

Albert Lacombe Board Report – October 2018

Joan Crockett/Trustee/St. Albert Ward

“We must enforce in students the need to become lifelong learners and to be prepared to ‘return to learn’.”

Dr. Fassina, President of Athabasca University

I heard Dr Fassina speak at a Chamber luncheon in October and have a brief summary of his talk and the importance of lifelong learning. In the past, he says credentials at some post-secondary institutions was important for a good start to a successful career but lifelong learning that is fluid and contextual will be important in the future.

- Dr Fassina who says he himself has 10 years of formal education but notes that this type of episodic learning of the past is not functional in the digital age when the pace of change is changing faster than we can adapt to it. Our ability to be productive has not changed. Therefore, the gap between productivity and change is growing exponentially with a huge need for learners to relearn.

- Consequence – “If 65% of jobs will need credentials by 2020”, as Dr Fassina suggested, Universities and Colleges will need to adapt and adapt quickly. It is also believed that 25% of the people will need to be retrained by 2030. Therefore, we need an **Amazon type** of vision to teach soft skills and technical skills in a shorter time frame to produce Dr Fassina’s **“Renaissance Grad”**.

Highlights Relevant to GSACRD:

In this 21st Century climate, 4 – 5 years of formal education is not enough for a 35-year career. ***We must enforce in students the need to become lifelong learners and to be prepared to ‘return to learn’.***

Good News

- **Visual Identity Award** – The District will be honored with a National Award from the Canadian Association of Communicators in Education. A huge thank you to all staff and community members involved in the visual design.
- **GSACRD Foundation** – has announced the details for two \$1000 scholarships opportunities to recognize graduates who are pursuing education training or a certification to gain training for the workplace.
- **Sister Aphonse** – opened its doors September 4 with a new playground in place. Thank you to the Alberta Government for the funding to support this initiative. A huge thanks to the playground committee for their work in making it possible for the start of the school year.
- **ASBOA SCHOLARSHIP** – The District will receive a one-time \$1500 high school scholarship in recognition of Secretary-Treasurer Deb Schlag's leadership and service to the Alberta School Business Operations Association.

Board News

- **ACSTA Award** – The Board approved the nomination of former trustee Rosaleen McEvoy for the 2018 Alberta Catholic Trustees Association Appreciation Award.
- **Laura Bird Memorial Beacon of Hope Award** – The Board approved Suzanne Rokos as the recipient of this year's Laura Bird Memorial Award Beacon of Hope Award. The award was presented at the annual Blueprints opening staff celebration.
- **Cannabis – Keeping our Kids Safe** – Our District is committed to ensuring that our school and district sites are welcoming, safe, caring and respectful environments. Parents are encouraged to participate in community education sessions, access online resources, and talk with your children about Cannabis and this new legislation. **Upcoming** sessions in the region:
- **Cannabis 101** – November 15, 6-8pm. St Albert and Sturgeon Primary Care Network. Unit 196, 375 St Albert Trail, St Albert.

- **Initiatives of the Board**

- Trustees attended the annual Long Service Awards Recognition event October 3, 2018 as well as Jr/Sr High Student Awards ceremonies.
- Trustees are looking forward to attending the Official Opening of Sister Alphonse Academy, October 23, 2018.

I'm sorry I could not be with you tonight, but I thank you for coming out and supporting our school community in whatever manner that works best for you. Your voice and dedication are of great value to our District.

Next Board Meeting – October 29, 2018 3:30 pm

Public welcome at all meetings.

