



For release: May 29, 2018

Board Approves Balanced Budget for 2018/19

This afternoon the Board of Trustees approved a \$527.7 million budget for the 2018 – 2019 school year. Approximately 80% of the new budget will be spent on students in the classroom.

“As a District we have always felt strongly that funding goes into the classroom first, and our budget process reflects this philosophy,” said Joan Carr, Superintendent of Edmonton Catholic Schools. “Today’s dollars are always spent on today’s students,” Carr added.

A few highlights of the 2018/19 Budget:

- Approximately \$2.6 million will be used to transport students outside a 2.4 km radius of their designated school.
- \$4.7 million will go towards the Classroom Improvement Fund (CIF). In 2018/19 this funding will be used for new initiatives for English Language Learners and complex or special needs students as well as hiring specialized staff to support students with complex needs.
- The District will add an additional \$20.5 million to the funding provided by Alberta Education for Inclusive Education. This will allow schools to continue providing specialized supports for students with unique needs.

The District continues to focus on finding efficiencies and regulating costs. Reviewing current electrical consumption and savings opportunities is part of a partnership with the University of Alberta.

“Although this is a balanced budget, funding challenges continue as the current provincial funding does not address all of the District’s needs,” said Terry Harris, Board Chair. “We have a critical need for additional space as our enrolment continues to increase and we are looking to the province for new school construction funding,” Harris went on to say.

The approved 2018/19 Budget will be sent to Alberta Education and will come into effect on September 1st, 2018.

