

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
GREATER ST. ALBERT ROMAN CATHOLIC  
SEPARATE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 734  
HELD on MONDAY, September 28, 2015, 6:30 P.M.  
District Office, 6 St. Vital Avenue,  
St. Albert, AB**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT** Trustees Caron, McEvoy, Proulx, Radford and Shaw

**MEMBERS ABSENT** Trustee Crockett

**ADMINISTRATION PRESENT**

D. Keohane, superintendent, D. Quick, assistant superintendent, S. McGuinness, assistant superintendent, D. Schlag, secretary-treasurer

**CALL TO ORDER** Trustee Radford called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

**OPENING PRAYER** Trustee Radford offered the opening prayer.

**IN CAMERA**

12/16 Trustee McEvoy: **THAT** the Board of Trustees move In Camera at 6:33 p.m.

**CARRIED (4/4)**

Trustee Caron joined the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

**OUT OF CAMERA**

13/16 Trustee McEvoy: **THAT** the Board of Trustees move Out of Camera at 7:30 p.m.

**CARRIED (5/5)**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

14/16 Trustee Shaw: **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the agenda as presented.

**CARRIED (5/5)**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES & SUMMARIES**

15/16 Trustee Caron: **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board held on June 29, 2015 as circulated;

AND

**THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Special Board meeting held on July 27, 2015 as circulated;

AND

**THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Organization meeting of the Board held on August 31, 2015 as circulated.

**CARRIED (5/5)**

## COMMITTEE AND EVENT REPORTS

- 16/16                      **Trustee Proulx:**        **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the committee reports from the Advocacy Committee meetings, as follows:
- Alberta Catholic School Trustees’ Association meeting
  - St. Albert Business Liaison meetings
  - Mindfulness Teaching
  - Morinville Rotary Meeting
- CARRIED (5/5)**

## GOOD NEWS

**Trustee Radford** shared the Good News Report and Trustee Shaw mentioned that SACHS students participated in the Light the Walk Night – 100 students and staff gathered to share their support in the fight against cancer; students raised over \$5,000.

## QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

## CONSENT ITEMS

- 17/16                      **2015-16 Board Policy Review Schedule**  
**Trustee Proulx:**        **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve 2015-2016 Board Policy Review Schedule as presented.  

**CARRIED (5/5)**
- 18/16                      **Review of Board Policies 1, 7, 9, and 10.**  
**Trustee McEvoy:**        **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the review of Board Policy 1 – District Mission Statement, Values and Beliefs, Statement of Philosophy, Goals and Objectives; Board Policy 7 – Board Operations; and Board Policy 9 – Board Representatives with the recommended changes, and Board Policy 10 –Policy Making, with no changes.  

**CARRIED (5/5)**

## ACTION ITEMS

- 19/16                      **2015-2016 Board Monitoring Calendar**  
**Trustee Shaw:**        **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve 2015-2016 Board Monitoring Calendar as presented.  

**CARRIED (5/5)**
- 20/16                      **2015-2016 Board Advocacy Plan**  
**Trustee Caron:**        **THAT** the Board of Trustees adopt the 2015-2016 Board Advocacy Plan as presented.  

**CARRIED (5/5)**
- School Name Change**  
Asst. Superintendent D. Quick presented a request for name change at the Outreach/iLearn site to St. Gabriel High School replacing St. Albert Storefront School to more accurately reflect its operation. Operationally, the District will adopt “Greater St. Albert Catholic iLearn” as the name for the online program offering that exists within district high schools.
- 21/16                      **Trustee Shaw:**        **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the name change of St. Albert Storefront School (Alberta Education Code 0378) to St Gabriel High School, effective immediately.  
AND

**THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the name change of St. Gabriel Cyber School (Alberta Education code 2574) to Greater St Albert Catholic iLearn, effective immediately.

**CARRIED (5/5)**

**Board Allowances**

Secretary-treasurer Schlag presented the updated allowances and schedule for consideration in 2015-16, that was endorsed by a committee of Trustees: Crockett, McEvoy, and Shaw at an earlier meeting in September.

22/16

**Trustee Proulx:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the 2015-16 Annual Expense Rate Schedule, effective September 1, 2015, for Trustees as follows:

Non-Accountable Expense Allowance – All Trustees:  
\$1,800/year (\$150/month);

Position Allowance – Chair:  
\$1,500/year (\$125/month);

Position Allowance – Vice-Chair:  
\$1,050/year (\$87.50/month).

**CARRIED (5/5)**

**2015-2016 Communication Plan Highlights**

Trustees thanked Communications Manager Bruineman for a well presented and in-depth plan/report.

23/16

**Trustee McEvoy:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the 2015-2016 Communication Plan and the posting of the Communications Plan Highlights on the district website.

**CARRIED (5/5)**

**Starfest Tickets**

24/16

**Trustee McEvoy:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve to purchase a table of 10 for Starfest 2015 in the amount of \$750.00.

**CARRIED (3 in favor, 2 opposed)**

**NOTICE of MOTION**

**Trustee Proulx** provided **Notice of Motion** for October 26, 2015, that she would like to see the Development of Criteria for donations.

**ACTION ITEMS CONT'D**

**Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Award Nomination: Friends of Education**

**Trustee McEvoy** highlighted the work and support of our local R.C.M.P. detachments in contributing to a safe and caring learning environment for our students.

25/16

**Trustee McEvoy:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the nomination of the St. Albert & Morinville R.C.M.P. Detachments for the Alberta School Boards Association Friends of Education Award.

**(5/5) CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Report from the Chair**

Trustee Radford commented on the success of the Mental Health symposium held at the Arden recently and how important the topic is for our families and youth. Trustee

Radford indicated that a meeting did take place with Minister Eggen to share District successes.

**Report from the Superintendent**

Asst. Superintendent McGuiness indicated that the Long Service Report will be deferred to an upcoming meeting. An updated field trip report was shared. Superintendent Keohane highlighted student participation in the Catholic Congress Convention which provides a vigorous faith learning opportunity.

26/16 **Trustee McEvoy:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees receive the Superintendent's report as information.

**(5/5) CARRIED**

**BOARD COMMITMENTS**

27/16 **Trustee Shaw:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees approve the Board Commitments as presented and updated at this meeting.

**CARRIED (5/5)**

**CLARIFICATION PERIOD FOR PUBLIC & MEDIA**

Media member, Lucie Roy requested clarification on the Long Service Awards event, the MCHS Awards evening and the timeline on the announcement of the Friends in Education Award.

**TRUSTEE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

Trustee McEvoy requested an update on the timeline for School Council Liaison appointments and protocol in the interim. Administration responded that Trustees were welcome to attend any School Council meetings as per the previous year assignments and that School Council Executives and meeting dates should be ready and presented at the October 26, 2015 Regular Meeting.

**IN CAMERA**

28/16 **Trustee McEvoy:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees move In Camera at 8:58 p.m.

**CARRIED (5/5)**

**OUT OF CAMERA**

29/16 **Trustee McEvoy:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees move Out of Camera at 9:35 p.m.

**CARRIED (5/5)**

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**Trustee Caron** offered the closing prayer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

30/16 **Trustee Shaw:** **THAT** the Board of Trustees adjourn the regular meeting at 9:36 p.m.

**CARRIED (5/5)**

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Secretary Treasurer

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Chair



# Committee Report Summary

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**Board Advocacy Committee Meeting Date:** September 21, 2015

**Submitted by Trustee:** Trustee Shaw

**Committee/Event Name:** ACSTA

**Committee Meeting Date & Time:** September 10 and 11, 2015

## Summary of Agenda Items:

### **Social Media**

Alberta Catholic School communicators had an event to share best practices in communications. It was a great first meeting and are they are looking at meeting again. It was in Edmonton; Calgary has agreed to host next time. Some of the topics related to social media explored included the benefits, challenges and drawbacks as well as how to effectively monitor social media. It was also mentioned that social media is a platform that can be used strategically by Boards to engage your school communities. Facebook is an excellent platform to engage the public and if you are using Twitter it was discussed that #CathEd should be used when sharing good news stories so that everyone including, trustees, staff, families and communities.

### **Advocacy Committee Update**

Bishop Henry spoke about Encyclical on the environment. He mentioned the first hundred pages are an easy read. Bishop Bowlen has a great paper on it.

### Revision of the Catechetical Program update.

Grade 1 is up and running. Grade 2 is ready to be published. Bishop has read comments on the Grade 3 program. Bishop Henry indicated that it exceeded his expectations. He encourages us to ask a grade 1 teacher about it and to see the program especially the digital resources. It is the intention to have all grades done within 5-6 year time frame. There are three provinces involved Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

### **CCSSA Update**

The excellent teacher (concentrating on teachers). There will be a document put out that is on this topic and it aligns well with the work done at the symposium, and the work done on the five marks.

Supporting Students in inclusive communities - the CCSSA will review the document, and it will need to ensure alignment with ACSTA. The document will assist Districts with practical approaches working with transgender students. Bishop Henry indicated that we need to be as responsive as we can while living out the gospel.

### **Governance Committee Update**

Draft bylaws delayed to allow time for legal input. The governance committee is recommending to this board that this draft is put forward to the floor at the AGM to be adopted. Boards could see

this draft. This group would like to see this document go out rather than the more cumbersome document.

### **Budget Update**

- No increases anticipated in response to the current financial situation which results in a decrease, due to the increase in the number of students. The budget will go to the AGM. Questions or feedback can be sent to Michelle.
- ACSTA inquired as to who has meetings upcoming with MLA's. Tony and Dean will be meeting with the Minister of Education on September 22.
- Executive Director signed a new five year contract. 3.2 percent raise, this is a \$4500 increase ever year, so the percent increase will be less each year. Without cause = 1 year payout. There is no severance if the contract reaches a natural end with 1 year notice from Dean. The contract is available for any trustee to look at, at the ACSTA office.

### **Advocacy Committee**

Will try and share the strategic plan and advocacy plan in a meaningful way at the AGM.

ACSTA attended the ASCA meeting and there is an interest in having an increased presence for Catholic School on the executive; there are currently 2 directors. Encourage our school councils to participate.

Districts are requested to submit names of former trustee that have passed away.

### **Meeting Notes:**

- Could Lynn and Dianne come and give the board a bit of a run down on the Development and Peace work they did over the summer. At the very least we should be sending them notes of thanks and congratulations. This work is being shared nationwide. This is the first time this work has been integrated right into the curriculum.
- Silent auction items are being gathered for the AGM. Contact Michelle for the form to fill out for items. The money will be split between Toonies for tuition and Development and Peace
- Bishop Henry talked about Western Stewardship conference and One Rock.
- ACSTA will determine interest in another symposium.
- The executive will start to have discussions with the Bishops about looking at the covenant. Dean will try and bring something back to the November meeting.
- Board Meeting dates for next year were shared.
- Take some time to look at the CCSTA newsletter. The newsletter gives us a great snapshot of what is happening across the country.
- Hotel space for Yellowknife are almost full.

### **Highlights of Items Relevant to GSACRD:**

- Resolutions for the AGM are due by September 15.
- Catholic School Facilities- review proposals from the govt. to ensure alignment with the covenant. The last covenant revision happened in 2003. Bishop Henry thinks it may be time to have another revision.



Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 734

# Committee Report Summary

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**Board Advocacy Committee Meeting Date:** September 21, 2015

**Submitted by Trustee:** Trustee Crockett

**Committee/Event Name:** Business Liaison - St Albert

**Committee Meeting Date:** September 9, 2015

**Chamber Luncheon Relevancy to GSACRD:** Networking with St. Albert mayor and councillors, St Albert Public trustees, St. Albert business owners, table discussion, introduced as an elected officials of GSACRD, and guest speaker enrichment.

**Topic: Development of South Riel**

- Sean McRitchie (City of St Albert) presented 3 developers of South Riel: Cape Construction, Averton Group and GWL Realty. This development will encompass approximately 200 acres in an urban village design bordered by Ray Gibbon, Levasseur and CN Railroad.

**Cape Construction**

- Bellevue Village (13.5 acres) to be built south of the Enjoy Centre will include up to 300 apartments, mall, restaurants, grocery store and hotel.
- Phase 1 – Lakeview Apartments (150 apartments) will proceed when Project 9 (\$25 mln sewer capacity in area) is completed by the City.

**Averton Group (44 acres)**

- A private real estate group will build 800 homes across from Enjoy Centre with a view of Big Lake while embracing St Albert's Smart City Initiative. The four – six level housing units will be built in a walkable life style in a distinctive contemporary building design. These units will be an affordable option for both for the young and empty nesters.

**GWL Realty**

- Anthony Henday Business Park of 130 acres will encompass both industrial (80%) and retail businesses (20%).



Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 734

## Committee Report Summary

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**Board Advocacy Committee Meeting Date:** September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015  
**Submitted by Trustee:** Radford  
**Committee/Event Name:** St. Albert and District Chamber of Commerce  
**Committee Meeting Date & Time:** July 28<sup>th</sup> 2015

### Summary of Agenda Items:

Alberta Business Perspective Luncheon

Ken Kobly, President & CEO of Alberta Chamber of Commerce spoke on four topics; Minimum wage increase, Corporate Tax, Royalty review, and Climate change. The item discussed with the most detail and length was minimum wage increase.

Mr. Ken Kobly, referred members to the ACC website to view the work done regarding the proposed minimum wage increase.

Copied from website.

In June of 2015, the Albert Chambers of commerce conducted a survey of Alberta Businesses through its network or community chambers. A total of 1430 respondents completed the survey. The survey was based on the Provincial Government's proposal to increase Alberta's minimum wage from \$10.20 per hour to \$15 per hour. The summary results of the survey are available at the link below. In addition, the ACC has provided the comments received from Question #10. These comments are unedited to ensure candor. Finally, the ACC's submission to Jobs, Skills, Training, and Labour Minister, Lori Sigudson is linked below.

<http://business.abchamber.ca/news/details/news-release-06-17-2015>

### Highlights of Items Relevant to GSACRD:

Mr. Kobly indicated that students looking for part time employment may have a greater difficulty due to employers either reducing store hours or downsizing the number of employees hired. Persons presently receiving pay above the minimum wage will request the same increase as the proposed minimum wage increase. The survey indicates that employers find this wage increase to be of substantial hardship that realignment in their human resources department will occur.





Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 734

# Committee Report Summary

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**Board Advocacy Committee Meeting Date:** September 21, 2015

**Submitted by Trustee:** Trustee Caron

**Committee/Event Name:** Mindfulness Teaching

**Committee Meeting Date & Time:** July 15, 2015 (University of Alberta)

## Summary of Agenda Items:

This was essentially an introductory session based on a Masters of Education Thesis being presented that described the approach advocated by the author Michelle Johnson, an experienced junior high teacher to her classes in Red Deer Catholic Schools. She has also presented at other sites, including Bertha Kennedy Catholic School.

The focus of the approach can be summarized with various descriptors: Mindfulness, Well Being, Presence, Confidence for students in the classroom.

Relationship with self is a key for a teacher to build a relationship with one's own body. This mindfulness is then exemplified to students in a positive intentional way. A typical class may begin with a few moments of movement exercises that are intended to relax students and centre them to their own mindfulness practice – for the student to be awake and aware to the present moment. This practice encourages a student to handle “one thing at a time”.

An acronym is the word “THINK”. In other words is an action T- true, H – helpful, I – inspiring, N – necessary, K- kind.

From the website [mindfulness.together.wordpress.com](http://mindfulness.together.wordpress.com) - “Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction” (MBSR) was developed by Jon Kabat Zinn that popularized the practice and brought it into the mainstream. MBSR is a secularized version of the Buddhist practice. Kabat Zinn introduced MBSR into clinical settings over 30 years ago, using it with patients who were suffering from chronic pain”.

“Mindfulness research is still in its infancy, but what we do know is that people who practice it feel better. It brings more happiness and peace into their lives. And it is my own experiences both as a junior high school teacher and as a practitioner of yoga and mindfulness that have informed my research the most profoundly”.



Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 734

## Committee Report Summary

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**Board Advocacy Committee Meeting Date:** September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015

**Submitted by Trustee:** Radford

**Committee/Event Name:** Morinville Rotary

**Committee Meeting Date & Time:** September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

### Summary of Agenda Items:

Invitation to witness signing of Big Brothers and Big Sisters initiative.

Rotarians Syl Haisan and Gordon Boddez were instrumental in bringing this important program to Morinville. As it is in its initial stages, preliminary plans were only discussed. The people on the ground making this happen are Ms Jeannette MacMillan and Ms Carol Kaup. As former educators, both indicated the importance of this program for marginalized students.

Mentoring will be offered to Grade Three students at Ecole Notre Dame Elementary and Morinville Public School. Administrators Vice-Principal Lisa Kleparchuk and Vice-principal Shawna Walter spoke on the need for programs such as this to assist students within their schools.