



# Board Highlights

## February 2011

### Happening this Month!

Jan 31 - Feb 4

Grade 3 Traditional  
Game Camp



February 2

SJF Report Cards Go Home  
EJHS Kindergarten Info Night



February 7

SJF Photo Retakes



February 7-9

SJF Grad Photos



February 8

Regular Board Meeting

MHS Kindergarten Info Night  
RLN Photo Retakes



February 9

MHS/KTW Photo Retakes



February 10

EJHS Photo Retakes



February 11

NJM/WMS Photo Retakes

### Message from the Board Chair

We just celebrated Literacy Week in the NWT and with the Board's strong focus on promoting Literacy in our schools I thought I would share some information with you on how you could support this literacy initiative at home with your child/children.

Without a doubt, reading with your children spells success for early literacy. Here are a few simple strategies that will make a big difference in helping your child become a good reader and writer. By reading aloud, sharing print materials, and promoting positive attitudes about reading and writing, you can have a powerful impact on your child's literacy and learning.

- Invite your children to read with you every day.
- When reading a book where the print is large, point word by word as you read. This will help children learn that reading goes from left to right and understand that the word they say is the word they see.
- Read your children's favourite books over and over again.
- Read stories with rhyming words and lines that repeat. Invite children to join in on these parts. Point, word by word, as children read along with you.
- Talk about new words. For example, "This big house is called a palace. Who do you think lives in a palace?"
- Use different voices for the characters. Promote critical thinking by asking questions like, "Why do you think that happened?" and "How would you feel if that happened to you?" and "What do you think will happen next?"
- Let your child finish sentences in familiar stories.
- Read from a variety of children's books, including fairy tales, song books, poems, information books, and books with rhyme and repetitive refrains (like Mother Goose and Dr. Seuss). Books with rhyme and repetitive refrain help children predict what's coming and detect consonant sounds at the beginning and end of words, which foster phonemic – the ability to hear and break down the subtle sounds in words.

Reading is at the heart of literacy. Children who read can learn.  
Make a difference for your children.

Board of Trustees: Allan Shortt, Chairperson; John Stephenson, Vice-Chairperson; Terry Brookes; Mira Hall; Reanna Erasmus; John Duff Spence; Blake Lyons • Senior Administration: Metro Huculak (Superintendent/CEO); Mel Parady (Assistant Superintendent); Tram Do (Director of Corporate Services)

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Educating for Life! Hòt'aròò Hoghàgoetòò! Une éducation pour la vie!



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## February 2011

### February 11-12

High School Basketball Tourney



### February 14

EJHS Project Love



### February 17-20

Junior Cager



### February 18

MHS Colour Group Activity

WMS Dance



### February 21

KDS Winter Culture Camp



### February 24-27

Senior Cager



## PAC Corner

February 9 • WMS, MHS

February 15 • SJF

February 16 • EJHS

## Looking into Kindergarten Options?

During the month of February, YK1 will be holding our Kindergarten Information Evenings at two of our schools. We encourage the community to attend and learn about all of the wonderful things YK1 schools have to offer. Meet our students and staff, find out what our kids are learning, enjoy a tour of our facilities, participate in various activities and register for one of our Kindergarten programs. YK1 is sure to provide everything your child needs to begin a successful academic career!

February 2, 7:00 pm - Ecole J.H. Sissons

February 8, 7:00 pm - Mildred Hall School

Please note that Kindergarten registration is on-going. If you are unable to attend a Kindergarten Information Evening, please contact the schools to set up an appointment with the principal to learn more about Kindergarten at YK1.

## Facilities

Recently, there has been concern among the community regarding YK1 facilities and their place in our school District. Let us take this opportunity to share with you that YK1 does not have any plans in the coming years of disregarding any of our facilities. Our only plan is to make each facility a safe and effective learning environment for all of our students.

## School Closures

If YK1 schools close, parents will be notified through a fan-out system that all schools have established in the Crisis Response Plan. If this happens during the normal school day students will not be sent home until parents are notified. Schools would be closed for health conditions such as sewer back-up, no water, exhaust leaks, etc. If there is a power-outage all of our schools, except Sir John Franklin High School are equipped with emergency generators so they are safe for students. If a power outage persists at Sir John Franklin High School, parents will be notified through media (CJCD, website) and through phone communication when students need to be sent home. In case of power outage our schools are open and the Superintendent will reaffirm this on CJCD.

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