

## TRUSTEES

Ron Schreiber, Chair  
Okotoks

Joanne Van Donzel, Vice Chair  
High River

Mark Chung  
Drumheller

John de Jong  
Brooks

Michelle Rude-Volk  
Oyen

Vijay Domingo  
Canmore

Harry Salm  
Strathmore

Andrea Keenan  
MD of Foothills

## SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Scott Morrison  
Superintendent

Michael Kilcommons  
Associate Superintendent

Vincent Behm  
Associate Superintendent

Mariette Moss  
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 Resources



CHRIST THE REDEEMER BOARD OF TRUSTEES

INSPIRING CATHOLIC EDUCATION

# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER 2018

## Corporate Services Report

Associate Superintendent of Corporate Services Michael Kilcommons reported on emerging possibilities related to facility needs. The future of École Good Shepherd School remains a divisional priority. The school facility has been determined to be in sound structural condition at this time, and aside from the gymnasium, it has been deemed safe for occupancy. At this point, we are preparing to break ground to accommodate a temporary structure for the school's physi-

cal education needs. We continue to work various levels of the government for permission and monetary support. Things are progressing positively, but more slowly than we would prefer.

The full cost of remediation and modernization of the facility is a matter that we continue to assess with various experts and levels of government. To this end, we are about to engage in high level planning activities with Alberta Education on the situation in Okotoks. We are hopeful that our needs for École

Good Shepherd School's remediation and modernization will be met through this process, and the possibility of a complete school replacement is something that is also on the table for analysis.

The Board is also reflecting on facility needs in Okotoks that are not eligible for additional provincial funding such as our Board Office and St. Luke's Outreach Centre. However, the Board has tabled serious discussions on these issues while we focus on École Good Shepherd School's situation.

## Board Standing Committees

The **Faith Committee** is off to a very busy start to the school year. They commented on the integration of the Five Marks of a Catholic Teacher, a divisional effort to both support our staff, during the three-year theme of *Let Down Your Nets*. The Board also participated in a meeting with Bishop McGrattan, priests from each community, and principals from all of our schools. The opportunity to combine learning with faith is not one that we take for granted, and appreciation was expressed for the positive relationships we have fostered and the mutual support between schools and parishes.

Future Board priorities supporting Catholic Education include Catholic Education Sunday on November 4, a retreat on November 13 and 14, and Faith Days on February 19 and 20, 2019.

The Faith Committee is also keen to offer their support to a guest speaker for parents in Canmore on **Monday**, Nov. 26; Brooks on **Tuesday**, Nov. 27; and Okotoks on **Wednesday**, Nov. 28. **Matt Fradd** is an international speaker who will present on *Parenting The Internet Generation*. The presentation should prove to be enlightening and timely for all.

The **Parent Advocates of Catholic Education (PACE) Committee** addressed the phenomenal turnout to the presentation at Assumption Catholic School in Oyen several weeks ago. Approximately two thirds of the adult school population attended to show their support for Catholic education. PACE also presented recently in Medicine Hat for a parish and community group. By all accounts, the evening was a tre-

mendous success. Shortly thereafter, PACE presented at the Clergy, Administrator and Trustee luncheon, where once again the response was overwhelmingly supportive. The group is looking forward to a joint presentation on November 12 with the Council of Councils.

Please look to [www.paceredeemer.ca](http://www.paceredeemer.ca) where they are creating a tech presence. The website is active, and soon will be live.

As per Canada Revenue Agency compliance, the **Audit Committee** met recently with our independent auditors to confirm our annual audit process. Results will be shared at the November Board meeting.

**“A focus on staff wellness continues to be a primary driver for Associate Superintendent of Human Resources, Mr. Vincent Behm.”**

## Superintendents’ Reports

Chief Superintendent, Dr. Scott Morrison, addressed the new concept-based curriculum that Alberta Education is revealing. He noted that a concept based curriculum is not a foreign idea, as we’ve always had curriculums based on conceptual generalizations. He indicated a more significant issue is related to the identification of resources. With this said, CTR Catholic has a robust plan to in-service teachers, so we will be well-prepared for implementation in 2020.

Dr. Morrison is a member of a small executive group consisting of Catholic trustees, Catholic superintendents, and Catholic Bishops that is guiding a movement called Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education (GrACE). The group plans to exert a provincial influence, sharing stories of the positive impact of Catholic education, while acknowledging the challenges that we face.

Dr. Morrison has also been directly involved in conversations with Saint Mary’s University, as they contemplate a sec-

ondary program for Catholic teachers. Dr. Morrison has used his experience in planning and budgeting to offer the administration of St. Mary’s opinions on the structure and viability of a secondary program. CTR Catholic has been a long friend of St. Mary’s University, and we’ve hired many of their grads over the years.

A focus on staff wellness continues to be a primary driver for Associate Superintendent, Mr. Vincent Behm. He mentioned the eight dimensions of wellness that we need to address, in the context of his recent work with many of our educational assistants, and supports for that group. Currently Mr. Behm is in preparation for the upcoming Liaison meeting. The Liaison Committee meets regularly to proactively address thoughts and concerns from both the staff and administration. On the agenda will be discussions and clarifications around school PD funds, the government imposed fee schedule, and a decibel sound audit for construction and band. The Board would like

to pursue discussions on the issues of mass attendance, Catholic education in general, occupational health and safety issues that are arising around new legislation, and supports for teachers with the new K-4 curriculum.

Associate Superintendent, Mrs. Mariette Moss, has been planning for an upcoming retreat for administrators and trustees. Both groups look forward to 24 hours of building faith and relationships. Two speakers will be presenting to our students, staff, and parents in the near future. Father Nuygen will be speaking to digital health and Matt Fradd is sharing wisdom on parenting in the internet generation. Our internally mandated PE review is being conducted by an independent expert. The expert has already been into several schools, evaluating our facilities and our programming.



## Revision to Calendar

Correspondence and rationale went to staff and parents recently, acknowledging a revision to the calendar, which declared November 12, 2018 as a non-

school day, in lieu of Remembrance Day, which falls on the weekend. The Board gave formal approval at the recent meeting. The move was neces-

sitated by a change in legislation that came about after the adoption of the calendar last spring.



## Many Great Things Happen in Our Communities

The communities of Okotoks Ward I and Brooks hosted a Ward meeting 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.

### Okotoks Ward: I

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

**Faith:** Father Luciano has always been very visible with our students and the addition of Father Lukas, Amy Heggenstaller-Boon, and Leanne Plamondon has resulted in even more engagement with our local priests.

**Learning:** The PAT and Diploma results were excellent.

**Safe and Caring:** *#Relationships in a Digital Age* continues to gain momentum in all schools. One of our first realizations is the adults (teachers) in the building have to reflect on their own use with intention.

**Stewardship:** The CIF Per Diem P.D. was appreciated because teachers got to professionally grow without missing school, and teachers received wages for their summer commitment to P.D.

### Brooks Ward

This Ward includes Holy Family Academy, Christ The King Academy, St. Joseph's Collegiate and St. Luke's Outreach.

**Faith:** The four principals and trustee have all been highly impressed with, and appreciative of, Father Marino's assis-

tance, cooperation, and responsive disposition.

**Learning:** Provincial exam results were stellar at Christ The King Academy and St. Joseph's Collegiate., despite being 60% ELL.

**Safe and Caring:** The new cafeteria will be a great resource to get healthy meals to the students of Christ The King Academy and St. Joseph's Collegiate.

**Stewardship:** Holy Family Academy has shown a pattern of growth each year, from 336 to 356, to 332, to 370. They are at an all time high in enrollment, which bodes well for Catholic education in Brooks.

## AERR and Three Year Education Plan - Soon To Be On a Monitor Near You!



Dr. Morrison revealed some preview details of the Accountability Pillar October 2018 Report and drafts of our review of results and new plans. Monitoring of all programming, academic results, and indicators from surveys of students, parents, and staff

give a report card to every division in the province. Dr. Morrison gave the trustees some insight into what were described as 'phenomenal results'.

While the general public will have to wait for the final draft to be released, it can be shared that CTR Catholic outperformed provincial averages on every measure but one. Success was seen across all academic measures, satisfaction measures, and faith measures.

Dr. Morrison said when considering priorities moving forward, we continue to 'stick to the strategies that work, and pay attention to our core'.

Christ The Redeemer will not sway in the future from our most important intentions: Faith, supporting English Language Learners, foundational knowledge about First Nations history, and providing a safe and caring environment for all students.

The major 'new' initiative is *#Relationships in a Digital Age*, which will build awareness about screen-time, the responsible use of smartphones, and the importance of personal relationships with both God and neighbour.



Michelle Rude-Volk  
Trustee for Oyen and  
surrounding area

## Vision of the Board

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

Celebrating Catholic Education Sunday gives us a chance to recognize our students, teachers and everyone involved in providing this great blessing. We must give thanks to all those brave people who fought for us to have this right. We need to stand together in unity to protect this precious gift.

I feel so blessed that my children had the opportunity to attend a Catholic school. The lessons they learned will carry them through a life time. They always know that they have their faith to guide them through any of life's trials and that their faith will be there to celebrate their victories. It has been said many times that it takes a community to raise a child

and our Catholic school community is just another way to prepare our children for greatness.

There are beautiful moments all around us but it is up to us to see them. Today I attended our school mass and I was surrounded by many of these moments, a beautiful fall day, the smile of a child and the sharing of our faith. As I sit in the pew my heart is full and I know I

am where I need to be, a witness to these children giving the sign of peace.

**Remember that Trustee biographies are available on CTR's website at:**  
[http://  
www.redeemer.ab.ca/  
Trustees.php](http://www.redeemer.ab.ca/Trustees.php).



## Next Board Meeting Date

The next Board meeting will take place on **Saturday, November 24**, at St. Anthony's School, Drumheller, 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.**