

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE GREATER ST. ALBERT ROMAN CATHOLIC
SEPARATE SCHOOL DIVISION
HELD on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2019, 2:00 P.M.
Division Office, 6 St. Vital Avenue,
St. Albert, AB**

MEMBERS PRESENT Trustees Becigneul, Crockett, Proulx, Radford, Schell, Shaw, and Tremblay

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

D Keohane, superintendent; R Nixon, assistant superintendent; C Moroziuk, assistant superintendent, and I Paulik, secretary- treasurer

CALL TO ORDER Trustee **Becigneul** called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

IN CAMERA

71/20 Trustee **Shaw:** THAT the Board of Trustees move In Camera at 2:00 p.m.
CARRIED (7/7)

OUT OF CAMERA

72/20 Trustee **Schell:** THAT the Board of Trustees move Out of Camera at 3:23 p.m.
CARRIED (7/7)

OPENING PRAYER

Trustee **Tremblay, Crockett and Radford** offered the Opening Prayer.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Board of Trustees of The Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic Separate School Division acknowledges that it is meeting on the original lands of the Cree, those of Treaty 6, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. Kinanâskomitin Manito (Thank you Creator).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

73/20 Trustee **Radford:** THAT the Board of Trustees approve the agenda as presented.
CARRIED (7/7)

PRESENTATION DELEGATION

There were 5 presentations to the Board regarding the Faith in Our Future Proposal. Eddie Sirman (École Marie Poburan (EMP) student to present on behalf of a group of students from EMP), Ms. Suzie Sirman (Parent from École Marie Poburan), Ms. Jenny Benke (Parent from École Marie Poburan and École Secondaire Ste. Marguerite d'Youville), Mr. Ed Beerwart (Parent from École Marie Poburan and École

Secondaire Ste. Marguerite d'Youville), Mr. Colin MacKenzie & Mrs. Jean MacKenzie (Parents from École Marie Poburan and École Secondaire Ste. Marguerite d'Youville. St. Gabriel HS & St. Albert Catholic High School).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & SUMMARIES

74/20 **Trustee Tremblay:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 28, 2019 as circulated.

CARRIED (7/7)

75/20 **Trustee Crockett:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the summary of the Audit Committee Meeting held on November 4, 2019 as circulated.

CARRIED (7/7)

76/20 **Trustee Radford:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the summary of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on November 4, 2019 as circulated.

CARRIED (7/7)

77/20 **Trustee Proulx:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board held on November 4, 2019 as circulated.

CARRIED (7/7)

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE & EVENT REPORTS

78/20 **Trustee Schell:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the committee reports from the Board Committee of the Whole meeting held November 4, 2019:

- Alberta School Boards Association Zone 2/3 Report
- Business Liaison: St. Albert Chamber
- Business Liaison: Legal Chamber
- GrACE Committee
- School Council Report: École Father Jan

CARRIED (7/7)

GOOD NEWS

Trustee Bécigneul shared the Good News Report.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Five questions to the Board were submitted in advance of the meeting.

1. What is the primary outcome / result of the FIOF Proposal; what is the one thing this proposal **MUST** achieve above all other considerations? Is it to save money? Is it the new Riverside school site? Is it to increase utilization? Understanding there are multiple 'benefits' to the proposal, what is the one underlying driver?

2. From the first open house, it was stated that "Faith in our Future is a PROPOSAL - no decisions have been made regarding its implementation and other options may be

considered". The next open house is not until Feb 2020, which is after enrollment for schools (EMP Kinder for e.g.). Will the Board withdraw this proposal as written, and focus the feedback, open house, and alternative solutions on the four key drivers identified (Fiscal, Safety, Inclusion, Growth) without the bias of this proposal influencing the next steps? If this is truly a proposal only and no decisions have been made, we should be able to address the drivers and identify solutions without this proposal being the only solution being discussed.

3. At the Open House on October 30, GSACRD listed four drivers for the Faith in our Future (FioF) proposal: Fiscal, Safety, Inclusion, and Growth. Based on the facts provided by parents at the October 28 Board Meeting, and the responses at this meeting and the Open House, it has become apparent that the current FioF proposal is, at best, incomplete (and at worst, misleading) regarding all four drivers.
 - Fiscal: Significant costs, related to the necessary renovations to ESSMY to accommodate 387 K-6 students, among other things, were not included in the proposal. Therefore, the cost savings of \$2.87 million over 5 years is significantly overstated.
 - Safety: The safety of GSACRD administrative staff (those who work at the District Office) was considered (as it should be). However, the safety of EMP students was not considered, specifically putting them in a school fronting onto the second busiest road in St. Albert (Boudreau) which does not have a school zone, as this major issue was not mentioned in the proposal. The safety of students, a much more vulnerable population than the administrative staff of GSACRD, must be a priority.
 - Inclusion: the possibility of having the current St. Gabe's location renovated to create "barrier-free access" was not considered in the proposal. Neither was obtaining a ground floor non-school site for the same purpose. It is not "equitable" to 387 EMP students to evict them from a viable, growing, purpose-built elementary school at EMP and force them into a junior/senior high school which will have to be renovated to accommodate them.
 - Growth: When a minimum of 3 high school students have left ESSMY within the first month of this proposal being released, and parents are threatening to remove their children from the District if the proposal is approved, it is obvious that the proposal is not promoting growth in the District or "sustaining the viability of Catholic education". In light of this, will the Board of Trustees be withdrawing the current Faith in our Future proposal due to its misleading content, and preparing a new proposal? As per my request at the last Board meeting, it should consider 2 alternatives at a minimum, and compare the fiscal and educational of all alternatives to current state.

4. Has the Board of Trustees consulted with the Edmonton Catholic School Board to determine why they found it so advantageous to place outreach schools within conventional (i.e. “brick & mortar”) schools that they would give up funding to do so? (My understanding is that outreach schools that are not housed separately from conventional schools forfeit some funding.) If so, why won’t GSACRD consider the option of housing St. Gabe’s in ESSMY, or any number of under-utilized schools throughout the District? If not, will the Board commit to consulting with Edmonton Catholic on this issue and using this information during the creation of a new, complete proposal?
5. Based on the significant amount of negative feedback the Board of Trustees has received since the Faith in our Future proposal was released, what concrete actions have been taken as a direct result of this feedback? If nothing significant has been done, how does the Board expect parents to believe that this process is anything more than a façade to create the appearance of consultation despite the fact that the Board has pre-determined the “solution”?

CONSENT ITEMS

79/20

Trustee Shaw: **THAT** the Board of Trustees receive the consent items attached and approve all recommendations contained therein as follows:

- 12.1 Review of Board Policy 4: Trustee Code of Conduct, Board Policy 7: Board Operations, Board Policy 8: Board Committees, Board Policy 9: Board Representatives

CARRIED (7/7)

ACTION ITEMS

Board Committee Representatives

80/20

Trustee Radford: **THAT** Board of Trustees approve the revision for the 2019-2020 Board Committee Representatives for the ATA Negotiations Committee with Trustee Proulx now the representative and Trustee Becigneul as the alternate for the ATA Negotiations Committee.

CARRIED (7/7)

The **2018-2019 Audited Financial Statements** were presented by Secretary-Treasurer Paulik.

81/20

Trustee Radford: **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the transfer of \$22,868 proceeds on disposal of a vehicle to Internally Restricted Capital Reserves.

AND

THAT the Board of Trustees approve the transfer of \$50,000 from Internally Restricted Capital Reserves for the Sister Alphonse Academy Mural Legacy Project.

AND

THAT the Board of Trustees approve for release the Audited Financial Statements (AFS) and Notes for the year ending August 31, 2019.

AND

THAT the Board of Trustees receive the Unaudited Schedules (UAS) to the Financial Statements for the year ending August 31, 2019 as information and direct Administration to post the UAS on the division website along with the AFS and Notes by November 30, 2019.

AND

THAT the Board of Trustees consider replacing the 4th quarter financial reporting with the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending August 31 of each year.

2019-2020 Transportation Fees

Secretary-treasurer Paulik provided an update on Transportation fees for 2019-2020 for eligible riders who are being transported and reside 2.4 km or more from their designated school.

82/20

Trustee Shaw: **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve transportation fees for rural and urban transportation of students residing 2.4 km or more from their designated school for 2019-2020 as:

Rural (>2.4km) - \$255

Urban (>2.4km) - \$313

CARRIED 6 in favor, 1 opposed (Radford)

NEW BUSINESS

Alberta Education Choice in Education Engagement Survey

Superintendent Keohane informed the Board of Trustees about the survey on Choice in Education. The Board of Trustees agreed to address this matter at their Special Board Meeting scheduled for December 2, 2019.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Report from the Chair

Trustee Becigneul reported that letters of response to the 12 questions that were asked at the October 28, 2019 meeting were sent out to the submitters.

Trustee Becigneul also reported on the letter from Education Foundation regarding the upcoming fundraiser on February 1, 2020 in Morinville at the Rendez-Vous Centre.

Report from the Superintendent

Information updates from administration included the following items:

- Field Trip Summary Report 1 (Moroziuk)
- Modular Classroom Request Update (Paulik)



Committee Report Summary

Board Committee of the Whole Meeting Date: November 4, 2019

Submitted By: Trustee Noreen Radford

Committee/Event Name: ASBA Zone 2/3

Committee/Event Date: October 25, 2019

Summary of Agenda Items:

4. Zone Business

4.1 Standing Item - ASBA Issues/Zone Request for Action - none

4.2 Chairs Report - Attached in agenda mail-out

4.3 Comprehensive School Health Committee

Discussion as to how this is working - very well in Fort McMurray but needs to be revamped at the zone level. This has been around a long time but appears to be not working in other districts. Meetings occur about 9-10 times a year. Perhaps sharing what is happening in our schools. Discussion led to the setting up of an AD HOC committee to form terms of references as to how this committee operates at the zone level.

4.4 Approval of Proposed Budget - passed

4.5. Approval of Bylaws - passed

4.6 Elections - all acclaimed

A. Chair - Colleen Holowaychuk

B. Vice Chair - Natasha McBride

C. Director I - Cheryl Dumont

D. Director I Alternate - Jean Boisvert

E. Edwin Parr - Noreen Radford, Jeri Wilson Jackie Carson

F. Advocacy - Dale Karpluk, Michelle Lamar, Terry Harris

G. ERLC - Linda Wigton

H. ERLC Alternate - Devonna Klaussen

I. Kings University - Linda Mywaart

J. Kings University Alternate - Vicky Lefevere

K. Zone Languages - Joe Becigneul, Jerri Wilson

L. Zone Health - Wellness Adhoc (going to prepare new terms of reference) Lorraine Stewart, Cathie Langmead, Joan Zaporosky

5. ASBA Reports

President Lorrie Jess (in point form)

- has attended all zone meetings
- Thank you boards for completing strategic plan survey and continuing to give feedback on pressing issues
- Have a scheduled meeting with Minister LaGrange every six weeks
- There are 13 fall resolutions
- Meeting with CASS on how to co-ordinate statements
- Boards should be involved with curriculum, meeting with curriculum board on Nov. 12
- Disappointing to see that messaging about copyrights was sent only to Superintendents and not the boards.
- CSBA conference has already seen interest in attendance
- If boards have anyone in their district that would like to present, please forward to Board Chairs. We have some excellent initiatives in our district that might warranted presentations. Superintendent Keohane, would you investigate as to whether this might be of interest?
- Sad news regarding abolishment of School Boards in Quebec was received. Moving forward, in order to express our relevance, we need to advocate by raising awareness of our work for students. One district had students discuss a policy created by the board that made an impact in their education. School districts have policies that are identical in nature, nothing to distinguish each board. Make sure that trustees are introduced at civic and community functions. **Would like to address how we as trustees can further this. Advocacy consultation next week on twitter with hashtag #didoyouknow A political analyst (Hal D) stated that we need to be careful that we are not turning our responsibilities to parents, but continue to reassure public that we are the ones elected and responsible. Parents are coming together as individual communities. CASS is providing their own messages.
- Consistent theme is "Being United" in messaging. If we are seen "in not able to reach positive consensus" at our convention, the government will say - We, the government, need to be in charge because they can't be decisive. Chairs and Superintendents will have a joint meeting after meeting with Gene William as to how to provide a united front.
- Chairs request to meet with AB Ed to walk through budget concerns.
- Chairs will be meeting with Gene Williams during the FGM. One topic will be the Assurance Review. Chair Becigneul will be able to provide more information after this meeting
- FYI - Lorrie Jess and Trina Boymook are letting their names stand for President & V-P. Asking for nominators.
- Dr. Abboud very concerned about ASBIE. Boards with ASBIE have seen astronomical rate increases. Northern Lights is going from \$330,000 to 1.3 million. Question: Why is the Government not purchasing the insurance as they own the building. Other provinces?? do take care of insurance fees. There are

approximately 49 boards with ASBIE. This involves subscribers who consist of Board Secretary Treasurers.

6. Alberta Education Report Nathan Freed
 - Minister has been doing a great job. Has been visiting local jurisdictions
 - Deputy Minister has been outlining changes in Ed. Act. and sent this out to Superintendents.
 - Gene Williams has also been very busy with Garrett Doll seconded to his team.
 - Messaging about seclusion rooms is consistent.
 - The 3 year Ed.Document templates will be following soon.
 - Nutrition funding is a go.

7. U of A Field Experiences Policy Advisory Committee Report - Glenys Edwards
 - There is a new updated online tool to address teacher growth plans with the quality standards. This is on the ATA website
 - Education University students are finding difficulty with the various terminology used throughout the districts - such as Headstart, Junior Kindergarten, etc.
 - Students expecting to have a specialist position in Phys. Ed. must understand that there are few positions available.
 - Students will have early field experience of 5.5 days of active observation. Supplemental to this there is a 5 day placement for diversity learning needs. Question Is there placement capacity for this?
 - There has been a 25% increase at the Faculty of Ste. Jean. There is now a concern with student placement.
 - African students will have a course on introduction to Alberta education.

8. Board sharing
 - Elk Island Public has a new policy of no cell phones in classrooms and appears to be working well.
 - STAR Catholic - Board and Council of School Councils had a PD workshop provided by ASCA. It is 1.5 hours in length and proved very valuable.

Highlights Relevant to GSACRD

1. Do we have anyone interested in presenting at the CSBA conference?
2. Advocacy on importance of School Boards - Perhaps we need to focus on our presence at civic and community functions, by making sure we are introduced. Also we could discuss how we can address our trustee responsibilities to the public with a short ad in local newspapers.
3. Do we want a workshop at our COSC meeting?

Note: There was a conference call with the Ministry at 10:15. There were multiple questions taken from school boards and one from the ATA. This was a robust call with the Ministry attempting to answer the questions. Each board of course had their own concern and addressed them during their call. I am not prepared to submit all questions and answers but will speak on general themes if the board so desires. As mentioned this was a lengthy conference call and items addressed



Committee Report Summary

Board Committee of the Whole Meeting Date: November 4, 2019

Submitted By: Trustee Crockett

Committee/Event Name: St Albert Chamber of Commerce

Committee/Event Date: October 16, 2019

St Albert-Edmonton Candidates Forum

Brigitte Ceceila – People’s Party of Canada

Michael Cooper – Conservative Party

Bob Dunbar – Green Party

Robert Fraser – Veteran’s Coalition Party

Kathleen Mpulubusi – New Democratic Party

Greg Springate – Liberal

In order to honor the non-partisan approach of GSACRD trustees, a detailed report for each candidate will not be provided.

Next Chamber Luncheon – November 13, 2019

Dale Nally – MLA (Westlock – St Albert)

Associate Minister of Natural Gas



Committee Report Summary

Board Committee of the Whole Meeting Date: November 4, 2019

Submitted By: Trustee Cathy Proulx

Committee/Event Name: Legal Chamber of Commerce Meetings

Committee/Event Date: September 13 and October 11, 2019

Summary of Agenda Items:

1-Chamber finance -update

2-Volunteer Appreciation/Meet Your Community Event - September 14

Chamber had a table at the event to promote the chamber and welcome any new business to join.

3-UPS, Chamber is working at securing a local business to act as a drop off center for UPS parcels, in the event a resident is not home. Presently if resident is not home parcel is taken to another location and residents then need to drive to another community to pick up parcel.

4-Regional Chamber Small Business Breakfast Meeting – October 26, 2019.

5-Annual General Meeting -Thursday February 20, 2020

6-Federal Election Candidate Forum -Thursday October 17, 2019.

7-Educational Workshops -chamber is planning to host workshops in the area of:

- content creation for social media
- website design
- Instagram/twitter/you tube/Facebook etc.
- power point
- branding/re-branding
- marketing basics
- a few of the workshops have already taken place with 15-25 attendees

8-Christmas in the Park – December 7, 2019

Chamber hosts the Christmas Craft and Trade Show as part of the Christmas in the Park.

The Trade show is held in conjunction with other Christmas festivities put on by the town. Trade show consists of 63 tables set up at the Legal Cultural Centre and is already sold out. Earliest that the tables of been booked.

9-Advertising Boards-Arena -Presently the administration for the collection of funds for businesses to have an advertising board installed in the ice surface area of the arena for the purpose of advertising their business is Legal Minor hockey. Since Legal and Morinville amalgamated the 2 hockey clubs the administration of the advertising signs has not been done. Chamber was asked if they were interested in taking over.

10-Membership renewal

Highlights Relevant to GSACRD:

Legal Chamber of Commerce offers a \$1500.00 post secondary scholarship to a grade 12 student who plans to pursue a post secondary studies in business or to obtain training for the purpose of owning their own business.

The student must resides within 25 km of Legal or is residing in the catchment area of Legal & District Chamber of Commerce.

The applicant must have a minimum grade 12 or equivalent. Must be enrolled in or will be undertaking a full or part time program at a recognized program under the Canada Student Loan Program. Deadline for application is end of May of the year in which you are applying.

There were no applications for the 2018-19 school year.

I suggested that the Chamber chair contact the high school principals at the high schools that Legal students may attend (MCHS, ESSMY, Alexandre-Taché and SCH) to help with the awareness of the scholarship.

At present, the only form of advertising is a pamphlet of the scholarship is mailed to each Legal mailbox.

Next Meeting:

Friday November 8, 2019

Legal Citadelle Center

9:00 am



Mission Statement

Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education (GrACE) strengthens the home, parish, school relationship by:

- ✓ modeling and witnessing to our Catholic faith;
- ✓ sharing our love for Catholic education;
- ✓ shepherding and celebrating the uniqueness of our Catholic schools.

2019-2020 Strategic Plan

Priority Outcome 1: Promote GrACE with the goal of increasing the diversity and participation of a broader membership.

Strategies:

- ✓ Engage chaplains in furthering our message.
- ✓ Encourage teachers to be more vocal about their faith.
- ✓ Promote GrACE to parish service groups (CWL, Knights of Columbus).
- ✓ Share testimony during assemblies / gatherings about our faith experience.

Priority Outcome 2: Inform the home, school, parish community about the unique mandate of our schools.

Strategies:

- ✓ Promote GrACE hashtag and social media presence.
- ✓ Promote the value proposition of Catholic education (its uniqueness and difference).
- ✓ Increase the presence of GrACE in parishes through publicly telling our story.
- ✓ Include messaging about the work of GrACE in parish bulletins.
- ✓ Publish a GrACE newsletter.

Priority Outcome 3: Establish social connectivity to enhance public understanding of our mission.

Strategies:

- ✓ Promote graduates speaking about the difference that Catholic education made in their lives.
- ✓ Host a GrACE event.
- ✓ Film our activities.
- ✓ Host a fun event for staff and students.





Committee Report Summary

Board Committee of the Whole Meeting Date: November 4, 2019

Submitted By: Trustee Serena Shaw

Committee/Event Name: École Father Jan School Council Meeting

Committee/Event Date: October 2019

Summary of Agenda Items:

Problem with the report that came from the City in regards to the EFJ and the playground. The school was presented with \$14,000 of recommended repairs. The report was done through the City of St. Albert.

They had an independent report done and the recommendation was for \$1400.

Highlight Relevant to GSACRD:

Place on the agenda for our meeting with the City.

Questions from the Public
November 25, 2019 Regular Meeting

- 1. What is the primary outcome / result of the FIOF Proposal; what is the one thing this proposal MUST achieve above all other considerations? Is it to save money? Is it the new Riverside school site? Is it to increase utilization? Understanding there are multiple 'benefits' to the proposal, what is the one underlying driver? (T.D.)**

As noted in the question, the *Faith In Our Future* (FIOF) proposal is addressing multiple drivers, and a pressing one since October 2019, is the fiscal driver. On October 31, 2019, a joint press release ([link](#)) from St. Albert Public Schools and Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools emphasized that local budget shortfalls caused both boards to take immediate actions (i.e., staffing reductions, class size increases, potential reinstatement of transportation fees) to resolve the shortfall which is to be rectified in the 2019-2020 school year.

As part of addressing this fiscal challenge, the Board assesses interdependent factors: enrollment, utilization, and programming in schools now and in the future. To illustrate this point, let's review how one site École Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville (ESSMY) mentioned in the FIOF proposal is best understood by seeing how these factors are intertwined and evolutionary.

In the case of ESSMY, there has traditionally been very strong enrollment in junior high, but declining enrolment in high school (39 students presently). The Board asked how to attract and retain students in high school since lower enrollment has been an issue. In fact, since 2012, when the Board conducted the Shaping Our Future consultation, multiple recommendations were made by stakeholders. Predominantly, those staff, students, and parents within the ESSMY community recommended programming that required a shared campus between the two St. Albert high schools. Since that time, all recommendations have been put in place: Sports Academy, Shared Campus Dual Credit Courses, Hospitality Tourism and Management Program, Advanced Placement, Metro status so that students could play on SACHS teams, and parallel schedules to share all course opportunities. However, unusually low class sizes in Grades 10, 11, and 12 in ESSMY (single track French Immersion) have continued making the cost recovery of such programming untenable.

Additionally, last June, 2019, parents were called into ESSMY to hear about unprecedented low enrollment in grades 10, 11, and 12 and the reorganization of high school classes using a cohort model (i.e., placing 20 and 30 course levels together). The idea was to maximize teachers and naturally connected programming for multiple grade levels to increase student to teacher ratios to offset low enrollment in each grade.

Low enrollment has persisted at ESSMY since 2012 even though all recommendations thought to meet students' and parents' needs have been implemented, including the

cohort model. Having lower enrollment in high school French Immersion programming while having a duplicate program in a neighbouring high school means that the Board is compelled to consider how to consolidate French Immersion high school programming. Also, once the Board works with the community, through consultation, to see whether and how to consolidate French Immersion programming, there is still a need to attend to multiple other drivers impacting the viability of the system as a whole.

One such issue that persists is under-utilized schools of which ESSMY is one. Therefore, the Board goes further to see whether and how other drivers may be part of a larger system solution to bring immediate cost efficiencies while sustaining excellent programming. Other drivers in FIOF include: an outreach site that needs a home that is barrier-free; a division office that is in need of significant renovations to be safe or a new location; a K-6 French Immersion aged school that will need replacement in the next 7-10 years. It is incumbent upon the Board to review how these drivers can be considered simultaneously as they all (and each) matter. The Board is also charged with the duty of looking into the future and thinking about where students will be (i.e., Riverside will have 13,000 families and a need for a new school). While it may seem a moot point at the moment to think about positioning for a Riverside site, the site will be relevant for future families who are yet to reside in Riverside. It is necessary to consider such future requirements of our Division's families in order to sustain a strong and viable Catholic education system.

To return to your question about which driver matters most, the answer is that the Board is ultimately responsible simultaneously for all drivers in the FIOF proposal. Although the fiscal driver presents as the most pressing currently, it is important not to overlook the multifaceted nature of a Board's oversight to keep an eye on the present and future, and on multiple, complex, intertwined drivers that are foundational to the success of all students in the division now and in the future.

- 2. From the first open house, it was stated that "Faith in our Future is a PROPOSAL - no decisions have been made regarding its implementation and other options may be considered". The next open house is not until Feb 2020, which is after enrollment for schools (EMP Kinder for e.g.). Will the Board withdraw this proposal as written, and focus the feedback, open house, and alternative solutions on the four key drivers identified (Fiscal, Safety, Inclusion, Growth) without the bias of this proposal influencing the next steps? If this is truly a proposal only and no decisions have been made, we should be able to address the drivers and identify solutions without this proposal being the only solution being discussed. (T.D.)**

The Board has just received the results from two reports on the data collected from Thoughtexchange and the open house survey. The Board is currently examining the information and will be reporting on next steps in early December.

3. **At the Open House on October 30, GSACRD listed four drivers for the Faith in our Future (FioF) proposal: Fiscal, Safety, Inclusion, and Growth. Based on the facts provided by parents at the October 28 Board Meeting, and the responses at this meeting and the Open House, it has become apparent that the current FioF proposal is, at best, incomplete (and at worst, misleading) regarding all four drivers.**
- **Fiscal: Significant costs, related to the necessary renovations to ESSMY to accommodate 387 K-6 students, among other things, were not included in the proposal. Therefore, the cost savings of \$2.87 million over 5 years is significantly overstated.**
 - **Safety: The safety of GSACRD administrative staff (those who work at the District Office) was considered (as it should be). However, the safety of EMP students was not considered, specifically putting them in a school fronting onto the second busiest road in St. Albert (Boudreau) which does not have a school zone, as this major issue was not mentioned in the proposal. The safety of students, a much more vulnerable population than the administrative staff of GSACRD, must be a priority.**
 - **Inclusion: the possibility of having the current St. Gabe's location renovated to create "barrier-free access" was not considered in the proposal. Neither was obtaining a ground floor non-school site for the same purpose. It is not "equitable" to 387 EMP students to evict them from a viable, growing, purpose-built elementary school at EMP and force them into a junior/senior high school which will have to be renovated to accommodate them.**
 - **Growth: When a minimum of 3 high school students have left ESSMY within the first month of this proposal being released, and parents are threatening to remove their children from the District if the proposal is approved, it is obvious that the proposal is not promoting growth in the District or "sustaining the viability of Catholic education". In light of this, will the Board of Trustees be withdrawing the current Faith in our Future proposal due to its misleading content, and preparing a new proposal? As per my request at the last Board meeting, it should consider 2 alternatives at a minimum, and compare the fiscal and educational of all alternatives to current state. (G.S.)**

The Board will respond to feedback on the Faith In Our Future proposal based on the surveys, open house, and public questions and presentations, and any other engagement opportunities deemed necessary to ensure that all stakeholders have had opportunities to contribute feedback and input into viable solutions for the drivers presented in the Faith In Our Future proposal.

From such information, the Board will address any aspects that have been unclear or poorly received as well as those aspects that have had support and have been clear to those who engaged in providing feedback. Therefore, the Board acknowledges your concerns and input as part of all responses collected. The Board will, as part of the consultation process, be moving forward with investigating multiple options presented by the community and provide opportunities for consultation on those options based on

analysis of capital, utilization, health and safety standards, programming and fiscal requirements, and any other criteria that resonate for the public based on themes of results from feedback.

- 4. Has the Board of Trustees consulted with the Edmonton Catholic School Board to determine why they found it so advantageous to place outreach schools within conventional (i.e. “brick & mortar”) schools that they would give up funding to do so? (My understanding is that outreach schools that are not housed separately from conventional schools forfeit some funding.) If so, why won’t GSACRD consider the option of housing St. Gabe’s in ESSMY, or any number of under-utilized schools throughout the District? If not, will the Board commit to consulting with Edmonton Catholic on this issue and using this information during the creation of a new, complete proposal? (G.S)**

The Board is interested in multiple strategies and approaches of engaging in outreach education that meets the needs of Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools. Edmonton Catholic Schools is one of our many school jurisdiction partners with whom we engage on a regular basis and, in addition to other partners, the staff who are responsible for alternative programming, including outreach education have and will continue to be part of who informs our work moving forward.

- 5. Based on the significant amount of negative feedback the Board of Trustees has received since the Faith in our Future proposal was released, what concrete actions have been taken as a direct result of this feedback? If nothing significant has been done, how does the Board expect parents to believe that this process is anything more than a façade to create the appearance of consultation despite the fact that the Board has pre-determined the “solution”? (K.S.)**

During Phase One of the Faith In Our Future proposal and consultation plan, the Board committed to first listening to and learning from community stakeholders through multiple mediums of engagement including the Thoughtexchange survey, public board meeting questions and presentations, an open house held on October 30, 2019, school council meetings, and through survey results from the open house that closed on November 14, 2019. The Board will be responsive to feedback and provide the community with “What We Heard” in early December. The focus in phase one was to consult with community stakeholders and then to thoughtfully respond to such feedback. Therefore, the Board is eager to learn from this phase of the consultation and to report to the community what was learned and next steps.