

NEW AND USEFUL ON THE WEB



We'd like to draw your attention to two new pages we've added to our website. Under the "Resources" tab, you'll now find the heading "Policy Manuals." This will take you to a page with a direct link to every Manitoba [school board policy manual](#), as posted on the divisional or district websites. Still can't find the sample policies you're looking for? As always, we're

here to help! Just email your request to Administrative Assistant [Jennifer Esau](#), and she'll do some sleuthing on your behalf. And on our [advocacy page](#), we've added a chart that itemizes correspondence and other documents related to association priorities. This chart provides, where possible, links to both original correspondence and any responses received.

SEEKING STUDENT CITIZENS

There are just over two weeks until the deadline for submission of nominations for our [student citizenship awards](#) (January 24). Each year, we present six individual awards (one to a deserving student in each of our six regions) and one province-wide group award to young people who are making a difference in their schools and communities. Each school board is invited to nominate one student and one student group for an award. The only exception to this rule is the Winnipeg S.D. which, as a region in its own right, may nominate up to four individual students. All nominees receive a minimum of \$100 and a certificate of merit. Regional winners receive a \$500 cash award, and comprise the finalist group for the \$1000 George Harbottle Memorial Award, sponsored by the Association of Manitoba Municipalities.



CONVENTION UPDATE

The full convention program and registration package will be on its way to you later this month, but in the meantime, remember to check out the latest news on our [convention page](#). We have recently posted [information](#) about our keynote speakers, including Bruce Beirsto from Simon Fraser University, and Julia O'Sullivan, Dean of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. While you're on the convention page, check out the [nominations](#)



received to date for provincial executive positions, and keep on top of pending deadlines, including receipt of nominations for the Premier Award for School Board Innovation (January 31) and Long Service and Presidents' Council Awards (both February 7).



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

If pre-holiday commitments prevented you from participating in our December webinar "[Getting Your House in Order](#)," not to worry—you have a second chance, at noon on Thursday, January 30. With less than a year to go until the 2014 trustee elections, it's more important than ever for school boards to take stock of how well they are functioning as governors of the education system. Are you making progress on your strategic plans and priorities? How well is your board operating, both internally and as part of the divisional leadership team? Are policies and procedures up-to-date? While these questions are ones boards should be asking themselves on an ongoing basis, it's especially important that they do so now, when they have both enough time remaining in their mandate and the experience to address any identified shortcomings. To register for this no-cost, 45-minute session, email Board Development Consultant [Janis Arnold](#).

And while we're on the topic of webinars, we want to know what works best for you in terms of day and time, and if there are topics that you would like us to cover. Watch for a survey in the near future, or contact [Janis](#) now with your ideas!



RWB AUDITIONING LOCAL STUDENTS

The Royal Winnipeg Ballet School's Professional Division will be holding auditions on Sunday, January 26, 2014. This is the final stop on the Canadian leg of the 2013/14 International Audition Tour. Auditions are open to students interested in the Ballet Academic Program (ages 10+ or entering academic grade 6), and students who wish to audition for the post graduate Aspirant and Teacher Training Programs (ages 18+). Check out www.rwb.org/school/pd/audition for details and information on how to audition by mail for those not available to attend in person.

