



EDMONTON
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

For immediate release,
September 29, 2006

News Release

Edmonton Catholic Students Continue to Succeed

The 2006 Provincial Achievement Test results and 2006 Diploma Exam Results for Edmonton Catholic Schools were released at a special Board meeting this morning.

The 2006 **Provincial Achievement Tests** results establish a **record high** for our school district as we exceeded the province in 23 out of 24 standards. As well, Grades 3, 6 and 9 students in our district also exceeded the provincial percentage of students writing in English, achieving **both** Acceptable Standard and the Standard of Excellence in **ALL** subjects.

In addition, the Edmonton Catholic School District exceeded the provincial participation rate for students in Grades 3 and 6 for **ALL** subject areas. This reflects the district's commitment that all students are encouraged to write the Provincial Achievement Tests.

"We thank all students for their hard work in achieving these excellent results," said Debbie Cavaliere, Trustee for Ward 4. "It's also important to recognize parents for helping their children succeed and staff for their on-going dedication to the students in our district." Cavaliere added.

The 2006 **Diploma Examination Results** show a continued strength in the Humanities: English Language Arts 30-1, English Language Arts 30-2 and Social Studies 33, as well as exceeding the province in Physics 30 (Acceptable Standard) and French Language Arts 30 (Acceptable Standard). In considering the Final Course Marks, French Language Arts 30 students achieved **100%** on the Acceptable Standard three years in a row.

The Diploma Examination results also reflect important gains in high school completion. There were 477 more Grade 12 students last school year than the number of Grade 11 students in the 2004-2005 school year.

"We will continue to build on the success in our high school completion rates," said Joan Carr, Superintendent of Edmonton Catholic Schools. "More of our students are remaining in school and more students are returning to our high schools to complete their high school diploma and more students are writing the diploma exams." Carr went on to say.

The district's high school completion rates have increased more than originally projected. Between 1999 and 2005 the district's three year high school completion rate increased from 61.8% to 68.5%, an increase of 6.7%. The five year rate has increased from 69.4% to 76.3%, an increase of 6.9%, and almost 3% above the projected rate.

- 30 -

For more information contact:

Lori Nagy
Manager of Media and Public Relations
Edmonton Catholic Schools
(780) 441-6189 office
(780) 991-6363 cell