

## LEGISLATURE TO OPEN FEBRUARY 22

The second session of the 26th Legislature will convene with the *Speech From the Throne* at 3:00 pm, Wednesday, February 22, 2006. During session, the house sits Monday to Thursday from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. and may sit again at 8:00 p.m. (Mon to Wed).

## DIRECTORS FLAG TWO FOCUSES FOR 2006- 2009 STRATEGIC PLAN

At its January strategic planning session, the ASBA Board of Directors identified two priorities for the 2006-2009 strategic plan:

- creating organizational structures that result in all school boards participating fully in the ASBA
- launching initiatives to support and enhance local school boards' leadership capacity

The board of directors will finalize its strategic plan in March. The strategic plan, in turn, guides the development of the ASBA's budget.

See the Policy Framework section on the ASBA website [www.asba.ab.ca](http://www.asba.ab.ca) for the current strategic plan.

## SEE 13 ENTRIES FOR PREMIER'S AWARD

Summaries of the 13 projects entered for the 2005 Premier's Award for Innovation and Excellence are now posted on the ASBA website. The Lakeland Catholic Board of Education won the 2005 award for its project aimed at tackling school bullying.

## Entries summarized

### **Buffalo Trail PSRD No. 28**

Rural Sustainability through  
Distributive Learning

### **Chinook's Edge School Div. No. 73**

Substance Abuse Prevention,  
Intervention & Education Program

### **Edmonton Catholic Sep. SD No.7**

Rainbow Spirit Project

### **Edmonton School District No. 7**

Edmonton Public Schools' Resource  
Development Services Department

### **Foothills School Division No. 38**

The Learning Coach Program

### **Grande Yellowhead Reg. Div. No. 35**

Videoconference Network -3V-VC on  
the Alberta SuperNet - A Collaborative  
Project

### **Greater St. Albert Catholic RD No.29**

Wrap-Around Support Team

### **Horizon School Division No. 67**

Warner Hockey School Program

### **Lakeland RCSSD No. 150**

Anti-bullying/  
Moral Intelligence Initiative

### **Northland School Division No. 61**

Kikway Kikiskiyitin  
(Performance Assessment Project)

### **Peace River School Division No. 10**

The Library

### **Wetaskiwin Regional Division No.11**

Wetaskiwin Community

Threat/Assessment Partnership

### **Wild Rose School Division No. 66**

Constructing and Expressing Meaning

## WHAT'S NEW ONLINE? Study explores community access to schools issues

Edmonton Public Schools recently consulted its community about the issues and concerns related to community access to schools. See the outcomes of this consultation:

[www.epsb.ca/board/jan17\\_06/item08.pdf](http://www.epsb.ca/board/jan17_06/item08.pdf)

## Student trustees in Ontario— should they have a vote?

In Ontario, school boards must include at least one pupil representative. Under current legislation, these student trustees are representatives to the board; but they are not members of the board. Student trustees take part in discussions and debates during public meetings, but their votes are not counted.

Last October, the Ontario Student Trustees' Association released a position paper, suggesting student trustees would like to vote at school board meetings and participate in *incamera* sessions. See the Ontario Public School Boards' Association's response to these proposals: [www.opsba.org/Policy\\_Program/Legislative\\_Issues/StudentEngagement\\_jan-06.pdf](http://www.opsba.org/Policy_Program/Legislative_Issues/StudentEngagement_jan-06.pdf)

## ASBA teacher, student, staff count report published

Prepared by the ASBA's Labour Relations department, the 2005 *Student, Teacher, Staff Count* report includes information about the average years of university and teaching experience Alberta teachers have. The 2005 report also features comparisons to 2001 statistics. See the front page of the ASBA website [www.asba.ab.ca](http://www.asba.ab.ca) for a link to this study.

## THEME SET FOR 2006 EDUCATION WEEK

*Learning: It's yours for life* is the theme for Education Week 2006, which runs April 30 to May 6. See the Alberta Teachers' Association website for more info: [www.teachers.ab.ca/Albertas+Education+System/Education+Week/Education+Week+2006.htm](http://www.teachers.ab.ca/Albertas+Education+System/Education+Week/Education+Week+2006.htm).