

Making Connections

"The most important connections that I made in school were with the teachers. I can remember my kindergarten teacher's name to this day."

- Chris Fong

Message from Chris Fong

Chair of the Board of Governors



When I joined the Board of Governors in 2004, I never imagined that I would make over 1,500 new connections with like-minded Calgarians who believe that public education is a cornerstone of a civil society. I am proud to be a community connector and a conduit for public engagement and support for K-12 student enhancements. Over the past six years I have met people from all walks of life who connect their early education with their current success. In Calgary we are fortunate to have one of the best public education systems in the world.

I have learned this first-hand from many outstanding Calgary Board of Education students who are making a life-long connection to learning. My most meaningful volunteer work has always been connected to enhancing the lives of children and youth. I want to recognize the outstanding support from the CBE Board of Trustees and staff as well as current and past EducationMatters Board of Governors. Your countless connections are the legacy you give to public education students, our future leaders. To the many donors who have chosen to support student success, thank you for connecting with EducationMatters. Your community spirit lives on in the hearts and minds of K-12 students.

Message from Barbara Burggraf

Executive Director

When I nervously walked into my first kindergarten class, I sat beside a very outgoing and precocious five year old who asked "Who are you?" This was the beginning of a life-long friendship and a connection that continues to enrich my life today. By coincidence, my best friend Joanne and I moved to Calgary within two years of each other. I do believe that the connections you make in school can last a lifetime. My five year connection with EducationMatters has been enriching and rewarding. I have made many new connections with people who share the dream of student success. Our Board of Governors is overflowing with extraordinary volunteers whose core values and principles are the cornerstone of Calgary's Public Education Trust. The continuing support of the CBE is also

directly connected to the success of EducationMatters. I am blessed with a staff team who are pioneers in building a successful public education trust.



Your service to students and your enthusiastic commitment to supporters and stakeholders keep us strongly connected to our community. So many people have made 2009 a memorable year. Thank you all for everything you do for public education students. It is your passion, conviction and connection to public education that inspires EducationMatters every day.