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For Immediate Release

EICS Students Surpass Provincial Averages

Sherwood Park, AB – Elk Island Catholic School students, according to the recently released provincial testing results for last school year 2008-09, have surpassed provincial averages in many provincial examinations.

EICS Grade 12 students continued their success in Math and Science - with 94 per cent of students achieving acceptable standard in Pure Math 30 and over 94 per cent of students achieving acceptable standard in Science 30 – compared to the provincial average of 86 per cent.

The success story within EICS continues to be our participation rates in diploma exams. EICS participation rates are consistently higher than provincial averages – giving more students the opportunity to write the tests that are required for entrance into post-secondary institutions. The majority of our students, over 71 per cent – compared to the provincial average of 53 per cent, participate in diploma exams.

“We believe that these higher participation rates have a significant impact on the students in our division and have resulted in EICS having one of the highest high school completion rates in the province,” said Dr. Chris Diachuk, Superintendent of Schools. “Our students are taking advantage of their opportunity to enter post-secondary institutions, which is seen in our over 70 per cent transition rate from high school to post-secondary.”

We are truly proud of our students’ achievement. What our results show me is that they are looking towards their bright futures and are diligently making plans to make their futures a success and to become fully active and responsible citizens,” said Tony Sykora, EICS Board of Trustees Chair.

In provincial achievement tests taken by grades 3, 6, and 9, EICS students have exceeded the provincial average in all areas – Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies. “Our goal for last year’s results was to increase the number of standard of excellences we received,” said Maureen Duguay, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services. “With our new results, we have achieved that goal and will continue to strive to further the excellence in our division. Last year we achieved standards of excellence in seven areas and this year we achieved standards of excellence in 11 areas – a remarkable improvement,” said Mrs. Duguay.

“I am pleased by our student’s continued success. Nothing pleases me more as a parent, educator and administrator with EICS than to see our students achieve success in all areas of their lives. I am grateful for the support and encouragement we receive from our school community – our staff, parents and Catholic parishes,” said Dr. Diachuk.

*Provincial acceptable standard is 50 per cent or greater; the standard of excellence is a mark of 80 per cent or greater.

EICS, part of Alberta's publicly funded education system, is committed to developing educational opportunities in the context of Gospel values. EICS is dedicated to providing quality, faith-based learning environments to students of any background and faith, where their skills are nurtured and celebrated by dedicated, caring staff.

For more information or to request an interview, please contact:

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