



Year Round Schooling to Start in the 2010/11 School Year

At a public Board meeting tonight, the Board of Trustees approved a pilot project for year round schooling in the Edmonton Catholic School District.

“Year round schooling gives parents another choice for their child’s learning and also reduces the concern of the summer learning gap, said Board Chairperson Debbie Engel. “Year round schooling was considered for 11 schools in the Edmonton Catholic School District,” Engel added.

Two types of the year round schooling calendar were considered: dual track and single track. In a single track school, all students in the school have the same schedule. The summer holiday is shortened to five weeks and the other three weeks are divided into a two week break in October and one extra week during spring break.

In a dual track school, families are given the choice of either the traditional calendar with eight weeks summer holiday or the year round schooling calendar with even spacing of holidays throughout the year.

Surveys were conducted with students, staff and parents of each school and surveys were also translated into eight different languages to meet the needs of as many parents as possible.

Over 74% of parents at St. Catherine Elementary/Junior High, 10915 – 110 Street, were supportive of a single track, year round schooling model. Students and staff also responded favourably to this option, and tonight the Board of Trustees approved year round schooling at St. Catherine, beginning in August of 2010.

“It is essential that we have the support of parents, students and staff before proceeding with year round schooling,” said Superintendent Joan Carr. “The St. Catherine school community embraced the concept, so we are looking forward to implementing this model in August,” Carr went on to say.

For more information call:

LORI NAGY

• Manager of Media
& Community Relations
Services

- 780 441-6189 (office)
- 780 991-6363 (cell)