



EDMONTON
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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News Release

Major Modernizations continue to dominate the 2007-2010 Capital Plan

A total of 15 major modernization projects are listed as priorities in the 2007 – 2010 Capital Plan, up from 11 major modernization projects in the 2006-2009 Capital Plan. Of those 15 projects, three are considered crucial for the following Edmonton Catholic High Schools; St. Francis Xavier, Archbishop MacDonald and Archbishop O’Leary.

“I just can’t stress this enough. Those high schools are in need of major repairs that must be done to keep these schools viable,” said Debbie Engel, Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Trustees.

The major modernizations for these high schools are estimated to cost almost \$34 million. The 15 projects listed for the next three years will cost over \$100 million. Major modernization projects are also listed for six Elementary schools, two Elementary/Junior High schools, two Junior High schools, one Junior High /Senior High school and a K-12 French Immersion school.

An Elementary/Junior High School in Windermere, and a Junior High School in Castledowns Extension are new to the 2007-2010 Capital Plan. The High School in Terwillegar is on the Capital Plan with consideration for potential partnership opportunities. The Terwillegar high school was originally listed as an Academic High School in the 2006-2009 Capital Plan. In its mandate to position itself as one of the district’s academic high schools, St. Joseph High School is working on a partnership proposal with NAIT which, if approved, would allow their high school students to access post-secondary academic and trade degree programs.

“The need for an Elementary/Junior High school in Windermere as well as a High School in Terwillegar reflects the continued brisk growth in southwest Edmonton,” said Acting Superintendent Joan Carr. “Without this new construction, our District utilization rate in southwest Edmonton will climb from a current 83% to 98% in 2010,” Carr went on to say.

A new Elementary/Junior High School in Brintnell as well as a Junior High School in Castledowns Extension reflects a similar rapid growth in North Edmonton. “Without funding for these two schools, several Edmonton Catholic Schools in North Edmonton will be at or over capacity by 2010,” said Joan Carr.

The 2007 – 2010 Capital Plan was approved at tonight’s Board of Trustees meeting and will now be sent to the provincial government for their review.

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