

Board of Trustees

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Greater St. Albert
Catholic Schools



Agenda Item: 10

Regular Board Meeting

December 18, 2023

Division News

All of our schools gathered to mark the beginning of the Advent season. Advent is a season of waiting and a time to slow down and prepare our hearts to welcome Jesus. Over the next four weeks, our schools will light the Advent candles and journey together during this holy time.

School News

130 students from **École Georges H. Primeau Middle School** participated in their first Bikeathon event GHP surpassed their fundraising goal and has collected over \$18,000 for various charities. Thank you to everyone who contributed to GHP's Bikeathon to raise money for the various charities that GHP supports including St. Jean Baptiste Parish, Catholic Social Services, Jessica Martel Memorial Foundation, Stollery Children's Hospital, and Hand in Hand for African Women. Thank you, Sister Mary Clare Stack, for speaking to GHP students about how their fundraising contributes to Catholic Social Services!

Earlier this month, the **ESC PANTHERS**, celebrated The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception at daily Mass at Holy Family Parish. On December 8, we honoured Mary, our Mother. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is a Catholic feast celebrating Mary's conception without sin. Students were blessed to be able to gather as a faith-filled community with staff, students and some families before the weekend as we continue Growing in Love, with the Father!

ESSMY students gathered to mark the beginning of the Advent season with a heartfelt assembly led by our division chaplain, the wonderful Doug! Doug guided us, filling our hearts with hope and anticipation. As we light the first candle, let's reflect on the meaning of hope and the joy that comes from the promise of a new beginning.

ESSMY staff shine bright together, preparing 250 decorated bags filled with sandwiches, treats, and water—truly embodying the corporal works of mercy. A heartfelt thank you to our amazing team for spreading kindness and joy to those in need as they serve at the Sacred Heart Church in



Edmonton. Let's continue to inspire and uplift one another as we embrace the spirit of giving during this festive season!

Sister Alphonse Academy collected 431 lbs of food for the local food bank!

It was a great opening weekend for **Skyhawk** Basketball! The Senior Girls won Gold at the Fort Saskatchewan Tournament and the Junior Boys won bronze in the Ardrossan Tournament! Way to go Hawks!

Thank you Grade 3's for leading, Father Trini for presiding, and the **ÉND** choir for performing our processional song. Advent means the coming. The Advent season is about preparing for the coming of the birth of Baby Jesus. This week, we focus on the theme of Hope. What keeps you hopeful this holiday season?

Jackie Bebhongchu, Noah Foster, and Jory McDonald are part of a team at **Ecole Secondaire St. Albert Catholic High** developing the St. Albert Box, which features products from St. Albert-area companies. The team is developing the product as part of the school's Business class.

St. Gabe's hosted two very successful career workshops for our students - resume and cover letters and how to find a job. Both sessions were well attended by our students. We also have NAIT coming to talk to our students this week as part of our continued promotion of apprenticeships in the trades. We recently added the RAP program to our course offerings so these workshops are very timely. The more we can engage our students in career readiness, the more relevant and engaging the school will be.

We've also started offering a weekly "Gabe's Gang" club. We asked students to give us feedback on our assurance results and one of the areas they suggested they would like is to have more socializing and "fun" at school. Each week, the staff is taking turns offering a fun activity. December's lineup includes a Christmas party, games, knitting and crocheting, and a movie and colouring. Stay tuned in the new year for more fun and games!

CONSENT AND ACTION ITEMS

The following Consent and Action Items were approved:

- Programming and Grade Configuration Engagement What We Heard Report
- Locally Developed Courses

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- 15.2.1. 2023-2024 Fall Budget Update
- 15.2.2. Field Trip Activity Report
- 15.2.3. Board Policy 7: Board Operations Analysis

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The next regular board meeting is scheduled to take place on January 29th at 2:00 pm.