

Charter Board Highlights Nov/2010

Our year is in full swing and it is time to give an update on the board's activities since June.

Having received the resignation of Superintendent Freddi Bromling, one of the main projects over the summer was the search for her replacement. We would like to express our gratitude to Freddi for the time, energy, and commitment which she gave to our school, much of it literally volunteered; and we wish her well in her future endeavours. In addition to looking forward to having more time to spend with her grandchildren, she has accepted a term position working on another project for Alberta Education.

After a thorough search, we are happy to have our new superintendent signed up and ready to go. Please see the announcement in the newsletter or on our website for an introduction to our new administrator.

Significant time also went into getting our budget ready for the Nov. 30 submission deadline. It was a challenge achieving the mandated 3.92% surplus, yet thanks in large measure to the work of the secretary-treasurer, principal, and transportation director, we can now put forward a reasonable, balanced budget.

For those of you who are returning, you will remember that this year, Alberta Education will begin our mid-term evaluation. This is a very thorough assessment of how we are doing in the implementation our charter. It will involve examining our documents; sitting in on classes; interviewing staff, parents, board members; etc. The outcome of this evaluation will be feedback regarding any requirements to be addressed in preparation for the renewal process in our charter's fifth year. This will be an excellent opportunity for learning and development in our whole system.

Thank you to our staff for all the hard work they have been doing to get this year off to such a good start. We are delighted to have Steve Mumert in place as our new principal, and welcome all the latest additions to our organization. This dedicated team has taken on the National Institute for Direct Instruction research project, which provides our school with the dual opportunity of training in the teaching methodology which is the foundation of our charter and moving us in the direction of satisfying the Education Ministry's aspiration that charter schools be *centre's of innovation*.

Our next board meeting will be Nov. 25; interested individuals are welcome to attend. Typically, we meet from 9 a.m. until noon at the Mercantile. Although our meetings are open, occasionally there are items of a nature that require us to move *in camera*. At such a time, guests would be asked to leave for the duration of the discussion and then welcomed back when that subject was finished. Generally, we try to be finished with any *in camera* topics before 10:30 a.m.

Finally, thank you to our families for choosing this school. We appreciate your support and look forward to an excellent year partnering with you in the education of your children.

Charter Board of Directors

Andre Harpe (Co chair)

Jolene Kochendorfer (Co chair)

Trone Arnet

Tara Fehr

Brenda Kjemhus

Diane Nordhagen