

## 2009 - 2010 Capital Plan

The Division's Capital Plan priorities are as follows:

- 1. Brooks** – Funding to build a new 550 capacity K-6 school. Despite the slowing economy, we estimate that student enrolment in our Brooks schools, Holy Family Academy and St. Joseph's Collegiate, will grow by almost 4 percent in September 2009. We have requested additional modular classrooms to meet the need. However, the small school site is very restricted and can only accommodate one more modular. The challenges in Brooks represent both continued growth and limited space to expand. Therefore, we believe that the best option will be to build a new elementary school. Fortunately, the Division has already reserved a very nice elementary school site.
- 2. Strathmore** – Funding to build a new 600 capacity 7-12 secondary school. As an affordable bedroom community within easy commuting distance to Calgary, Strathmore continues to grow. It is a community that tends to attract many families with school age children. The current schools, Sacred Heart Academy and Holy Cross Collegiate, have very limited space. In addition, the current site will allow for only four more modulars. If the modulars were received, the current school would be adequate for a few more years but only if growth were to slow. We believe that given the limited ability to add modular classrooms, a new school will eventually be required.
- 3. Davisburg** (Heritage Heights) – Funding to build a new K-9 school in the M.D. of Foothills. As a quickly growing region on the southern edge of Calgary, we will soon need another school to serve our students in the northern Okotoks and M.D. of Foothills region. There have been many new subdivisions approved for development in this area over the past few years. The area's location provides for very quick and easy access to both Okotoks and Calgary. Plus, despite the slowing economy, many homes are being built and are being purchased by people with young families. The trend to suburban living in the Okotoks and M.D. of Foothills region has resulted in a doubling of population in the past 10 years. We expect the population growth in the area to continue along with the need for more schools.

In addition to the above capital priorities, we are pleased to advise that construction on the new St. Anthony's in Drumheller officially started in May 2009. We expect construction to take almost one year to complete and hope to open the new school in September 2010. The new school will be of significant benefit to students, especially those in grades 7 to 12, by offering improved CTS and science laboratory facilities, a larger gymnasium along with larger playing fields, and of course much better overall technology. For example, the new St. Anthony's will have one of the best wireless network infrastructures anywhere.