



EDMONTON  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

For immediate release,  
December 7, 2004

## News Release

### **Financial statement assures parents that money is spent on students in Edmonton Catholic Schools**

The audited financial statement released this week and accepted by the Board of Trustees indicates an increase in the amount of the District budget that is being spent on students.

The 2003-2004 audited financial statement for August 31, 2004 shows a 2% increase in the amount of the budget being spent on instructional dollars from the 1999– 2000 budget. In 2003-2004 a total of 79.32% of the budget of almost \$235 million dollars was spent on instructional dollars. This compares to 77.16% in the 1999-2000 budget.

“This is significant because it assures parents that District dollars are going into the classroom and spent where they should be, on students and the supports students need to enhance learning,” said Dr. Dale Ripley, Superintendent of Edmonton Catholic Schools.

Budget guidelines for Edmonton Catholic Schools allows schools to end the year with an accumulated surplus of not more than 7% or a deficit of no more than 3% of allocated revenues. The audited financial statement for August 31, 2004 shows a deficit of just over \$169 thousand dollars. This small deficit will be covered through normal operating procedures this year.

In addition, the amount of funding that is spent each year on Board and Central Administration has dropped since 1999 from 3.28% in 1999-2000 to 3.20% in 2003-2004.

“This is a very important message for parents that Edmonton Catholic is increasing the dollars it spends today on today’s classrooms,” said Debbie Engel, Board of Trustees Chairperson.

- 30 -

(See attached graph)

**For more information contact:**

Lori Nagy  
Media Relations  
Edmonton Catholic Schools  
(780) 441-6189