

**Elk Island Public Schools
Trustee Report
Ray Welsh**

February 2010

1. Superintendent Search

Elk Island is currently conducting a search for a new superintendent of schools following the resignation of Mr. Stang. Trustees are meeting with Mr. Terry Gunderson, a facilitator with the Alberta School Board Association, over the next several months to facilitate this process. The board is planning on having a new superintendent in place by the end of the current school year with an announcement in March. Mr. Beliveau will continue to serve as Acting Superintendent until the appointment of the new superintendent.

2. School calendar – 2009-2010

As reported in an earlier report, the end of the current year has been modified so that the final school day for students will be Friday, June 25. However, due to information received from Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund, it has been deemed necessary to make both June 28 and June 29 operational days for teachers as the elimination of June 29 would have an impact on teachers' pensions. This change does not affect the previously announced modification in the school year for students. June 30 is a school closure day for students and staff.

3. Annual Education Results Report

The Board approved the 2008/2009 Annual Education Results Report (AERR) for EIPS. The AERR provides an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the outstanding work seen in our schools every day. In addition to recognizing students' results on provincial examinations, the AERR highlights examples of citizenship, health and wellness, and curriculum enrichment activities in our schools. The 2008/09

Accountability Pillar results and our AERR indicate EIPS can be proud of another outstanding year in public education. The complete report is available on EIPS' website.

4. COSC

The January Committee of School Councils meeting was held in Ardrossan on January 6 with Videoconferencing to Vegreville and Lamont. The highlights of the meeting were the presentations by Ms. Barrett and Ms. Sabo, Directors of Planning and Accountability, who reported on Elk Island's District Education Plan and the June 2009 Provincial Achievement Exam and Diploma Exam results. It was noted that Elk Island continues to do very well in meeting all of the standards set by Alberta Education. Some concern was expressed related to the decline in the standard of excellence being achieved by Elk Island students in the diploma exam results at the grade 12 level, however, it was also noted that this trend appears to be occurring across the province. More analysis is being done on these results while steps to improve Elk Islands results are currently being undertaken. Another presentation by Ms. McConnell, Director of Curriculum Services, outlined the progress of the current A.I.S.I. cycle which is focusing on mathematics across all grades and improved utilization of technology in the classroom. The next meeting will be March 3 and will feature a presentation on Power School and how parents will be able to access their students' records online.

5. Policy Review

The Policy Review Committee for Elk Island is currently in the process of reviewing and updating all of Elk Island Public School's policies. Many policies are redundant or out of date and many need revision or elimination. As Elk Island currently has in excess of 170 individual policies, this task is expected to take some time and will result in a much more manageable policy handbook.