The Wetaskiwin Regional Public School Board today announced plans to raise the profile of the upcoming school board elections. The initiative will include encouraging people with an interest in children and a vision for local education to run for trustee.

"We are encouraging people to think about running for office," said board chair Rob Reimer. "We also want to make sure that people get out and vote on election day."

He pointed out that the board annually manages millions of tax dollars, employs hundreds of people and is responsible for the care and education of local school-aged children.

During the next few months, Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools Board will be distributing information and speaking to the media about the upcoming election and becoming a school board trustee. School board elections take place October 18, 2010. Nomination papers should be filed on September 20, 2010.

"It is our belief that having a broad spectrum of interests represented on our local school board is healthy and makes our education system stronger. That's why we'd like to see as many good candidates as possible vying for trustee positions in the upcoming school board elections," said Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools, Board Chair Rob Reimer.

Reimer said voting for a school board trustee on Election Day is important because the school board influences economic, social and cultural life.

"Our policies and decisions have a tremendous impact on the local community, whether you have children in school or not. It's important to have a board that reflects and represents the diverse views and interests of the community."

Anyone wanting more information about running as a trustee can call the Wetaskiwin Regional Public School Board central office at 780-352-6018. Information is also available on the Wetaskiwin Regional Public School Boards website www.wrps.ab.ca or Alberta School Boards Association’s website at www.asba.ab.ca. Trustees are also available upon request to speak about trusteeship.

For more information, please contact Sherri Senger, Returning Officer at 780-352-6018.