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Greater St. Albert
Catholic Schools



Division News

GSACRD Celebrates the Election of Pope Leo XIV

Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools joins the global Catholic community in extending heartfelt congratulations to Robert Francis Cardinal Prevost on his election as Pope Leo XIV. As a Catholic school division committed to nurturing faith and learning, we pray that Pope Leo XIV will be strengthened with wisdom, compassion, and humility as he begins his ministry as the new shepherd of the Catholic Church. We look forward with hope and confidence to his spiritual leadership in the years ahead.

Celebrating New ATA Inductees

In late April, we proudly welcomed the newest members into the Alberta Teachers' Association during a special evening of recognition and celebration. Congratulations to all of the inductees and heartfelt thanks to the mentors who spoke so meaningfully on their behalf. It was a memorable night that highlighted the strength, support, and shared commitment within our teaching community.

Bear Witness Day Raises Awareness for Jordan's Principle

Students and staff marked Bear Witness Day by wearing pajamas and bringing teddy bears to school in a show of support for the implementation of Jordan's Principle. This important initiative ensures that First Nations children have equitable access to the health, social, and educational services they need—just like all other children in Canada. The day served as a meaningful opportunity to build awareness and solidarity within our school communities.

GSACRD Launches Building Futures Program for High School Students

Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools is excited to introduce the Building Futures Program, launching in the 2025–2026 school year for Grade 10 students at St. Albert Catholic High School (SACHS) and Morinville Community High School (MCHS). In partnership with Coventry Homes, this innovative 10-month program will allow students to gain hands-on experience by helping to build a home in the Riverside community while completing their core curriculum on-site. Combining academic learning with real-world trade exposure, the program equips students with valuable skills and practical insights that will support their future career paths.

Celebrating Community, Faith, and School Spirit Across GSACRD

This month, schools across Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools celebrated a wide range of meaningful events that highlight the strength and spirit of our division. We recognized the contributions of our bus drivers, teachers, and principals on their appreciation days, and honoured mothers with heartfelt tributes for Mother's Day. Students participated in the student vote initiative, deepening their understanding of civic responsibility, while many schools proudly rallied behind the Edmonton Oilers during their playoff run. In addition, staff and students laced up their runners for the annual Run Wild event, promoting wellness and community engagement. Throughout the month, our school communities also embraced the Month of Mary, gathering in prayer and reflection to honour Mary as a model of faith, compassion, and grace. It has been a joyful and faith-filled month marked by gratitude, unity, and celebration.



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Celebrating Excellence in First-Year Teaching: Edwin Parr Award Nominees

The Edwin Parr Teacher Award, established in honour of devoted educational leader Edwin Parr, celebrates exceptional first-year teachers who embody the Teaching Quality Standard. This year, Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools proudly nominated five outstanding first-year teachers for their passion, dedication, and impact in the classroom: Emma Dias and Nicholas Good from École Ste. Marguerite d'Youville, Braden Pasalic and Lexie Gratton from Holy Family Catholic School, and Brooke Lesoway from Bertha Kennedy Catholic School, who was selected as the Division Nominee. Congratulations to all of these remarkable educators as they begin their careers in Catholic education.

School News

Mrs. Crowston Recognized for Excellence in Catholic Education

Mrs. Crowston, Vice Principal and Junior High Religion teacher at **Legal School**, was recently honoured with the Excellence in Catholic Education Award at the SPICE conference. She is a devoted leader who fosters faith development among students and staff through thoughtful initiatives such as “Chapel Chats” during Advent, where students pray and explore the Old Testament. This year, as part of the school’s faith goal, she brought student service projects to life by helping them connect their work to the Corporal Works of Mercy, making faith tangible and meaningful. Her influence enriches the entire school community, and we are truly blessed to have her leadership at Legal School. Congratulations to Mrs. Crowston on this prestigious recognition.

Snow White Stage at École Georges H. Primeau

The **École Georges H. Primeau** production of *The Snow White Variety Show* was a tremendous success, showcasing the incredible talent and teamwork of both students and staff. From acting and set design to backstage coordination and technical support, every element of the performance reflected creativity, dedication, and school spirit. Congratulations to all who contributed to making this production such a memorable event for the entire school community.

MCHS Shines at Skills Alberta Provincial Competition

Over two days at the Edmonton EXPO Centre, 11 talented students from **Morinville Community High School** represented their school and Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools at the Skills Alberta Provincial Competition, showcasing their abilities across a range of skilled trades and technology sectors. Since first competing in 1999, MCHS has earned an impressive 35 medals—and this year, students proudly added to that total. Aubrey Létourneau earned a gold medal in the junior high culinary challenge, and Renze Wierenga brought home bronze in the cabinetmaking category. We also commend all the other students who qualified and competed at the provincial level: Tyler Plamondon (cabinetmaking), Chase Senko (culinary arts), Shayne Demchuk (graphic design), Lauren Andrews (job search), Hunter Smith (joinery), Abrielle Hughes (junior high culinary challenge), Elizabeth Nelson (public speaking), and Brianna Farough & Avery Pelletier (video production). This outstanding achievement would not have been possible without the dedication of our Skills coaches: Greg Boutestein, Kyle Coxen, Daniel Pietraszewski, Michelle Receveur, Louise Sansano, and Marc Swerda. Congratulations to all participants and mentors for continuing the tradition of excellence at MCHS!

Skyhawks Take First Place at Provincial Envirothon

We are proud to celebrate the outstanding achievement of our Envirothon team, who captured first place at the Alberta Provincial Competition held in Vermilion earlier this month. Their dedication, collaboration, and deep understanding of environmental science have earned them the honour of representing Alberta at the international Envirothon competition this summer in Calgary. Congratulations to the **Skyhawks** on this remarkable accomplishment and for proudly representing their school and Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools on the provincial and now international stage!

MCHS Drama Recognized with AYTC Nominations

Congratulations to the talented students of **Morinville Community High School** whose outstanding work in theatre earned multiple nominations at this year's Alberta Youth Theatre Collective (AYTC) awards. Their performances, presented back in December, showcased the passion, creativity, and professionalism that define high school theatre across the region. We are proud of all our nominated teams and individual performers for representing MCHS with excellence. We look forward to celebrating their achievements at the upcoming AYTC Awards Gala in June as the theatre season comes to a close.

Spreading Positivity Through Chalk the Walk

Earlier this month, students at **Holy Family Catholic School** took part in #ChalkTheWalk, using colourful sidewalk messages to raise awareness for mental health and promote positivity throughout their school community. Their inspiring words and creativity helped spark conversations and uplift spirits. Way to go, Grizzlies, for leading with compassion and care!

Living Rosary at St. Kateri

Earlier this month at **St. Kateri Catholic School**, Father Trini led students and staff in a beautiful and prayerful journey around the gymnasium as they participated in the Living Rosary. This meaningful experience brought the school community together in faith and reflection, offering a powerful reminder of the importance of prayer and spiritual connection in our Catholic schools.

Sold-Out Success for SACHS Musical Production

SACHS delivered two sold-out performances of its spring musical, *Shrek*, to enthusiastic audiences. The students' energy, talent, and dedication shone brightly on stage, bringing the beloved story to life with humour and heart. A special thank you goes to teacher Jen Koehler, whose leadership and passion for the arts have guided the musical program each year, beginning her work with students as early as October. Congratulations to the entire cast, crew, and directing team for another unforgettable production and for continuing the proud tradition of theatre excellence at SACHS.

J.J. Nearing Partners with Pearson for National Resource Launch

J.J. Nearing Catholic Elementary School is proud to announce an exciting partnership with Pearson Education for the videotaping of a new intervention resource designed for students in Grade 4 and up. On May 29, the school's Grade 5B class will take part in a morning production session to demonstrate how the resource can be effectively implemented in classrooms. In recognition of their involvement, the school will receive complimentary access to all three levels of the program. Adding to the excitement, the production will be captured by the professional video crew best known for their work with the Edmonton Oilers. This collaboration not only enhances learning through a cutting-edge resource but also introduces students to the dynamic career possibilities in videography and media production.

Consent and Action Items:

- 2025-2026 Budget
- 2025-2028 Three-Year Education Assurance Plan
- Locally Developed Courses
- Superintendent's Evaluation
- Election Voting Stations Bylaw
- Trustee Elections Resolutions 2025
- Memorandum of Agreement – Unifor Local 72-A
- Complex Educational Needs Tribunal
- Superintendent's Remuneration

Report from the Superintendent:

- Legal Value-Scoping Update
- Board Strategic Plan Annual Review

Next Regular Board Meeting: The next Regular Board Meeting will take place on June 23, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at Division Services Centre, in St. Albert.