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Oyen

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Dr. Scott Morrison
Superintendent

Mariette Moss
Associate Superintendent

Michael Kilcommons
Associate Superintendent

Vincent Behm
Associate Superintendent

Jerry Bagozzi
Treasurer

Rhonda Schachterle
Director of Student Services

Cheryl Kuemper
Director of Curriculum and
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Dave Lunn
Director of Facilities

Dawn Quinlan
Director of Human Resources



CHRIST THE REDEEMER BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INSPIRING CATHOLIC EDUCATION

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 2019

Bishop McGrattan Reports to the Board

Our spiritual leader, Bishop William McGrattan attended our Board Meeting to address the Board and answer questions.

When the Bishop was assigned to our diocese, he became the de facto leader of all Catholic schools, as he serves as the liaison Bishop to Catholic schools across the province.

He has been very engaged in all of our communities, visiting both schools and parishes. He mentioned that he was very impressed by the sincere Catholicity in our schools, and is particularly intrigued by our #Relationships in a Digital Age initiative.

Bishop McGrattan is also supportive of the provincial effort to establish the Grateful Advocates for

Catholic Education (GrACE) initiative. He and Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools can both take some credit for the inception of GrACE. CTR Catholic was the first to establish Parents Advocating for Catholic Education (PACE) months ago, and GrACE is a broader initiative to share our good news. Bishop McGrattan drew inspiration for GrACE from a similar initiative in Ontario.

Board Receives Physical Education Review

Joy Taylor, a retired physical education expert from Calgary Catholic, was commissioned by the Board to do a regular review of our divisional physical education program. She presented an overview of her review and provided the Board with recommendations.

Overall, she said that she was impressed by the teachers, who are keen and eager. While gymnasium space is a challenge in

many places within our division, she also concluded that equipment is generously provided and well-maintained.

Mrs. Taylor noted teachers find it difficult to network, given our geographic range, and this led to a recommendation to review leadership and professional learning opportunities.

Mrs. Taylor's most significant recommendation was to ensure

teachers implement all strands of the curriculum, with a particular focus on the strands of dance and gymnastics.

Overall, the report was positive and it highlighted examples of excellence in every facility.

There are a number of recommendations coming forth, and Associate Superintendent, Mariette Moss, will provide the Board with a response next meeting.

Board Standing Committees

The **Parents Advocating for Catholic Education (PACE) Committee** continues their inspirational work to further our call for support for Catholic education. They are scheduling more meetings, targeting our school communities, and making some inroads in meeting with parish groups.

The group will be conducting a retreat in the near future with the Sisters of Divine Mercy,

and they are planning a video to share their message on a broader scale.

Please look to www.paceredeemer.ca/ for the advocacy letter therein, which we encourage all supporters of Catholic education to sign. It will be presented to the government as a demonstration of our stakeholder support. Last

month, it was reported here that in a short period, the number of signatures had doubled to 6,000. We are excited to announce that in another surge of support, signatures almost doubled again, since last month's meeting, to somewhere in the vicinity of 12,000.



Superintendents' Reports

Superintendent, Dr. Scott Morrison informed the Board that our anticipation of flat funding, combined with the uncertainty regarding the Classroom Improvement Fund (CIF), have resulted in an initial budget projection in a deficit position. CIF was a Ministerial initiative that provided over \$1.2 million, targeted toward staffing levels. Although the funding was temporary, CTR Catholic, like most divisions, is dependent upon the current staff numbers to maintain optimal class sizes. The provincial budget will probably not be announced before an election, so senior administration have several months to work with local administrators to continue to finesse the numbers and live within our means.

Associate Superintendent, Mrs. Mariette Moss, is consumed with curriculum and professional development initiatives, but Faith Days dominates our thoughts in the short term. Faith Days is our opportunity to feed the souls of our staff, and to rejuvenate our spirits. While students are enjoying their week off, our staff will be inspired by guest speakers and the chance to share with colleagues.



In a written submission, **Associate Superintendent, Mr. Vincent Behm**, reminded the trustees that the next Liaison meeting will take place before the end of the month. The Liaison meetings involve collaborative discussions between teacher representatives, trustees, and division leaders. These meetings often result in preemptive efforts to respond to concerns before they become serious issues. After each meeting, all participants are responsible to go back and conduct remediation efforts or engage in further research, exploring issues and concerns. The teacher representatives share with all of the teachers in the division.

“Successful grants usually tell a compelling story, and are always research / data based with clearly defined outcomes and measures.”

Stewardship Liaison, Terri Dauter, Reports to the Board

Terri Dauter's Stewardship Liaison role is an innovative way to ensure CTR Catholic secures grants to improve education. These grants enhance programs and supports for both students and staff. Ms. Dauter works together with CTR Catholic personnel to identify needs, and then she uses her expertise to identify grant sources to secure funds to meet these needs. Without Ms. Dauter, these needs would not be met.

Ms. Dauter's work also involves creating strategic partnerships with organizations such as Alberta Health Services, the Red Cross,

local governments, neighboring school divisions, the provincial government, and a variety of networks and coalitions.

Ms. Dauter reported that successful grant applications usually tell a compelling story, and are always research-based with clearly defined outcomes and measures.

Over the course of four years, Ms. Dauter has secured increased funding each and every year, beginning with \$888,000 in her first year to \$1,700,000 last year. In the first 5 months of this year, Ms. Dauter has already

secured over \$1,500,000 to support things such as professional learning, social workers, sensory rooms, playgrounds, recreation, support for children with special needs, support for mental health, and curricular support in areas such as music, reading, and technology.

Ms. Dauter's most special gift is getting engaged with the organizations providing grants. She invests in their causes and they invest in CTR Catholic...and her!



School Calendars Approved

The draft for the 2019-2020 school calendar was adopted by the Board.

The calendar can be found on CTR's website under the

“Calendar” tab on the main page.

Ward Reports...Board Keeps it Local

The communities of Canmore and Okotoks Ward I hosted Ward meetings since the last Board meeting. The minutes with more detail are always attached to the Board Meeting agendas on our website, but a few highlights are noted here.

Canmore Ward:

This Ward includes Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Academy.

Faith: Parental feedback on sacramental preparation was superb, and Father Nathan was very impressed with the school's Masses.

Learning: Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Academy has introduced coding in both elementary and secondary.

Safe and Caring: The Ward is very pleased with Our Lady of the Snows

Catholic Academy's safe and caring satisfaction rate.

Stewardship: Feedback from parents on the PACE presentation has been incredibly positive. They want to do even more.

Okotoks Ward I:

This Ward includes St. Mary's School, St. John Paul II Collegiate, École Good Shepherd School, Holy Trinity Academy and St. Francis of Assisi Academy.

Faith: St. John Paul II Collegiate has a faith leader team, modeled after the divisional faith leaders' structure.

Learning/Safe and Caring: There is congruence between schools and a wide adoption of divisional initiatives such as

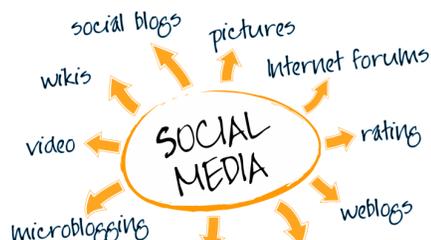
literacy, #Relationships in a Digital Age, and the concept-based curriculum. This is a sign of a strong divisional culture around learning and the creation of safe and caring schools.

Stewardship: There were 100 people at Holy Trinity Academy's career practitioner's presentation. The career practitioner concept is going very well. It is more focused and cost effective than a traditional counselor with a diverse focus on a host of issues. Senior administration is considering expanding this initiative.

Coordinator of Communications, Cindy Nickerson, Reports to the Board

Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools reaches out to the world in diverse ways. Our presence on Facebook, Twitter, in print, and on radio is overwhelmingly positive, and is almost solely to the credit of our Coordinator of Communications, **Ms. Cindy Nickerson**.

As our communications expert, Ms. Nickerson is responsible for monitoring and engaging our stakeholders.



Ms. Nickerson makes certain that our advertising, publications, and advocacy efforts present our best face, and her fingerprints are on practically all aspects of CTR Catholic's print and digital messages.

Ms. Nickerson promotes everything from #Relationships, to ECS registrations, to Parents Advocating for Catholic Education (PACE). She is also an engaged leader amongst the Catholic Coordinators of Communication across the province.

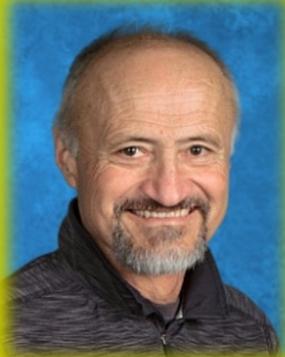
In the midst of all of this, Ms. Nickerson develops dozens of print and online communication projects and is CTR Catholic's sole strategist for our overall print

and online communication program.

Although creativity is her forte, Ms. Nickerson commonly crafts the messages shared by CTR Catholic, and her strategic intelligence and sensitivity are highly valued.

Ms. Nickerson is often the first line of communication when major incidents arise, and she has represented the division well. She is a highly valued member of the Catholic Education Centre.





Ron Schreiber, Board
Chair, and Trustee for
Town of Okotoks

The truth of Christ and knowledge of God's creation will be experienced by and manifest in the students, staff, parents, and supporters of our Catholic School Community.



Trustees' Corner by Ron Schreiber

On February 10th we celebrated the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The gospel reading for that Sunday was taken from Luke 5: 1-11 wherein Simon Peter, after witnessing Jesus' teaching from his boat just off the shore of the lake of Gennesaret, somewhat reluctantly follows Jesus' advice to put his nets out again despite the fact that he and his fellow fishermen had not caught any fish the entire night. Simon Peter does this to honor Jesus because he has seen that Jesus is an effective teacher but he surely does not think that Jesus really knows anything about fishing. However, when he listens to Jesus and puts down his nets, they are filled to overflowing with an enormous catch of fish. At this moment, Simon Peter begins to see that there is much more to this Jesus than he had previously thought. This gospel reading is the one that has crystallized into our 3-Year Faith Plan "Put Out Into The Deep". We are now in the midst of the second year and the theme in this second year is to "let down your nets".

A major idea arising out of this gospel story is that we are often called by our faith to do things, such as letting down our nets, again and again seemingly to no major effect. Sometimes, as in this gospel narrative, something truly beautiful happens. Often the results are less spectacular. This story highlights the difficulty we encounter when we try to live a life as Jesus would have us do it, in everyday situations.

We are each of us, placed in a spot, in a particular family, in a classroom, in a school, or in a group of people. There are reasons for this which we may not fully understand. We are called to practice and re-practice, again and again, being amongst these people. These places are a mission field and they are our particular mission field for the time being. We are asked to be faithful and to try to behave as Jesus would have us behave around others, thus practicing "ordinary love", time and time again, even if it seems to manifest no concrete re-

sults. Albert Einstein once said that insanity is marked by doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. His summation may extend to physical phenomena but it poorly applies to relationships of "ordinary love". They are too complex to be so limited and God knows better than any man. It may seem silly or even a waste of time but we should all heed God's call, follow Jesus' example, and do it anyways. We will all be better for it.



Remember that Trustee biographies are available on CTR's website at: <http://www.redeemer.ab.ca/Trustees.php>

Next Board Meeting Date

The next Board meeting will take place on **Saturday, March 30, 2019**, at St. Mary's School, Okotoks, AB.

For any information on items in this publication, please contact Michael Kilcommons, Associate Superintendent, at mkilcommons@redeemer.ab.ca or at 403-938-2659.