

Charter Board Highlights Dec /2011

Christmas Concert today and then only a couple of days left until a well-deserved holiday! We know staff, students and volunteers have been working very hard to get things ready for another terrific time of entertainment and visiting. We would like to extend a special thanks to Mrs. LeBlanc and Mrs. Mumert for heading up the organization of this program.

In addition, the Valhalla Community School was once again privileged to participate in a great volleyball season. We are very grateful to Mrs. Flint, William Moutray and Robert Robertson for all their hard work in making this opportunity possible for our students.

As far as board business, Nov. 30 is the deadline for several submissions required by Alberta Education, including: the Combined Three-year Education Plan and Alberta Education Results Report, our audited financial statement, and our 2011-2012 budget. Significant time went into getting these documents ready and we would like to extend our appreciation to Superintendent, Ray Battochio; Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Ann Wested; Principal, Steve Mumert; Transportation Director, Doug Kochendorfer; and Administrative Assistant, Anna Odd for all the work that has gone into preparing the plans, as well as continuing the work of efficiently carrying them out. Check out these documents on our website (www.valhallacommunityschool.ca), it's a very good way to learn how we are doing in all areas of our operation, as well as how we plan to continue to move forward toward our goals.

You have probably heard, soon after the naming of new Education Minister Lukaszuk, special funding was announced, specifically for relieving pressure in the classroom. It was with this funding that our school was able to boost our staffing. It is our pleasure to welcome John Heikel, new teacher; Jennifer White, who is expanding her role to include that of teaching assistant; and Lorraine Gerow, who will also be joining us as a TA after Christmas.

Also, on the provincial front, Minister Lukaszuk is revisiting the Education Act, which you will remember has been the topic of much dialogue under the previous minister. The proposed Act is going back to the drawing board for more discussion and revision, with the intention that it will be tabled in the spring session of the legislature. Please take an opportunity to give input into this process, as it unfolds.

Our next board meeting will be Dec. 15, 9 a.m. – noon in the Valhalla Viking Centre. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

So all that's left now is to wish each one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Jolene Kochendorfer