

REMEMBER
VISION
FUNCTION
AWESOME
HONOUR
EXCELLENCE
GRITTY
INTEGRITY
MERIT
PERFORMANCE
PERSEVERANCE
ACHIEVEMENT
DISCIPLINE
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2026

Michael A. Strembitsky

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Honouring Student Excellence

Michael A. Strembitsky Award of Excellence

Honouring Student Excellence

On May 26, 2026, the Edmonton Public Schools Board of Trustees had the honour of recognizing 20 outstanding nominees for the Michael A. Strembitsky Award of Excellence.

A gold (\$2,000), silver (\$1,500) and bronze (\$1,000) medal and cash award was presented to three Grade 12 students who best exemplify:

- excellence in personal, social and academic endeavours
- keen interest in a broad selection of subjects and activities
- willingness to seek meaningful change
- initiative, courage, confidence and a commitment to excellence
- co-operation with other students, staff and community members
- potential to provide leadership throughout life
- responsible participation in society

Michael A. Strembitsky Award Nominees

Medoria Stabblar
Academy at King Edward

Mia Harridan
Centre High Campus

Chloe Ge
Dr. Anne Anderson School

Elizabeth Wolde
Eastglen School

Ellarie Visser
Edmonton Christian High School

Ansh Sidhu
*Elder Dr. Francis
Whiskeyjack School*

Joanna Ye
Harry Ainlay School

Caiya Ylagan
J. Percy Page School

Chloe Susoeff
Jasper Place School

Ruchi Patil
Lillian Osborne School

Ayush Kumar
M.E. LaZerte School

Khloe Eliel Ucat
McNally School

Felicia Simanjuntak
*Millwoods Christian
School*

Sophia Zhao
Old Scona School

Atikah Wais
Queen Elizabeth School

Lily Le
Ross Sheppard School

Danica Gouglass
Strathcona School

Alyx Goddard
Victoria School

Sarah Crowley
Vimy Ridge Academy

Armeen Khalid
W.P. Wagner School

GOLD Medal



Elizabeth Wolde
Eastglen School

Elizabeth is an honours student in the Advanced Placement program at Eastglen School. She has a deep commitment to excellence, service and ensuring others have a voice. As a child of immigrants, she has been an advocate for inclusivity and equity from an early age, acting as a bridge between her parents and the wider community when language or cultural barriers make everyday tasks difficult.

Elizabeth has committed herself to serving others both in quiet, behind-the-scenes work and public-facing leadership roles. Principal Denise McNeill says Elizabeth “has modeled a rare combination of academic rigour, fierce social justice advocacy and a selfless commitment to the well-being of her peers.”

Among the causes close to Elizabeth’s heart are working to make diverse voices heard in STEM fields and supporting those dealing with food insecurity. She serves as an intern with WISEST at the University of Alberta, where she advocates for diversity, equity and inclusion in STEM by co-developing mentorship opportunities and accessible resources for underrepresented students. When the Eastglen cafeteria closed, Elizabeth stepped up to help food insecure students. She co-founded and led a student-run store to address the issue directly. Elizabeth also volunteers for a number of other causes including the e4c School Nutrition Program, BGCBiggs, the Eastglen Student Council and more.

Elizabeth strives for—and has achieved—excellence in her academic performance while remaining engaged with initiatives that uplift her community. As she puts it: “Whether advocating for representation in STEM, expanding access to opportunities or supporting students’ daily needs, my goal is to leave spaces more inclusive and empowering than I found them.”

Elizabeth plans to pursue a bachelor of commerce in business economics at the University of Alberta. She aspires to become a lawyer.

SILVER Medal



Chloe Ge
*Dr. Anne Anderson
School*

Chloe is an Advanced Placement student at Dr. Anne Anderson School. She is also a Student Senator and Trustee, a role she takes seriously knowing that she helps provide a voice to the Division's 122,000 students. For Chloe, leadership isn't just about large, visible achievements, it's about "creating environments where others feel confident contributing."

Principal Brenda Mulder describes Chloe as having a "'startup' mentality," which was on full display when she spearheaded the "What's Next?" initiative to bring more equitable access to career planning resources to students in different schools. This was a program she built from the ground up, co-ordinating with industry professionals and her fellow Student Senators, to connect over 200 students with real-world career pathways. She sees the program as something that future student leaders can build upon and continue in the future.

Chloe is the event lead of Dr. Anne Anderson School's Southeast Asian Student Alliance, and was an executive member when it was first established. It provides opportunities for students of Southeast Asian heritage to celebrate their shared cultures together.

Outside of school, Chloe has mentored more than 30 immigrant and refugee youth at the Newcomer Centre, helping them build academic skills and adjust to their new home in Canada—something she has been doing since Grade 9. Last year she organized a Christmas hamper fundraiser when she noticed families at Dr. Anne Anderson's feeder schools were struggling. With Chloe's leadership, this initiative helped 13 local families.

As Principal Mulder says: "Her commitment to the community is evident in everything she does, whether she is advocating for students or supporting those in need."

Chloe will be pursuing an engineering degree at the University of Alberta, specializing in mechanical engineering.

BRONZE Medal



Alyx Goddard
Victoria School

Alyx is a student at Victoria School and is recognized as an advocate for student voices and a role model for the school's youngest students. Alyx is passionate about academics, art and athletics, and they excel in all of these areas. According to Principal Stacy Fysh, Alyx "has initiative, courage, confidence and continued commitment to excellence."

Alyx's leadership began at Camp Dragonfly, a summer camp for transgender and gender diverse youth. At camp, Alyx made connections that would lead them to begin advocating for trans youth. This has led Alyx to take on leadership opportunities such as starting and leading the junior high and high school gay-straight alliances (GSAs) at Victoria School. Alyx has also found a voice in print, writing for the school newspaper as well as magazines aimed at social change and justice; they also write about the experiences of queer youth in Canada for It Gets Better Canada.

In addition to their advocacy work, Alyx takes pride in being an artist and athlete. They have been an actor and crew member in the school's last two films and, this year, joined Victoria School's inaugural Triple Threat Musical Theatre class and production of *Here. Now. This.* Alyx has also created visual art pieces relating to queer and trans rights.

Athletically, Alyx is involved in multiple sports, including track and rugby. They have also played hockey for 12 years and hope to continue playing in university, where they plan to try out for the Griffins hockey team at MacEwan University. Alyx credits team sports for teaching them leadership skills like working with others, remaining cool under pressure and creative problem-solving.

Alyx will be attending MacEwan University, pursuing a bachelor of social work with a minor in gender studies.