

Happy New Year everyone! Welcome back to the last half of our school year.

Recently, the board has been working to assess our business operations. In spite of the economic challenges that face us all, we are very pleased that an intensive mid-year review of our finances has shown us to be in a comfortable position overall. We are creating some administrative procedures to help streamline and monitor decision making, which we hope will make everyone's job a bit easier. Also, as mentioned in the last Board Highlights, Conoco Phillips has donated \$3000 towards the purchase of a score clock which has now been installed. The remainder of the cost of the score clock will be paid for out of fund-raised money.

Provincially, Charter Schools have received a big boost in the form of very positive attention from the Canada West Foundation. Check out their website www.cwf.ca/V2/main and you will find the banner headline for the article ***Charter Schools are part of Alberta's recipe for a great educational system***, a link to another article ***Why Charter Schools Matter***, and from those links you can download a copy of Shawna Ritchie's excellent report on charter schools ***Innovation in Action An Examination of Charter Schools in Alberta*** (paper copies of this report are also available at the school). We would like to encourage you to take advantage of this information and spread it around, especially to your MLA, because decisions regarding the permanence of Charter Schools are currently being discussed.