

Let's Talk the Future! Let's Dig Deeper! Let's Move Forward!
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<http://swedmontonittakesavillage.wikispaces.com/>

In May 2009, we ("the village") talked the future for schools and communities. In January 2010, we "dug deeper" into Strengthening Families, Improving Communication, and Enhancing Innovative Citizenship Education as three key ways to achieve the public schools and communities we envisioned for 2030. Now it's time to move forward!

With a trustee election right around the corner on October 18, here are some suggestions from the January participants on what Edmonton Public Schools could do to move forward in these three areas. You may have other ideas, and I encourage you to ask your trustee candidates their views.

To Improve Communication, Edmonton Public Schools needs to...

- Close the digital divide among schools.
- Improve teachers' education as the leading group in our society.
- Be receptive in a really genuine way to the voices of parents/the public....

To Build Strong Families, Edmonton Public Schools needs to...

- Work with partner community agencies to support families with programs such as after-school programs, mentorship programs.
- Focus on a balanced lifestyle and fitness.
- Continue to explore the changing role of schools in the building of community.
- Ensure teachers are supported as they are front line for many of the family issues.
- Provide parenting education classes for parents ...

To enhance innovative citizenship education, Edmonton Public Schools needs to...

- Empower teachers in enabling citizenship education in the way they know works best.
- Let students learn from each other and lead their own learning.
- Take the lead and be confident in the decisions you make; Lead the way as Edmonton Public Schools has some very knowledgeable and wise people

The full list of ideas as well as suggestions for the federal government, provincial government and city council, our local schools, and local community organizations can be found in the full "Let's Dig Deeper!" report posted at <http://swedmontonittakesavillage.wikispaces.com/>. This "wiki" is a collaborative community web space that can grow and change as people see fit. Please drop in and explore. Anyone is welcome to edit, add to, upload files, or start a discussion on the wiki pages. If you have questions about how to use the wiki, please contact me at Catherine.Ripley@epsb.ca or 780-887-1002. See you online!