

NEW FROM THE DEPARTMENT

Several recent updates to the K-12 pages of the Manitoba Education and Training website will be of interest to school boards and administrators.

- Information about [Take Our Kids to Work Day](#) has been posted. Take Our Kids to Work Day invites students in Grade 9 to spend a day at work with a parent/guardian, relative, family friend or volunteer host to help them learn about today's workplace, gain a greater understanding of the relevance of their current and future education, and explore possible future career options.
- The [High School Graduation Rates and Student Achievement Statistics](#) website has been updated to include results for the Grade 12 Provincial Tests for January and June 2017.
- The [FRAME](#) 2017/18 Budget Report has been posted.

Links to these and other updates can be found [here](#).

SHAPING CONVENTION 2018

Building on the input received from boards through a survey last spring, the Convention Planning Committee has now finalized several key details concerning the format and schedule of the 2018 event. These include:



- a reduction in the overall length of convention from 2.5 to 2 days (Thursday and Friday, March 15 and 16, 2018);
- final call for nominations on Thursday, and regional and executive officer elections on Friday;
- professional development programming on Thursday;
- the retention of the President's Banquet on Friday evening, and the introduction of banquet/no banquet registration options; and
- the integration of award presentations (student citizenship, school board innovation, and Presidents' Council) at various points throughout the two days, rather than as part of a stand-alone Celebration of Success event.

The theme for Convention 2018 will be Leadership, Advocacy and Service. The committee is currently developing an exciting program of keynote presentations and concurrent workshops that will help delegates explore these fundamental school board roles. We are also revising the process for booking guest rooms at the Delta Hotel; the changes will be outlined in the room-booking memo that will be distributed later this fall. To keep up with all the latest convention news, check out this e-bulletin, our [website](#), or the weekly divisional e-mail.

OUTSTANDING PRINCIPALS

Nominations are now open for the 2017 Canada's Outstanding Principals Awards.



These awards, presented each year by [The Learning Partnership](#), honour principals from every province and territory in Canada who demonstrate innovation and entrepreneurial spirit, and who have done something truly remarkable in public education. Forty outstanding school principals are honoured with the award each year. Nominations are invited from school boards, colleagues, parents, teachers, students and all community members. Deadline for receipt of nominations is October 31, 2017. To learn more, visit the [Canada's Outstanding Principals](#) page of The Learning Partnership website.

SUPPORTING MUSIC EDUCATION

The mission of [MusiCounts](#), a Canadian music education charity affiliated with the JUNO Awards and the Canadian Academy



of Recording Arts and Sciences, is to ensure that all children and youth in Canada have access to music education. MusiCounts has several programs that support that mission, including its [Band Aid program](#). Band Aid provides musical instruments in increments of \$5,000 or \$10,000 to schools whose music programs are in need of instruments to ensure their sustained growth. The program is open to schools of all grade levels that have school curriculum music programs. Applications are now being accepted for this year's program; the deadline for receipt of applications is November 20, 2017. To learn more, visit the [MusiCounts website](#).

