

### **Strathcona's Advanced Placement Program Takes the Lead**

It is official: Strathcona High School's Advanced Placement program is the largest in Canada. In the 2008-2009 academic year, no other school in the nation had as many students writing College Board AP exams.

This year, enrollment in AP courses at Strathcona has risen even further. A record number of our students will write College Board exams in May 2010.

This remarkable participation rate is eclipsed only by the impressive results achieved by our students on these university-level exams. An overwhelming majority of them pass their AP examinations and qualify for college credit and post-secondary advanced placement.

Last year, eighteen graduating students in Alberta received the College Board's highest accolades as *AP National Scholars*. Twelve of these eighteen students were from Strathcona High School. The remainder came from the province's 63 other AP schools.

Strathcona students received many other AP commendations from the College Board in 2009. Twenty students were recognized as *Scholars with Distinction*. Another seven qualified as *Scholars with Honour*. Twenty-eight achieved the status of *AP Scholars*.

In 2009, the top AP student in the Edmonton Public School District hailed from Strathcona. Another AP student from Scona was recently recognized as the district's best art student.

Success on any College Board exam indicates that a student has completed the equivalent of a first-year university course prior to graduating from high school. Presently, students can take the AP challenge in a variety of subjects at Strathcona, including: calculus, physics, chemistry, biology, history, English language and composition, English literature, French, Spanish and studio art.

At Strathcona High, a majority of students are now taking the AP challenge in one or more areas. They participate in an enriched program that cultivates the knowledge and skills that will be needed in post-secondary studies.

The Advanced Placement has grown over the past decade from a small program that engaged a small percentage of the student population to a large program that has become an integral part of Strathcona's culture of learning. AP contributes in a major way to our pursuit of academic success for all students.