



Goods & Services Auction celebrates community, raises funds for West campus \$64,000 raised through generosity of donors, buyers, volunteers and participants!

What an tremendous day it was - donors, bidders, parents and families coming together for a common cause: to support Christian education by bidding outrageous amounts of money on 900 plus products and services donated by the generous members of our community!

Great food, games, face painting and a Kids' Store rounded out the day. When all was said and done, West school was ahead by \$64,000 in renovation revenue.

We want to thank all of the volunteers who came forward to make this event an outstanding success. We will single out six volunteers who worked tirelessly for four months soliciting donations, entering data, liaising with the schools, encouraging volunteers and promoting the event:

- ❖ Debbie Hammond
- ❖ Linda Hofstede
- ❖ MaryAnn Johansson
- ❖ Glenda Jorritsma
- ❖ Shanna Stolte
- ❖ Denise VanWeelden

Offer these ladies a word of thanks next time you see them. They deserve it!

**PS: See you at the 16th
Annual Goods & Services
Auction on May 9, 2009!**

14th Annual

GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

*BBQ lunch, 18 holes of golf, Steak dinner
4 chances at a \$10,000 hole-in-one, Putting Challenge
Sandpiper Golf & Country Club - St. Albert*

Registration Form enclosed for sponsors and golfers

www.edmchristian.net for more details

or call 408-7933

Update from your Board

Spring Society Meeting

The Society meeting held May 12 is in the books. Here are the highlights:

- ❖ Three board members elected: **Rob Sinclair** (for a second term), **Mike Slomp** and **Wilco Vandeborn**. Congratulations!
- ❖ 2008-09 Budget of **\$2,885,000** passed
- ❖ **Celebration** of long term service employees.

Of note, **Trudy Devries** and **Diana Vanderwal** have served faithfully for 30 years! while **Henry Kramer**, **Peter Eerkes**, and **Anne Berkenbosch** have announced they will retire at the end of this school year. We congratulate Henry, Peter, and Anne on their retirements and wish them the Lord's blessing on this new phase in their lives. Thank you very much to everybody for your devoted service to Edmonton Christian School!

Governance

The board announced that the change in the governance structure, which includes organizing the campuses as three separate schools, each with its own principal, had been approved. **Rick Pease**, **Carolyn Gartke** and **Darlene Eerkes** have been appointed as principals to the High school, West school, and Northeast school, respectively. Congratulations!

Enrolment

We are pleased to report that once again enrolment at Edmonton Christian School is going up. We will finish the current year with 1370 students and could begin the new school

year with **close to 1450 students**. This is a huge blessing! We are also thankful that we were able to offer every student who applied a place at one of our schools. Unfortunately, not all families were able to get into the school of their choice and we realize that this does cause hardship. The transportation committee will do all that it can to bus these students, should the parents require it.

Facilities

Northeast school is wrapping up the last deficiencies including paint, locks, cement work and landscaping. We are in the process of re-locating the playground and the students and teachers are building their new greenhouse. Three of the portables from the old Northeast school have been moved to the High school and will be used for storage and construction classes. The other three portables will remain at the old school, one of which will be put to use by Trinity CRC.

A committee has been struck to **renovate the West school buildings**. Major projects for the summer include refinishing the gymnasium floor and reroofing the

main building, while the planned McQueen building renovations include staff and washroom upgrades. The art room will also be relocated to make room for a third grade 7 classroom.

If you have questions or suggestions about any of the issues raised in this newsletter, please contact:

Peter Buisman, Executive Director:
peterbuisman@edmchristian.net
476-6281

We value and appreciate your input and your support!



Live Auction action!



A Special Note from the West School Facilities Enhancement Committee (WSFEC)

This note is to let everyone know that the WSFEC has begun its work! The Board of the Edmonton Society for Christian Education has instructed this committee to **oversee an enhancement** of the aging facilities at West School. A recent walk-through of the main building resulted in a five- page list of all the upgrades and modernizations that are required. Suggestions have also been made to expand specialty areas such as the art room and library.

Faced with these needs, it is hard to know where to begin but it is clear that **we cannot wait much longer**. The roof above the junior high wing, the science room, the floor in the main gym and the staff room in the McQueen building all need immediate attention. But how does this all fit into the big picture? What are the long term goals for the buildings in terms of educational needs? **Where do we begin?**

The committee is now in the process of discussing these questions. The long-range viability of the West School facilities is of serious concern but a full scale building program is a problem because of our diminished borrowing capacity due to the recent completion of the Senior High and Northeast School projects. Building and renovating in stages is a possibility, but it all has to fit into the big picture.

We would like to involve our community in these discussions. We want to tap into all of the good ideas and expertise of our supporters. To begin with, we want you to give us your thoughts about the main building at West School and any particular projects you want the committee to consider. To facilitate this **we are asking that you complete the questionnaire** on the back of this letter and return it to your School or to the Society office. If you wish, you may email your suggestions to any member of the committee listed below. We will keep everyone informed as we move forward and we hope to present a recommendation for approval at the fall Society meeting.

Although this may seem like a West School venture in which parents or community members from the west end have a more vested interest, it is important to remember that we are one community, no matter which side of the city or area we live. Our schools belong to all of us and we are all in this together. **We value input from everyone!**

Our schools continue to grow. Many, many parents in the greater Edmonton area genuinely desire to educate their children in our Christian program. Ensuring that this can happen is an exciting challenge. We trust that the Lord will continue to bless our efforts as we remain faithful to that calling.

On behalf of the Committee,

Peter Buisman
Executive Director: ESCE

Committee Members

Carolyn Gartke
Tim Epp
Peter Kool (board rep)
Jim Vandermeulen
Dan VanBerkel
Brian Los
Peter Buisman

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Questionnaire

*These questions refer only to the possibility of renovating the **main building** at West School.
If you are not sure about how to answer a question, please leave it blank.*

Question (please check one answer only):	Very High	High	Average	Limited	Not at all
To what extent would you monetarily support upgrading the main building at west school?					
To what extent would you support upgrading the main building at West School with your time and talent?					
Based on your knowledge of the West School, the need for renovations/building is ...					
To what extent do you think the enhancement committee should consider upgrading or building in the following areas:					
• Elementary classrooms					
• Junior High classrooms					
• French					
• Science Lab					
• Music					
• Student Social Space					
• Athletics facilities					
• Drama/Chapel/Auditorium					
• Library					
• Office area					
• Computers					
• Art					
• Washrooms					
• Other (please specify)-					

Please indicate any suggestions, concerns or thoughts that you have concerning West School upgrades. As well, you are welcome to email your ideas to any committee member.
