Tribal Council and the Central Urban Metis Federation Inc.

The program's features include:

- a blended approach that teaches Gospel values and tipi teachings,
- an emphasis on both Cree and English language literacies,
- innovative early learning strategies,
- a focus on student outcomes.

School and Program Location – Sion Catholic Middle School

Since January 2009 school division administration has examined the programming at Sion Catholic Middle School and explored different means of providing the programming offered there. This examination included a literature review of alternative programming, meetings with

Sion's staff and administration, as well as a meeting with parents this spring. The focus throughout the review has been to ensure that students attending Sion, or those who may need its services, could receive the support they require within the school division.

Administration explained to trustees that programming for these students will now be provided at three new sites. Staff at Sion will be redeployed throughout the division.

Trustees passed a motion to close Sion Catholic Middle School as of June 30, 2010.

St. Mary Community School Final Drawings and Design

Trustees received and approved the final design for the new St. Mary Community School.

From the report: "The Plan is organized in an 'L-shaped' configuration around the large central gymnasium and supporting community spaces, which become the heart of the school, and the gathering place for the community for physical, social and spiritual growth."

The report also addresses how the old St. Mary will be acknowledged in the new facility: "A few elements from the existing St. Mary School will be incorporated in the interior of the new St. Mary School when they become available: the Stained Glass Art-piece at the main vestibule will be reinstalled at the vestibule; the cornerstone will be removed and mounted in the main corridor; brick will be salvaged and incorporated on the curved wall outside the gymnasium; and the cross from above the main entry will be mounted at the centre of that brick wall, on the gym's main axis."

The floor plans are available in the meeting package.

Intensive French

- **St. Dominic Elementary School (Humboldt)**
- **St. Augustine Elementary School (Humboldt)**

After meeting with their school communities and gauging interest through parent surveys, the Catholic School Community Councils at St. Augustine and St. Dominic in Humboldt submitted a request to the Board of Education to offer Intensive French in their schools for the fall of 2010. Implementation of the program will be dependent on staff availability and teacher vacancy.

Intensive French

- **Father Robinson Elementary School**

After two information sessions and an online survey, it appears there is sufficient interest to offer Intensive French at Father Robinson in fall 2010. Trustees improved implementation of the program at Father Robinson for fall 2010.