

February 20, 2013

For Immediate Release

EICS Board Chooses Preferred Reconfiguration Scenario

Sherwood Park, AB – At the public Board meeting on February 20, 2013, Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS) Board of Trustees advised that after months of public engagement through EICS TALKS, it has selected a preferred reconfiguration scenario using fact-based recommendations from Subject Matter Experts and meaningful feedback from stakeholders.

As Tony Sykora, Board Chair, explained, “Throughout the EICS TALKS process, our shared goal has been to identify a solution to ensure the highest quality 21st century Catholic education for our students, while utilizing facilities and resources as effectively as possible. With that in mind, we have identified *Scenario Three* as the best choice for growth and increased educational opportunities for students across the Division. With a minor modification, *Scenario Three* calls for reconfiguration of schools in Zone 1 only, and requires the least amount of modifications to those schools.”

Key features of the modified *Scenario Three* are:

- Establish a middle school concept configuration in Zone 1 (urban Strathcona County, i.e. Sherwood Park)
- Decommission the St. Theresa Catholic School building
- Rename the old ABJ building St. Theresa Catholic School
- Configure the new St. Theresa Catholic School as Grades 5-8, including the Ukrainian Bilingual program
- Configure Jean Vanier Catholic School as Grades K-4 including the Ukrainian Bilingual program
- Configure Madonna Catholic School as Grades K-4
- Configure Holy Spirit Catholic School as Grades K-8
- Configure the new Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School as Grades 9-12
- House French Immersion in two schools: Grades K-4 at FKK and Grades 5-8 at OLPH
- House Ukrainian Bilingual in two schools: Grades K-4 at Jean Vanier and Grades 5-8 at the new St. Theresa

Aligned with the selection of Reconfiguration Scenario Three, the Board of Trustees created the following Motions:

Transfer of Grade 9 Students to Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School

1. That the Board transfers Holy Spirit Catholic School current Grade 9 Program to Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School commencing June 30, 2013.
2. That the Board transfers Madonna Catholic School current Grade 9 Program to Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School commencing June 30, 2013.
3. That the Board transfers Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School current Grade 9 Program to Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School commencing June 30, 2013.
4. That the Board transfers St. Theresa Catholic School current Grade 9 Program to Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School commencing June 30, 2013.
5. That the Board transfers Jean Vanier Catholic School current Grade 9 Program to Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School commencing June 30, 2013.

Transfer of Grade 5, 6, 7 and 8 Programs

6. That the Board transfers Madonna Catholic School Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8 Programs to the Old Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School commencing June 30, 2013.
7. That the Board transfers St. Theresa Catholic School Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8 Programs to the Old Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School commencing June 30, 2013.
8. That the Board transfers Jean Vanier Catholic School Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8 Programs to Old Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School commencing June 30, 2013.

Transfer Current St. Theresa Catholic School Grades K (ECS) to 4 to Madonna Catholic School

9. That the Board transfers St. Theresa Catholic School current Grades K (ECS) to Grade 4 Programs to Madonna Catholic School commencing June 30, 2013.

Transfer Current Father Kenneth Kearns Catholic School Grades 5 and 6 Programs to Old Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School

10. That the Board transfers Father Kenneth Kearns Catholic School current Grades 5 & 6 Programs to Old Archbishop Jordan Catholic High School commencing June 30, 2013.

Transfer Current Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School Grades K (ECS) to Grade 4 to Father Kenneth Kearns Catholic School

11. That the Board transfers Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School Grades K (ECS) to Grade 4 Programs to Father Kenneth Kearns Catholic School commencing June 30, 2013.

Transfer Current Father Kenneth Kearns Catholic School Grades K (ECS) to Grade 4 Programs to Jean Vanier Catholic School

12. That the Board transfers Father Kenneth Kearns Catholic School current Grades K (ECS) to Grade 4 Programs to Jean Vanier Catholic School commencing June 30, 2013.

Close St. Theresa Catholic School

13. That the Board closes St. Theresa Catholic School commencing June 30, 2013.

Aligned with Regulations in the School Act, the next step in the process for EICS is to schedule additional public consultation meetings. Two Coffee House meetings will facilitate further public dialogue around the opportunities and challenges associated with the reconfiguration scenarios.

The Coffee House meetings are scheduled for:

Monday, March 4, 2013	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	OLPH Parish – Parish Hall	Sherwood Park
Tuesday, March 5, 2013	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	OLPH Parish – Parish Hall	Sherwood Park

To optimize space and ensure equitable participation opportunities, at the Coffee House meetings, RSVP is required. To RSVP, please contact EICS by phone at 780-467-8896 or by email at eics@eics.ab.ca.

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EICS, part of Alberta's publicly funded education system, is committed to developing educational opportunities in the context of Gospel values. EICS is dedicated to providing quality, faith-based learning environments to students of any background and faith, where their skills are nurtured and celebrated by dedicated, caring staff.

For more information or to request an interview, please contact:

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