



EDMONTON
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

News Release

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Edmonton Catholic School District Average Class Sizes Lowest of all Metro Boards

The average class size in the Edmonton Catholic School District decreased in 2003-2004. This information was released last week in a report from Alberta Learning on class size averages throughout the province.

Edmonton Catholic School District averages were the lowest overall of four metropolitan school districts in the province:

- Kindergarten - Grade 3 22 students
- Grades 4 – 6 25 students
- Grades 7 – 9 26 students
- Grades 10 – 12 26.9 students

“We are pleased that schools in our District have utilized the resources available to keep class sizes as small as possible,” said Charlie Koester, Edmonton Catholic School Board Chair.

When comparing 2003-2004 with the 2002-2003 school year, class size averages in the Edmonton Catholic District decreased at all levels by .4 in Kindergarten to Grade 3, .1 in Grades 4 to 6 and by 1.4 in Grades 7 to 9.

“It’s important to recognize that our teachers are one of the primary reasons our district maintained its class sizes as they accepted a settlement that did not give them an increase in the third year of their contract,” said Dr. Ripley, Superintendent of Edmonton Catholic Schools.

“We also realize that these numbers are class size averages, not actuals. We know that there are class sizes well beyond these averages, and this is not acceptable. We will continue to work on decreasing class sizes in our district,” Dr. Ripley went on to say.

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