

Board of Trustees

Chair: Noreen Radford | Vice-Chair: René Tremblay

Trustees: Joe Becigneul | Joan Crockett | Cathy Proulx | Greg Schell | Serena Shaw



REGULAR BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

Mon., Sept. 28, 2020

Held virtually, via ZOOM, and livestreamed to the community via YouTube.

GOOD NEWS

School News

GSACRD will host the grand opening of our newest school, St. Kateri Tekakwitha Academy in Morinville, on Oct. 8. This event will feature speeches from students, parents, and political, faith, Divisional, and community dignitaries. Although in-person access to the event will be limited, due to COVID-19, the celebration will be live-streamed to the public. We are excited to showcase this impressive new facility to our community, even if that means doing so virtually for the time being.

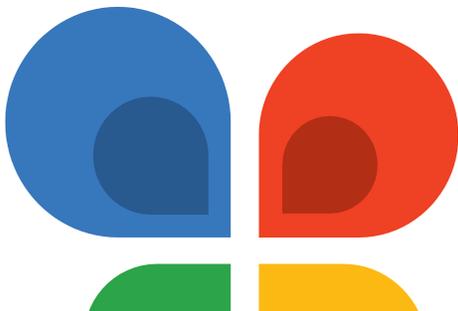


Bertha Kennedy and Sister Alphonse Academy are two of the 2019 recipients of funding through the City of St. Albert's Environmental Initiatives Grant Program (EIGP), which encourages projects that align with the City's Environmental Master Plan. Bertha Kennedy received \$4,000 to build an Outdoor Learning Space that includes bee homes, hummingbird feeders, and native berry trees. Sister Alphonse received \$2,000 to design an Edible Learning Garden Space. Since the grant program was launched in 2007, 122 community projects have received funding.



Several of our schools launched their school year with opening liturgies, and many students have enjoyed participating in these services. Focusing on God is a wonderful way for our students and staff to start a new year of growing together in faith and knowledge.

Student Council at Legal School launched a community service initiative in support of Hope Mission. Between Sept. 14 and 24, students collected pajamas, underwear, and long-underwear for the homeless and needy. What a practical way to live out our faith and a notable example of what it means to live like Christ.



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Division News

All of our students are now back in class, whether that is in face-to-face or virtual environments, and [the 2020-2021 school year is well underway!](#) Our Division's [School Re-entry Plan](#) has been a resounding success, thanks to the joint efforts and cooperation of our whole community: students, parents/legal guardians, and staff. We appreciate everyone's continued efforts to keep everyone safe.



Our Superintendent has met one-on-one with each of the priests in our local parishes to discuss how our local clergy can be more involved in our schools. Division and school administrators and priests/parishes will work together to encourage greater school-parish partnerships within our schools.

Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools' faith theme for 2020-2022 is Arise: Get up, get going, and go with God! As a Division, we have a unique opportunity to engage, encourage, and support our students in developing a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Our focus for the 2020-2021 school year is Arise: Get up! – based on Christ's words in Luke 7:14: "...I say to you, arise!" Such a focus has direct implications for how our faith is lived out in our school communities through works of social justice, charity, and mercy. We have the privilege of helping students see themselves as Christ for others and as bearers and deliverers of His love and life-giving touch. The Division will be specifically promoting this focus in the weeks to come.

The virtual staff prayer meetings that started in April are continuing this Fall. Staff come together to thank God for His love, guidance, faithfulness, and blessings, and to collectively bring our community's concerns to God.

PRESENTATION DELEGATIONS

There were no presentations.

ACTION & CONSENT ITEMS

- The Board reviewed and approved the following Consent Items:
 - Board Policy 1: Division Mission
 - Statement, Values and Beliefs, Goals and Objectives
 - Board Policy 2: Role of the Board with no changes
 - Board Policy 8: Board Committees; and Board Policy
 - 12: Role and Competencies of the Superintendent
- The following Action Items were reviewed and approved by the Board:
 - Board Meeting Schedule Revision
 - Trustee Determination and Distribution
 - 2020 Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Awards

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Updates and/or reports were provided on the following:

- Program Unit Funding (PUF) Update
- Formal Name Change for St. Albert Catholic High School

UPCOMING BOARD INITIATIVES/EVENTS

- *School Awards Ceremonies*: trustees will attend, virtually, - or record and send video messages in advance – the school awards nights for their respective school communities to celebrate and recognize student accomplishments.
- *2020 Long Service Awards*: on **Oct. 7**, the Board will host its annual ceremony to honour staff who have reached five-, ten-, fifteen-, twenty-, twenty-five, thirty-, and thirty-five- year career milestones with the Division. To respect all public health guidelines, this year's event will be held virtually.
- *Grand Opening Celebration & Blessing – St. Kateri Tekakwitha Academy*: the Board will host the official grand opening of our Division's newest school on **Thurs., Oct. 8**, at **2 p.m.** Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event will not be open to the public to attend on-site; however, the formal program will be livestreamed to the community.

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The next Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled for **Monday, October 26, 2020**, at **3:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held virtually and will be [livestreamed](#) to the public. All Regular Board Meetings are open to the public.