

## TRUSTEES

Ron Schreiber, Chair  
Okotoks

Harry Salm, Vice Chair  
Strathmore

Mark Chung  
Drumheller

John de Jong  
Brooks

Michelle Rude-Volk  
Oyen

Vijay Domingo  
Canmore

Joanne Van Donzel  
High River

Andrea Keenan  
MD of Foothills

## SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Scott Morrison  
Superintendent

Dr. Bonnie Annicchiarico  
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  
Instruction

Dave Lunn  
Director of Facilities

Dawn Quinlan  
Director of Human Re-  
sources



CHRIST THE REDEEMER BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INSPIRING CATHOLIC EDUCATION

# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

NOVEMBER 2017

## Building Relationships

With collegiality and managing mutual interests in mind, the Board discussed the topic of arranging meetings with our neighbouring school boards in

the new year. The Board committed to pursuing a meeting with the Board of Grasslands School Division. Among other things, one of the Boards' de-

sires is to discuss the prospect of developing an Alberta School Board Association motion related to meeting the needs of English Language Learners.

## Board Approves Annual Education Results Report and Three Year Education Plan

The Three Year Education Plan is developed after results are thoroughly analyzed. The report highlights a range of successes, from objective academic measures to student, parent, and staff satisfac-

tion survey responses regarding most aspects of our operation. The document also speaks to strategies CTR is implementing to continuously improve. A link

to the plan's highlights can be found by clicking on "Education Plan" on CTR's homepage at [redeemer.ab.ca](http://redeemer.ab.ca). Online readers of these Highlights can find it [here](#).

## We Are Growing and Need Space!

There are two options when the Board considers future facility requests. Namely, the Board can ask for modular classrooms (portables) or it can pursue permanent construction, which can be in the form of added space or new schools. In either case, the criteria includes health and safety, enrolment pressures, utilization rates, condition of existing facilities, and programming needs.

River, based almost entirely on available space and future enrolment pressures.

In addition, the government accepts Board requests for permanent construction in February each year. The Board supported Senior Administrations' plan to request new school facilities in Strathmore, Canmore, High River, and Okotoks. In

the latter three cases, the rationale for new construction will be enrollment growth. In Strathmore, the request ties into high school programming needs. We believe that our students deserve spaces that better meet their educational needs, especially in terms of CTS spaces, such as Construction, New Media, and Music.

The Board accepted Senior Administrations' recommendation that we have a very strong case for adding modular classroom space in both Canmore and High



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## Superintendents’ Updates

Superintendent, Dr. Scott Morrison, introduced the concept of doing away with printed report cards. Given that most families have access to grades and report cards online, there is a thought towards no longer printing report cards. Although this will save paper, it was discussed that no such decision will be made until there is a school-based community consultation, and, if this decision is made, parents will retain the right to request printed report cards.

Dr. Morrison also discussed the success of CTR’s online registration process. This move to

further embrace technology has proven to be very beneficial. And finally, Dr. Morrison commended the accomplishments of Associate Superintendent, Dr. Bonnie Annicchiarico, for her successful efforts to promote Catholic Education in the province, and Associate Superintendent, Vincent Behm, for his accomplishments in enhancing the recruiting plan for CTR’s Human Resources department.

Dr. Annicchiarico shared information on a philosophy called *Theology of the Body*, a Catholic perspective on respect and love. She shared that Faith Days 2018 will be led by renowned speaker

Christopher Wells, and Jason Evert will be brought in to present to parents and students in March. Both presenters are renowned speakers on the subject of *Theology of the Body*.

Mr. Vincent Behm reviewed an upcoming *Superchat* planned with CTR’s principals to discuss issues related to their sense of personal efficacy and wellness. Mr. Behm also reviewed refinements in Human Resources, including convening a focus group of recently hired teachers to assist in the development of new promotional materials and strategies used for teacher recruiting.

## Board Approves Budget

Associate Superintendent, Michael Kilcommons, stated that the Audited Financial Statement for 2016-17 indicated an operating surplus of \$459,345, less than half of a percent of revenues. This modest surplus was achieved by reserves in the school-based operating budgets in each of our 18 schools, and was realized through prudent budgeting and spending. A portion was also achieved through some savings at Central Office, in the form of services, contracts, and purchases. Mr. Kilcommons also shared that the surplus was achieved despite a Spring of 2017 decision to support schools and classrooms

with significant investments in technology, furniture, and equipment.

Mr. Kilcommons also presented the budget for 2017-2018. The budget contains a small deficit, representing less than 1% of the division’s operating budget, and will be funded through existing operating reserves. The deficit is primarily a result of an unexpected shift in enrolment from online to home schooling at The Centre for Learning@HOME (CFL), which has had a detrimental effect on anticipated revenues. Senior Administra-

tion expressed confidence in the efforts of the CFL, and proposed continued support for the school as it adjusts to changing enrollment patterns. The Board supported this recommendation, and approved both the Audited Financial Statement for 2016-2017 and the operating budget for 2017-2018. The two documents were submitted to the Ministry on November 30.



## Board Collaborates via the Liaison Committee

Senior Administration and Board Members shared that they are encouraged by the productive conversations they have had with teacher representatives on our Liaison Committee. At the

most recent meeting, they discussed a host of topics, including assignable time, elementary report cards, extracurricular mileage, staff attendance, and the provincial achievement test

schedule. The committee communicates their progress to all staff via the Superintendents’ Updates and communication via principals.

## Many Great Things Happen in Our Communities

The communities of Oyen, Canmore, Clear Water, and Strathmore 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.

### **Assumption Ward:**

This Ward includes Assumption School.

**Faith:** The school is very happy as First Communion is being celebrated during the school day!

**Learning:** Teachers will continue to get professional development in CTR initiatives, but T. Rolheiser will look for alternative ways where there are not so many disruptions due to teacher absences.

**Safe and Caring:** The Chalice Child project is a great way for kids to learn to pay it forward.

**Stewardship:** The school raised over \$20,000 last year.



### **Canmore Ward:**

This Ward includes Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Academy.

**Faith:** Adoration every two weeks has been amazing.

**Learning:** University and scholarship guidance is amazing.

**Safe and Caring:** CTR Catholic is teaching students to treasure one another's souls and that is why we are "safe and caring".

**Stewardship:** The topic of Banff formation was thoughtfully discussed.

### **Clear Water Ward:**

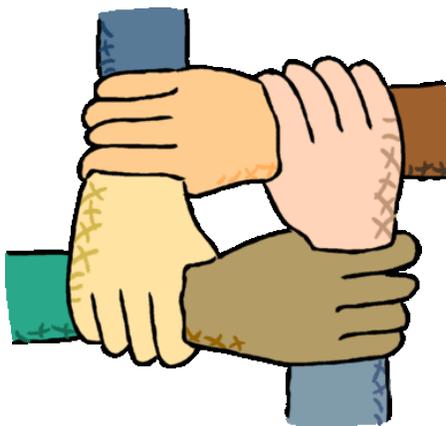
This Ward includes Clear Water Academy.

**Faith:** Clear Water Academy had their choir at Sacred Heart Church for Catholic Education Sunday.

**Learning:** Grades 4 to 6 option program is being well received.

**Safe and Caring:** The Dr. L. Sax presentation on gender was well received.

**Stewardship:** The Mary's Meal fundraiser was an inspiring event with over 400 participants.



### **Strathmore Ward:**

This Ward includes Sacred Heart Academy and Holy Cross Collegiate.

**Faith:** Ward members appreciated Father's passionate support for Catholic education on Catholic Education Sunday.

**Learning:** Both schools are learning more about English Language Learners as the population is rising!

**Safe and Caring:** The ward members were excited that Holy Cross Collegiate has a revived School Council and Student Council.

**Stewardship:** Sacred Heart Academy School Council supplied \$10,000 in field trips and \$11,000 in co-curricular programming!

***"The Ward members were excited that Holy Cross Collegiate has a revived School Council and Student Council."***



Michelle Rude-Volk,  
 Trustee for Oyen and  
 Area

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 Michelle Rude-Volk

Upon my return from the annual Alberta Catholic School Trustees Association (ACSTA) conference, my head was full of the many faces, procedures, and policies that are new to me as a trustee. The opportunity to attend this conference was a wonderful experience. Our Catholic school community came together to celebrate, and support, the importance of Catholic education. Among the many speakers and presenters, Bishop Emeritus Henry talked about the importance of relationships. "Relationships, relationships, relationships", he said.

We will encounter many different types of relationships through our lives. Relationships with our family, co-workers, and in my case, as a new trustee, relationships with other trustees, other governing boards, parents, and students.

A relationship starts when we give someone else our time and attention. The success of any relationship depends on what we, as individuals, are prepared to invest in them. In every relationship you need to communi-

cate effectively, trust in each other, and give each other, and the relationship, time by being actively involved and sharing parts of our lives together. We need to commit the time to the growth of a relationship otherwise it will not be strong and lasting. When we make ourselves available to that person, we are demonstrating the importance of what we are giving to that person and to the relationship.

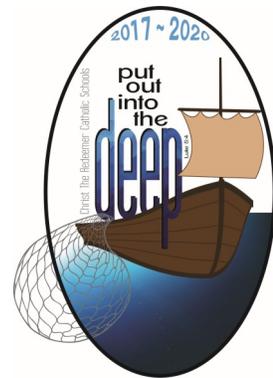
The same can be said about our relationship with God. When we open our hearts to a real relationship with God, we discover God's unconditional love for us. It's a relationship rooted in love. But like any relationship He needs to be invited into our life. We need to speak to, and with Him, we need to share our thoughts and gratitude, we need to ask for guidance, and be open to His answers. He has given each of us many wonderful gifts to use to enrich our lives, and the lives of those around us. Our faith in Him will reward us with knowledge, strength, love,

peace, understanding, forgiveness, and compassion. My heart has found great peace through my relationship with God and it has transformed my life in many ways. It's a relationship that requires constant care and growth. All of our relationships will change over time, but when you develop a relationship with Christ, you will be changed.

Blessings.

Michelle Rude-Volk

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



## Next Board Meeting Date

The next Board meeting will take place on **Saturday, January 20, 2018**, at Holy Cross Collegiate, in Strathmore, AB.

**For any information on items in this publication, please contact Michael Kilcommons, Associate Superintendent, at [mkilcommons@redeemer.ab.ca](mailto:mkilcommons@redeemer.ab.ca) or at 403-938-2659.**