

Board Highlights (February 2023)

Notes from the February 13, 2023 Regular (Public) Meeting of the Christ the Teacher Roman Catholic School Division (CTTCS) Board of Education.



Division Priority Action Plan Update – Learning Response

CTTCS Instruction and Learning Consultants Joanne Sebastian, Robin Dubiel, and Cindy Smith presented the Board with an update on the data available to date and the actions taken to support the Learning Response and Learning Response – Reading priorities. In Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools, early learning achievement is assessed by classroom teachers on a regular basis, both formally and informally. The Early Years Evaluation (EYE) provides a leading indicator of children’s development. It provides accurate data that helps teachers organize their instruction, increase learning time, and monitor each child’s progress. The evaluation also informs parents about their child’s progress in five key domains: Awareness of Self & Environment, Social Skills and Approaches to Learning, Cognitive Skills, Language & Communication, and Physical Development (which includes Fine and Gross Motor Skills). During the 2022-23 school year, the EYE will be used up to two times for each student in kindergarten, depending on the results of the initial assessment.

An update on reading achievement was also presented. Reading achievement is assessed by classroom teachers on a regular basis, both formally and informally with the use of teacher-created assessments and formally, typically administered a minimum of three times a year, with the *Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment (F & P)* or *GB+* in French. Not only do the assessments provide classroom teachers with the very best information to design instruction that helps students reach their potential, they are also an indicator of division-wide progress. The F & P and GB+ are standardized assessments in that all students experience it in the same way and that their performance is benchmarked according to a common standard.

During the school year, the F&P is used three times for each student in grades 1-5 English and the GB+ will be used three times for students in grades 2-5 French Immersion. The assessment has students read a series of increasingly difficult books and then discuss the text through a series of questions designed to assess their comprehension. The student’s reading level is determined by the point at which he or she struggles to either read the text accurately or answer the comprehension questions.

Updates on the professional learning opportunities available to staff and Key Actions on the priority plans were reviewed.

Provincial Education Plan Endorsement

The Board reviewed the draft Provincial Education Plan 2023-2030 priority actions and milestones. The Board endorsed the Provincial Education Plan while noting concerns that sufficient funding and resources be provided to achieve the actions and milestones, and that additional detail be provided to appropriately consider the plan in its totality.

Draft 2023-2024 School Calendar

The Board received background information and details regarding a draft 2023-2024 school year calendar. Superintendent of Education Chad Holinaty outlined the process of how the calendar was developed as part of a Calendar Committee comprised of representatives from Good Spirit School Division, Good Spirit Teachers’ Association, Christ the Teacher Catholic School Division, and Christ the Teacher Teachers’ Association. The calendar was developed in compliance with the requirements of the Education Act. Highlights of the calendar include, a student start date of September 5, 2023, a 14-day Christmas break, a 5-day February break for students and staff, a 10-day Easter break, and the final Administration Day on June 28, 2024. The proposed calendar will be submitted to the Ministry of Education for review and will be presented for final approval at the March Board Meeting.

Good News in CTTCS

The week of February 6-10 was recognized as French Second Language Education Week, with a theme of *Find Your Own Story! Découvrez votre propre histoire!* Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools offers French Immersion programming options at St. Henry’s Jr. School (Gr. 1-4), St. Henry’s Sr. School (Gr. 5-9), St. Michael’s School (Gr. 1-8), & Sacred Heart High School (Gr. 9-12).

Canadian School Counsellors Week was also celebrated February 6-10. CTTCS celebrates the role our school counsellors play in supporting the personal, social, educational, career development, mental health & well-being of our students.

Teacher / Staff Appreciation Week was celebrated February 12-18. The theme was *Champions of Learning*. Throughout the week, various events were held to celebrate the important contributions that teachers and school staff make to the lives of their students.

The Month of February is recognized as Indigenous Storytelling Month and African Canadian / Black History Month.

Upcoming Meetings

March 20, 2023

Believe...Belong...Become...