



EDMONTON  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

For immediate release  
May 21, 2004

## News Release

### **Edmonton Catholic School Support Staff Strike Averted**

A planned strike by Edmonton Catholic School Support Staff has been averted following a meeting this morning between the Board's negotiating committee and the ECSSA (Edmonton Catholic Support Staff Association) negotiating committee.

A tentative agreement has been reached with the union which will now take the offer back to its membership and recommend ratification.

"The Board is extremely pleased that our schools will remain open Tuesday for all children and our dedicated support staff will continue to provide exemplary service to students, parents and staff," said Charlie Koester, Board of Trustees Chairperson. "The Board has struggled all week with the dilemma of a strike or agreeing to an increased contract offer that could mean further staff reductions in order to meet contractual demands," Koester went on to say.

The ECSSA Union presented a new offer to the Board late Monday and the Board met for several hours last night to discuss the proposal.

The tentative agreement provides for a salary settlement as follows:

- 3% increase effective Jan 1/03
- An additional 4% effective Jan 1/04
- A wage reopener effective Jan 1/05 (percentage to be negotiated)

The contract expires August 31, 2005.

#### **For more information contact:**

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