



A Message from the FFCA Board Chair

Welcome back!!! We hope everyone had a great spring break full of fun and relaxation and had a chance to recharge for the next three month before the end of the year! The Board has come back and hit the ground running, as we have many initiatives that we are currently working on – Staff Appreciation, Preferred Future, High School Modernization, as well as the release of the Provincial Budget. We are also in a Board election year and we are about to start the nomination process!

In March, we said goodbye to Bill McGregor, a FFCA Board member for 12 years and Board Chair for 10 of those years. Bill was committed to choice for parents in public education and was a passionate ambassador for FFCA and for Charter Schools. Bill's tireless work with government on behalf of FFCA and all Charter schools was key in opening doors for all of us. We thank Bill for his commitment to FFCA and we wish him well in all of his future endeavors!!

On March 26th, the Provincial government released the much awaited budget. With the release of the budget, the Board has been busy working to determine the impact it will have on our school. The budget that was announced will safeguard our classroom teachers, but will not allow for any student growth. Boards were also told to reduce all costs other than classroom based teachers by 2.7%. We are all aware that we are in economically challenging times, and your FFCA Board is working hard, along with our Superintendent Roger Nippard and our Secretary-Treasurer Reta Morgan, to ensure that meeting the needs of our students comes first and that we provide the best education we can with the resources we have been given.

At the end of March, FFCA was invited to participate in a press conference held by Premier Jim Prentice, Education Minister Gordon Dirks, and Infrastructure Minister Manmeet Bhullar, to announce their commitment to funding of Phase 2 for our High School. We previously had only the funding for planning and design of phase 2, but it was announced that we have now been given the full funding. This commitment was given by our Premier during these economically challenging times and we are incredibly appreciative of their support for Charter Schools through this funding. We have had great support along the way, and we couldn't be where we are today without the work of our elected government officials working on our behalf with us and behind the scenes.

Thank you to our Board of Directors for all their work and their commitment to FFCA. Our current Board's three-year term is up at the end of May. We will be holding elections with nominations starting on April 24th and closing on May 1st. Board Directors are responsible for ensuring the best needs of our students are met, and for representing the interests of our stakeholders. If you have any questions or are interested in working with the Board or becoming a candidate, please contact a current Board member. We are all here to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for continued support. Please feel free to contact me at cindy.beaucage@FFCA-calgary.com or board@ffca-calgary.com

Government Relations at FFCA



Above: FFCA Board Chair Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage with Infrastructure Minister Manmeet Bhullar

Top Right: Bonnyville-Cold Lake MLA Genia Leskiw, Cindy and FFCA Superintendent Roger Nippard

Bottom Right: Cindy with Calgary Varsity MLA Donna Kennedy-Glans

Upcoming Events

2015 FFCA Board Election

2015 is an election year for the FFCA Board of Directors. There will be a week-long **nomination period** which will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, April 24th and close at 4:30 pm on Friday, May 1st. As soon as nominations open, nomination forms will be available online through the website, and when they close, nominee profiles and voting instructions will be available as well.

The **election** will be conducted online, and will consist of a two-day voting period commencing at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 27th and concluding at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 28th.

Anyone who is interested in putting their name forward for election is encouraged to contact a current Board member to discuss the duties and obligations of FFCA Board Directors to see if the work and time commitment is a fit for them. The Board would also encourage potential candidates to attend a Board meeting if they have not already done so. The next public Board meeting will take place at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22nd at the FFCA Central Office.

May 19, 2015 FFCA Staff Appreciation & Service Recognition Event

Schedule of Board Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at FFCA's Central Office location beginning at 6:00 p.m.

April 22, 2015
May 20, 2014
June 10, 2014

Please feel free to share your thoughts and with us at board@ffca-calgary.com.



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