



For Immediate Release, November 29, 2011

## **Audited Financial Statements for 2010/11 and Updated Budget for 2011/12**

The Board of Trustees approved the 2010-2011 Audited Financial Statements at their public Board meeting late this afternoon.

- The District's Accumulated Operating Surplus increased by \$3.1 million in the current year resulting in an Accumulated Operating Surplus of 2.5% of expenses. This is under the provincial guideline of 3.25%.

The District was successful in generating a modest operating surplus for the year of \$5.4 million which is 1.5% of revenues.

Highlights of how the 2010/11 budget enhanced student learning:

- Funding helped place Learning Coaches at all schools in our District. The Learning Coach is a certificated staff member (teacher/assistant principal) whose role is to act as a learning coach and enhance the capacity for schools to address diverse learning needs of students.
- The budget supported 'at-risk' students by offering Full Day Kindergarten: the District expanded to 34 programs in 21 schools. The District continues to fund these programs from funding used for Kindergarten through Grade 12 students.
- High School Completion in the District continues to increase. The most recent numbers (for the 2009/10 school year) show our Three year High School Completion Rate at 76.5%, an improvement of 2.7% over the previous year.

"The 2010/11 audited financial statements show that schools are continuing to be prudent with their funds," said Debbie Engel, Board Chair.

Due to an enrolment increase of 840 students this school year, the District was able to reinstate 29 FTE teaching positions at the beginning of September. The restored education funding in October of **\$5,487,591** was allocated throughout the District:

For more information call:

**LORI NAGY**

- Manager of Media & Community Relations
- 780 441-6189 (office)
- 780 991-6363 (cell)

- **Support for Severe Special Needs Students:** A total of **\$1,000,000** was directed to support severe special needs inclusive students to attempt to meet more of the identified needs.
- **English Language Learners: (\$488,700)** – A total of 100% of the restored funds allocated by Alberta Education for English Language Learners (ELL) are being directed to the schools.
- **AISI and Classroom and Community Supports funding: (\$3,042,735)** The Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AIS) funding and Classroom and Community Supports funding will be used to support learning teams. The intention is to directly support students. Schools might have chosen to increase their learning coach, graduation coach, educational assistant, social worker time or other staff that will directly support student learning.

The table below shows the number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions restored, as of November 4th, 2011.

<b>Staff Type</b>	
Learning Coach	7.42 FTE
Grad Coach	.3 FTE
Social Worker	.2 FTE
*Classroom Teacher	32.30 FTE
SNTA	25.40 FTE
**Other	3.84 FTE
<b>Total – Staff Type</b>	<b>69.46 FTE</b>

\*Classroom teacher numbers have been restored to 2010-2011 staffing levels.

\*\* (Other - Counselor, ELL Teacher, Guided Reading Teacher, Literacy Teacher)

“Our staff’s on-going commitment to help students achieve at their full potential is our first priority of fiscal responsibility,” said Superintendent Joan Carr.