



AUPE Agreement Ratified by Board of Trustees

At tonight's regular public Board meeting, the Board of Trustees ratified a five-year collective agreement with the District's 330 employees of the Alberta Union of Public Employees (AUPE).

The Agreement is retroactive to September 1st 2007 and goes until August 31, 2012. Here are some highlights of the agreement:

- Effective September 1, 2007 - approximate 12.75% increase
- Effective March 1, 2008 - approximate \$1.00 per hour increase for all AUPE employees
- Approximate increase over 2007–2008 - 18.02%
- September 1, 2008 - 500 Health Spending Account
- September 1, 2008 - District pays 100% of benefit costs
- Vehicle allowance for Maintenance staff who must use their own vehicle (\$500/month) - up from \$300

"These employees are the Custodians in our schools and District buildings, Maintenance, Warehouse and school cafeteria staff, and they provide a vital service to our District," said Board Chairperson Cindy Olsen.

In early 2005, the members voted for a change in representation, leaving the Alberta Union of School Employees (AUSE) and joining AUPE. This contract has completely been re-written and gives the District an opportunity to become more competitive with other Metro school districts.

"We are hoping this new collective agreement helps Edmonton Catholic Schools become an employer of choice for people working in this industry," said Mark Weleschuk, employee of Edmonton Catholic Schools and Chairperson of the AUPE Chapter Negotiating Committee. "We are very pleased with our new contract and look forward to our continued great working relationship with the Edmonton Catholic School District," Weleschuk went on to say.

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