

## CATHOLIC BOARD & ATA LOCAL NO. 23 RATIFY AGREEMENT

## For Immediate Release

(*December 17, 2013*) *St. Albert, Legal, Morinville* - Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 734 (GSACRD) and the ATA Local No. 23, have both ratified a 4 year Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that will be effective for the term of September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2016 for all teaching staff. The agreement was ratified by ATA members on December 11, 2013 and by GSACRD at the December 16, 2013 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Joan Crockett, Chair of the Board of Trustees commented on the robust discussions held recently by both parties as enhancements to the Provincial Framework previously ratified. "This agreement reflects some important enhancements to the Provincial Agreement for all teaching staff that was finalized in late spring of 2013 and I thank all those involved in the collective bargaining process to bring this agreement to fruition in a timely manner." The enhancements will provide all staff with some new benefits including vision care that was not include in previous collective agreements. The Provincial Framework will see teacher salaries adjusted by 0%, 0%, 0.57%, and 2% (with a 1% lump sum payment in year 4) in each of the four years between Sept 2012 and Sept 2015.

Carryl Bennett-Brown, President of ATA Local No. 23 commented, "The collaborative approach and the collegial nature of both the Board's and the Local's negotiating teams has allowed for us to come to a Memorandum of Agreement that was both timely and beneficial to both sides. While the confines created by the Government's legislated framework were less than ideal, in the subsequent ratifications, both our members and Board of Trustees felt strongly about the improvements made to the teaching and learning conditions in our classrooms. Thus, this outcome provides stability for students, parents and teachers."

This agreement will provide stability in support of our students for the next four years and affirms the important role of all teaching staff to over 6,000 students in Morinville, Legal and St. Albert, comments Crockett.

For more information please contact:

Joan Crockett Chair, Board of Trustees jcrockett@gsacrd.ab.ca (780) 458-1198 Carryl Bennett-Brown President, ATA Local No. 23 carryl.bennettbrown@ata23.org (780) 459-5702