

Charter Board Highlights November 2016

After a busy fall, it is time to give an update on the board's activities, but first, I would like to thank those involved with last week's Remembrance Day ceremony. It was truly an excellent reminder of the sacrifice that has been made, on our behalf, to keep the freedoms we now enjoy.

Each November, the charter board is required to submit our fall budget update, audited financial statements, and the Annual Education Results Report/Three-year Education Plan. These are substantial projects, for which we are very grateful to our administration for its hard work in seeing these done well and on time. The Valhalla School Foundation Board of Directors is extremely pleased with our results as reported in our Three-Year Education Plan 2016-2019 and the Annual Education Results Report 2015-2016. We achieved an overall rating of 'Excellent' in seven of the ten Accountability Pillar Survey measures, two 'Acceptable', and one 'Good' in the remaining three. These results demonstrate the success of strategies being actively pursued by the Valhalla Community School in working to carry out our vision of equipping students with both knowledge and skills that will enable them to make positive contributions at their future places of employment, as well as in the communities or groups with which they choose to associate.

Another important project for the board is our application for the renewal of our charter. Our current charter term ends August 31, 2018, so this application will be due by December 2017. Last year's mid-term evaluation has given us commendations, requirements and recommendations, which we will use in our work to prepare this application.

The Charter Board would like to acknowledge the great benefit to all Albertan's, in that we are part of a provincial education system that allows *equality for every child* by providing charter public school choice. In 2008, when the VSF was granted its charter, grounded in whole group direct instruction, incorporating mandatory second language and student leadership development, it created the *opportunity* for students to have the *freedom to choose* a Charter Public School education in rural, northern Alberta for the first time. As always, we are committed to learning, growth and development for all those involved in our charter public school system and with that, it is the privilege of the charter board to commit to good governance and the *efficient, accountable use of the tax dollars* entrusted to us, thereby ensuring we have the resources available to meet our goals of producing students who are excellent communicators, prepared for community involvement and leadership.

On behalf of the Charter Board, I would like to thank our families and community, along with our dedicated staff, for their continued support, commitment and partnership in carrying out the vision for our students and making the Valhalla Community School a special place to be!

Next board meeting - Dec 8, 6-9 p.m.; interested individuals are welcome to attend.
Minutes of the meetings are posted on our website <http://www.valhallacommunityschool.ca/>.

Finally, thank you for choosing our school!
Jolene Kochendorfer (780) 356-2114

Charter Board of Directors:

Jolene Kochendorfer (chair)	Judy Hauger (vice)	Tracy Campbell	Brenda Kjemhus
Brandie Skaksen	Donna Steyer	Nancy Westad	

Please call the school for director contact information: 780 356 2370