



## Advocacy for Catholic Education

(March 2019)

## Inspire. Create. Believe.

### #1. Staff in Our Catholic Schools

- Catholic Teachers and staff maintain and share Catholic values found in our family's homes.
- We have the right and privilege to hire practicing Catholic teachers and staff.
- We ensure Catholic Teachers remain faithful to the goals, values and beliefs of our organization.
- We support the Alberta Teachers' Association and UNIFOR.

- ✓ Maintain and share Catholic values found in our family's homes.
- ✓ Right and privilege to hire practicing Catholic teachers.
- ✓ Catholic Teachers remain faithful to the goals/values of GPCSD.
- ✓ GPCSD supports the Alberta Teachers' Association and UNIFOR.



### #2. Safe and Caring Schools

- Everyone is created in the image and likeness of God deserving of respect and dignity.
- Schools must be safe and caring environments where all students, regardless of their body image, race, sexual identity, sexual orientation, culture, language, religion, performance in school, social anxiety/lack of social connection, or any other individual attributes, are treated fairly with respect and dignity.
- We support the right of students or staff, to create groups to assist and enable a safe and caring environment.

- ✓ Everyone is made in God's Image and is deserving of respect and dignity.
- ✓ Our Schools are Safe and Caring Learning Environments.
- ✓ Students and staff have a right to create safe and caring groups or environments.

### #3. Parental Rights

- Parents are the primary educators of their children.
- Parents entrust schools with their children – to form them into caring and loving people in faith and love.
- Choice in education provides parents with the opportunity to choose an education that supports their values and learning needs of their children.
- We support the rights of communities and parents to have schools align with their educational needs and aspirations.

- ✓ Parents are the primary educators.
- ✓ Parents want their kids to be loving and caring individuals.
- ✓ Parents value choice in education.
- ✓ We support families of all backgrounds and beliefs.





## #4. Governance

- Locally elected Catholic Trustees are best at the local level; this is essential for good governance.
- Locally elected Catholic Trustees elected are essential to make decisions that are in accord with local needs and concerns.
- Catholic schools are to be governed by Catholic ratepayers and administrated by Catholic Superintendents sharing the same goal and vision of life, faith and values as the Catholic community.

- ✓ Local People, making Local Decisions.
- ✓ Catholic Schools are governed by Catholic ratepayers.



## #5. Infrastructure

- We support the continued need to fund the building of schools and other infrastructure projects on a fair and proportional basis throughout the province.
- Free-standing Catholic schools on separate sites have a long and successful history in Alberta.
- Sharing of schools/facilities with non-Catholic educational organizations or civic associations, shall be the choice of the Board of Trustees.
- Sharing shall not in any manner undermine or interrupt the full permeation of Catholic values and beliefs.
- We support the sharing and engaging of facilities with community and educational organizations to maximize the responsible use of resources, when it serves the needs of both organizations.

- ✓ We support Separate Free-Standing Catholic Schools.
- ✓ Sharing facilities has value when it serves the needs of both organizations.

## #6. Curriculum

- We recognize Alberta Education's role in the development and consistency of curriculum development and supports the creation of a curricula based on best practices and pedagogy.
- We are committed to providing education fully permeated by the Catholic faith, including curriculum to its students and based on the values of Catholic teachings and the community of faith.
- Provincial curriculum development should be transparent and collaborative including all education stakeholders, the community, academics, government, administrators, and teachers.
- Faith based schools have the right and responsibility to present and teach the curriculum to meet the beliefs and mission of the school and faith community.

- ✓ We recognize Alberta Education's Role in designing Curriculum.
- ✓ We provide curriculum to our students based on the values of Catholic teachings and the community of faith.
- ✓ Provincial curriculum development is transparent and collaborative.
- ✓ We have a right to teach curriculum aligning with our organization's mission and communities' belief.