

Highlights 2008-2009
Edmonton Catholic Schools Inclusion Parent Interest Group

A collaborative working group

The mission of this group:

*To promote, support, and improve inclusive education within the
Edmonton Catholic School community*

- Steering committee of 10 members (parents, AACL, ECSD consultants, district principal, assistant superintendent); parent contact list of over 50 ECSD parents (elementary to high school)
- Five steering committee meetings held during this school year
- Meeting with Dave Hancock, Minister of Education
- Alberta Education "setting the Direction" submission
- Strategies generated to increase parent contact list throughout all 84 schools
- District brochure revised: *Supporting Students with Special Education Needs through Inclusion*
- Copies of Revised Inclusive Education District Brochure present in each ECSD school site
- Inclusion group
- Webpage launched directly from the ECSD homepage – accessed through the parents and students tab - December 2008
- Inaugural Annual General Meeting held in May 2009
- Promotional article published to celebrate the successes of the group published in the district staff internal newsletter *The Bulletin* published in June 2009

2008/2009 Presentations:

- 2008 & 2009: "What Parents of Children with Disabilities want from Educators" to Concordia University pre-service teachers
- 2008: "Parent/Professional Collaboration for Inclusion" to U of A pre-service teachers
- 2007, 2008 & 2009: "Individual Program Plans/Transitions" to ECS parents
- 2008 & 2009: "Inclusive Education, A Parent's Perspective" to GETCA
- 2009: "The Role of Teaching Assistants in Inclusive Education" to Teachers Assistants
- 2008: Interest Group presentation at the Edmonton Regional Coalition for Inclusive Education (ERC) meeting in November
- 2006 & 2008: Presentations to ECS Board of Trustees

If you are a family with Edmonton Catholic Schools and would like further information on the ECSD Inclusion Parent Interest Group, please contact Cory Donald at Learning Support Services – 780 989 3024 or donaldc@ecsd.net

