

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- **The Board meeting started with a prayer and reflection led by Trustee Debbie Olesen which was taken from the book of James. The reading draws our attention to the fact that we all face trials of various kinds in our life's journey. Endurance during trials is a virtue, and to assist us in attaining endurance we need to rely on God's grace and wisdom available to us if we seek it out.**
- **Trustee Tyler Wiens reported that Swift Current's Christ the Redeemer Parish annual meeting will be taking place on March 18th. As well, parishioners are very pleased that additional land has been acquired adjacent to the Parish which will allow them to finish construction of the new Parish buildings.**
- **Trustee Alyssa Robinson reported that she attended a 100th anniversary celebration at Sacred Heart School. Alyssa also attended the St. Joseph Parish Council meeting ... one of the highlights taking place in the Parish right now is the Alpha Program, which is an ecumenical faith based program. There are over 60 people participating in the program.**
- **Chairperson Mark Corbin reported that the Church of Our Lady Parish annual meeting will be taking place on April 22nd. The Parish held its first ever "Gospel Evening" ... an ecumenical initiative which donates any proceeds from the gospel evening to social justice causes. The group was pleased to turn over \$500 after their first event.**
- **Mark also reported on attending the Saskatchewan School Boards Association "Member's Council". They looked at Board Members' priorities and goals from a Provincial perspective as well as reviewed the 8 characteristics of an effective Board.**

- **The Annual Meeting of Electors also took place immediately following the Regular Board meeting. It was hosted by St. Margaret School, with a video link to the Swift Current community. The highlights of the 2010 – 2011 school year were reviewed with presentations in the following areas:**
- ❖ **Chairperson, Mark Corbin gave a high level review of the year and thanked all those involved in our Division for their support.**
 - ❖ **Director of Education, Celeste York spoke to our growing numbers and the challenges we face from a facilities point of view as a result. Celeste also provided an update related to the status of the new school approved to be built in Swift Current which will replace our two existing structures. The focus is on 20th Century Learning and we look forward to a state of the art facility with a planned opening date of September of 2014 ... we are on schedule to meet that deadline.**
 - ❖ **Superintendent of Student Services and HR, Dolores Wagner-Owens spoke about the success we have had with some of our vulnerable students giving credit to a very strong relationship we have with our Regional Health District that plays a significant role with the vulnerable.**
 - ❖ **Superintend of Learning, Geri Hall brought good news to the meeting as she reported on just how well our students are doing as compared to the rest of the Province in reading, writing and mathematics scores.**
 - ❖ **Gerry Gieni reported on behalf of Wes Kolosky regarding facilities and transportation. Wes' focus last school year was on Health and Safety with a number of initiatives taking place to this end, such as scaffold certifications, roof arrest systems, etc.**
 - ❖ **Supervisor of Technology, Ryan Stinn reported on the state of our technology. We are positioned very well provincially when it comes to computers to student ratios. SMART technology (smart boards and smart tables) are in use in every school in our division.**
 - ❖ **Chief Financial Officer, Gerry Gieni reviewed the Audited Financial Statement for the year ended August 31, 2011 highlighting our strong financial position. The year ended with a surplus of just over 2% on a 20 million dollar budget. The Board designated \$200,000 of the surplus to be split between future bus replacement and purchase of furniture and equipment.**