



Student Success Continues at Edmonton Catholic Schools

At a special public Board meeting this morning, the 2009 Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Examination results were released. Overall, the 2009 Provincial Achievement Tests indicate that students in Edmonton Catholic Schools in Grades 3, 6 and 9 continue to exceed the province in a large number of subject areas over time. For Diploma examinations, Grade 12 students continued to exceed the province in English Language Arts and Social Studies courses.

Provincial Achievement Tests

- Substantial gains were made in Grade 9 Math and Science. Grade 9 Math marks in the Acceptable Standard were 8.4% above the province and 8.9% above the province in the Acceptable Standard for Grade 9 Science.
- The percentage of students achieving the Standard of Excellence exceeded the province in 8 out of 11 standards, and exceeded or met the Acceptable Standard in 10 out of 11 standards.
- Participation rates for Grade 3, 6 and 9 students exceeded the province in all subject areas with the exception of French Language Arts. All participation rates exceed 91%.

“The strong Provincial Achievement Test results reflect the hard work that takes place every day in every classroom in our District,” said Board Chairperson Debbie Engel.

Diploma Examination Results

- We have experienced growth in Biology 30 and Pure Math 30, exceeding the province in the Acceptable Standard.
- Math and Science 30 marks have also improved and we believe this is because of our District focus on those subjects as part of an AISI (Alberta Initiative for School Improvement) project that focused on both Math and Science. The District also developed exams at the Grade 10 to Grade 11 levels which provide feedback to teachers and students before students enter Grade 12.

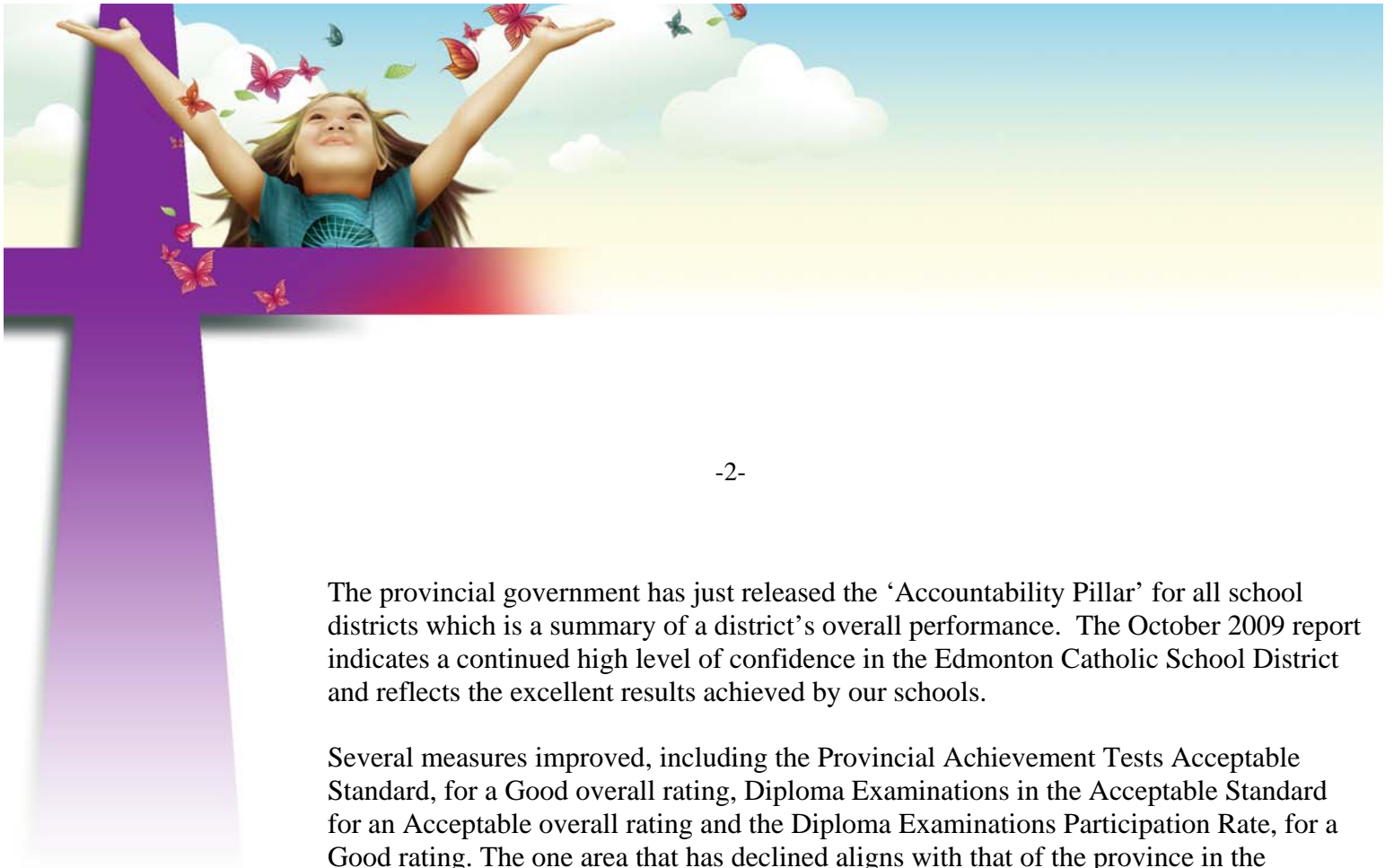
“We are very pleased with the growth in Math and Science Diploma marks and will continue our focus in these areas,” said Superintendent Joan Carr. “The results in these subjects show that students will succeed if given the supports they need,” Carr went on to say.

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The provincial government has just released the ‘Accountability Pillar’ for all school districts which is a summary of a district’s overall performance. The October 2009 report indicates a continued high level of confidence in the Edmonton Catholic School District and reflects the excellent results achieved by our schools.

Several measures improved, including the Provincial Achievement Tests Acceptable Standard, for a Good overall rating, Diploma Examinations in the Acceptable Standard for an Acceptable overall rating and the Diploma Examinations Participation Rate, for a Good rating. The one area that has declined aligns with that of the province in the measure of Diploma Examinations Standard of Excellence. Edmonton Catholic Schools will focus on measures to improve the Diploma Examination Standard of Excellence by analyzing the school-by-school results and putting into place District measures to improve instructional practices.

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