



## celebrate | A year of progress

As we near the end of another very successful year of teaching and learning, I want to express my appreciation to students for the significant effort and enthusiasm they have brought to their learning and to creating a positive environment in their school communities.

I also want to thank each member of our staff for their work to ensure student success and in providing our city with an excellent public education system.

I also value and want to recognize the important contribution that parents make to support their children's success and the efforts of our schools.

Together, we have done great things. Our students have shown remarkable accomplishments in all areas of learning: academic success, citizenship, personal development, and character. Congratulations to all and especially to our outstanding graduates. We wish you all the best for the future.

### A year of significant student success

We have completed another year of significant student success, as evidenced in our excellent academic results.

Our most recent provincial achievement test showed that in all nine subjects tested, CBE students in Grades 3, 6 and 9 outperformed the province at the acceptable standard and in seven out of nine subjects at the standard of excellence.

The Grade 12 Diploma exam results showed that in all six subjects, the percentage of CBE students achieving at both the acceptable standard and the standard of excellence equaled or exceeded that in the province as a whole.

We are pleased that our high school completion rates are also increasing.

### Personal development, citizenship and character

Our students have also shown excellence in the other measures that our Board of Trustees set: personal development, character and citizenship.

Every week we hear outstanding stories of our students contributing in their schools, their community and on the world stage.

This year again, we had a group of outstanding students travel to China to represent the CBE at international youth forums. Our students then hosted the third annual International Youth Leadership Summit at Robert Thirsk High School in April. In China and here in Calgary the students engaged in important discussions of local and global issues.

It was fitting to hold the summit at Robert Thirsk High School which we were proud to open in September. Its namesake, former astronaut Robert Thirsk, recently urged students to set lofty goals because, as he knows, "the sky's not the limit."

### Teaching excellence

Our teachers also set and achieved lofty goals this year:

- three teachers were named provincial Excellence In Teaching Award winners and 16 were semi-finalists
- first-year teacher Owen de Lange won the Edwin Parr Teacher Award for the Calgary and area zone
- three principals won national Outstanding Principals Awards.

Our award winners reflect the excellence of all of our teaching staff.

I want to close by thanking you for your support. Best wishes to you and your children for a wonderful summer.

David Stevenson  
Chief Superintendent of Schools