



November 17, 2011

A Letter to our Parents and Guardians

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Re: Distribution of Restored Government Funding in Edmonton Catholic Schools

Following Premier Alison Redford's appointment in early October, \$107 million in Education funding was restored to school jurisdictions throughout Alberta. In the Edmonton Catholic School District, a committee was formed consisting of a number of principals representing different levels, a Trustee and senior administration to decide how our District would distribute the over \$5 million we received.

At the end of June, 2011 approximately 97 FTE (Full Time Equivalent) certificated (teaching) positions, 63 FTE support staff positions and 24 FTE custodial positions were eliminated. In September, 2011 due to an enrolment increase of 840 students, the District was able to reinstate 29 FTE teaching positions.

Here are highlights of how the restored funding of **\$5,487,591** was allocated:

- **Class Size: (\$956,156)**
Each elementary school was allocated funds to work towards achieving provincial **average** class size guidelines.
- **Support for Severe Special Needs Students: (\$1,000,000)**
Additional funding was directed to schools as support for severe special needs inclusive students in order to better meet identified needs.
- **English Language Learners: (\$488,700)**
A total of 100% of the restored funds allocated by Alberta Education for English Language Learners (ELL) were directed to the schools.

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- **AISI and Classroom and Community Supports funding: (\$3,042,735)**

The Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AISI) funding, and Classroom and Community Supports funding was allocated to all schools to be used to support learning teams. The intention was to directly support students. Schools may have chosen to increase the time allotted for their learning coach, graduation coach, special needs teacher assistant, social worker or other staff that will directly support student learning.

The table below shows the number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions restored as of November 4th, 2011 from funding allocated in all areas:

Additional Staff	
Learning Coach	7.42 FTE
Graduation Coach	.3 FTE
Social Worker	.2 FTE
*Classroom Teacher	32.3 FTE
Special Needs Teacher Assistant	25.4 FTE
**Other	3.84 FTE
Total – Additional Staff	69.46 FTE

*Classroom teacher numbers have been restored to 2010-2011 staffing levels.

** (Other - Counselor, ELL Teacher, Guided Reading Teacher, Literacy Teacher)

Goal #1 in Edmonton Catholic Schools’ District Plan for Continuous Growth 2011-2014 is “Success for every student.” Therefore, after consultation with our principals, we are pleased to share how these restored funds support this goal in every school across our District.

Sincerely,



Debbie Engel
Board Chair



Joan Carr
Superintendent