

February 25, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are enclosing some important information and asking you to take a few minutes to review. Catholic Education in Alberta is being challenged and we are concerned about the long term impact. There are two items that are an immediate concern:

- The Provincial Government is planning to make changes to the School Act, and the changes they make could impact the future of Catholic education in Alberta.
- An escalating shortfall of adequate, predictable and sustainable funding for education. As a result, every year we are doing more with less funding.

As part of a proactive initiative, the Board of Trustees for Edmonton Catholic Schools has developed a plan to engage our stakeholders in lobbying the government. As part of this plan, we have developed a postcard to MLAs that you will find enclosed. The postcard outlines our concerns and calls for immediate action. We are distributing the postcard to the Catholic community, parents, staff and parishes.

We are asking you to join us in advocating for adequate, predictable and sustainable funding for education. Please fill out the attached postcard and include your signature, return address and email, if possible. To identify your MLA and obtain their contact information, consult the attached list and address the postcard to your MLA. Return the filled-out postcard to your school by March 25th and we will ensure that the postcard is sent to your MLA.

Thank you for your continued support of Catholic Education and for your help to ensure that Catholic education is a part of Alberta's future.

Sincerely,



Debbie Engel
Chair
Board of Trustees



Joan Carr
Superintendent
Edmonton Catholic Schools