

news release

Chief Superintendent announces her resignation effective April 8, 2014

For Immediate Release
Oct. 8, 2013

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Naomi Johnson, chief superintendent of schools for the Calgary Board of Education, has announced that she will be resigning from the CBE effective April 8, 2014.

Johnson read a letter into the record announcing her intentions at a public meeting of the CBE Board of Trustees on Oct. 8. (See attached)

Johnson is required to provide the Board of Trustees with six months' notice. She is in her fifth year and her five-year term was to end July 2014.

"As we prepare for this transition, we thank Chief Superintendent Johnson for her years of dedicated service to students," said Pat Cochrane, Chair of the Board of Trustees. "Our strong educational results, released just last week, show that CBE students exceeded provincial targets in almost every subject and grade level."

Cochrane said that Board of Trustees will work with CBE administration to determine next steps.

In the meantime, Cochrane assured students, parents, employees and the general public that the CBE has strong leadership and she is confident the organization will continue its focus on personalizing learning and carrying out the Board of Trustees results.

Johnson said she decided on six months' notice to give the Board of Trustees as much notice as possible. The timing was also appropriate, she said, because a new Board of Trustees will be in place at the end of the month.

"There is no perfect time to leave but in my mind, this is the right time," Johnson said. "In the next six months I'll work with the Board and administration to ensure there is a smooth transition. In the meantime, I know that we have a strong leadership across the CBE."

Johnson has been chief superintendent since August 28, 2009. She joined the CBE in October 1980.



October 8, 2013

Pat Cochrane
Chair Board of Trustees
Calgary Board of Education
1221 8 Street S.W.
Calgary, AB
T2R 0L4

Dear Pat Cochrane,

I am writing to advise you and the Board of Trustees of my intention to resign my employment as Chief Superintendent of Schools effective April 8, 2014.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served as Chief Superintendent in a school system where everyone's focus is on the students.

I believe I am leaving at a time when public education is strong in Calgary. Alberta continues to be one of the highest achieving jurisdictions, and coupled with that are the very high expectations that Albertans have for their public education system. Year over year, the strong academic results of our students improve. Our employees have directly advanced the four pillars of the Three-Year Education Plan and established a foundation for continuous improvement.

In addition to strong academic results, it is our responsibility to ensure that each and every student, in keeping with his or her individual talents, will learn and thrive in our care and will be prepared and inspired for ongoing success. I have faith that our students are leaving our system inspired to be lifelong learners.

Public education is a shared responsibility. I am grateful to have been a part of a community where everyone shares a common goal of student success. I am proud of our system, our employees and our students, and I am continually impressed by how valued public education is by our entire community.

Thank you for enabling me to be part of every child's success.

Sincerely,

Naomi E. Johnson
Chief Superintendent of Schools