



EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Public Board Meeting Agenda 2026-2027

#1

Date: September 23, 2026
Time: 3:00 PM
Location: Public Board Room, Lumen Christi Catholic Education Centre
Phone: 780-441-6004
Web: ecsd.net

1 Call to Order

- 1.1 Opening Prayer Father Julian Bilyj
- 1.2 Land Acknowledgement L. Turchansky
- 1.3 Roll Call
- 1.4 Approval of the Agenda
 - 1.4.1 Consent Items
 - 1.4.1.1 CEO Report on Summer Activities 2026
- 1.5 Minutes
 - 1.5.1 Minutes of Regular Board Meeting 10-2025-2026, June 17, 2026
 - 1.5.2 Minutes of Organizational Board Meeting 11-2025-2026, June 17, 2026
 - 1.5.3 Matters Arising from the Minutes
- 1.6 Bereavement - Connie Engeline Moellering L. Anderson, C. Kennerd
- 1.7 Welcoming New Principals and Assistant Principals L. Anderson
- 1.8 Award Recognition
 - 1.8.1 French Immersion Professional of the Year – Ahmed Seif L. Anderson

2 Business of the Meeting

- 2.1 Catholic Education Week Update L. Anderson, R. Feehan

3 Presentation and Review of Accountability Report (s)

- 3.1 Connecting Families to Edmonton Catholic Schools L. Anderson, C. Meadows

4 Celebration of #ECSDfaithinspires

- 4.1 Board Chair Report S. Palazzo
- 4.2 Chief Superintendent Report L. Anderson

5 Adjournment

- 5.1 Closing Prayer K. Pelech
- 5.2 Motion to Adjourn

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Leah Fiorillo, Ward 71
Sandra Palazzo, Ward 72
Kara Pelech, Ward 73

Debbie Engel, Ward 74
Alene Mutala, Ward 75

Lisa Turchansky, Ward 76
Laura Thibert, Ward 77

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT
Lynnette Anderson



EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

9405 50 Street NW | Edmonton, AB T6B 2T4 | T: 780-441-6000

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMO

September 23, 2026 Public Board Meeting **1.4.1.1**

Date: September 23, 2026

To: Board of Trustees

From: Lynnette Anderson, Chief Superintendent

Re: **CEO Report on Summer Activities 2026**

Background:

This is to advise the Board of Trustees that no decisions outside of the scope of the normal authority of the Chief Superintendent were made during the summer of 2026.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees acknowledges receipt of the **CEO Report on Summer Activities 2026** for information purposes.



EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Public Board Meeting Minutes 2025-2026

September 23, 2026 Public Board Meeting

1.5.1

#10

Date: June 17, 2026
Time: 2:00 PM
Location: Public Board Room, Lumen Christi Catholic Education Centre
9405 50 Street NW | Edmonton AB | T6B 2T4
Phone: 780-441-6004
Web: ecsd.net

1. Call to Order

- 1.1 **Board Chair Palazzo** called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.
Father Julian began the meeting with the Opening Prayer.

1.2 LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Trustee Turchansky acknowledged that we are on the traditional land of Treaty 6 and homeland of the Métis. We also acknowledge the Inuit and other diverse Indigenous peoples whose ancestors have marked this territory for centuries, a place that has welcomed many peoples from around the world to make their home here.

We, at Edmonton Catholic Schools, commit to restoring and honouring the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action; we strongly believe that truth must be acknowledged to move forward to reconciliation. Together we call upon all our collective communities to build a stronger understanding of all peoples who dwell on this land we call home.

1.3 ROLL CALL

Sandra Palazzo, Board Chair
Lisa Turchansky, Vice-Chair
Leah Fiorillo
Kara Pelech
Debbie Engel – joined virtually
Alene Mutala
Laura Thibert

1.4 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Trustee Mutala moved that the agenda of the June 17, 2026 Public Meeting of the Board be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

1.4.1 Consent Items

The consent items and the recommendations therein were approved by the Board with the approval of the agenda

1.4.1.1 Locally Developed Courses

1.4.1.2 Delegation of Authority for Summer Months 2026

1.4.1.3 Emergency Executive Succession Plan 2026-2027

1.5 MINUTES

1.5.1 Minutes of the May 26, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Trustee Thibert moved that the minutes of the May 26, 2026 Regular Public Meeting of the Board be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

1.5.2 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

1.6 APPOINTMENTS/DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATION

ATA Council for School Leadership Distinguished Leadership Award and Canadian Association of Principals – Vice-Principal of the Year: Amber Nicholson.

The Board of Trustees recognized and celebrated Amber Nicholson for receiving the Alberta Teachers' Association Council for School Leadership Distinguished Leadership Award and the Canadian Association of Principals Distinguished Vice-Principal of the Year Award.

2. Business of the Meeting

2.1 ASBA 2026 School Board Innovation & Excellence Award

Trustee Mutala moved that the Board of Trustees support the nomination of the **ECSD Mathematics Framework** for the ASBA 2026 School Board Innovation and Excellence Award.

CARRIED

2.2 Division Operating Budget 2026-2027

Trustee Mutala moved that the Board of Trustees of the Edmonton Catholic Separate School Division approves the use of up to \$1.5 million for a roof replacement at St. Basil from the capital reserve.

CARRIED

Trustee Mutala moved that that the Board of Trustees of the Edmonton Catholic Separate School Division approves the use of up to \$0.8 million in deferred capital for modular links at up to four school sites.

CARRIED

Trustee Mutala moved that the Board of Trustees of the Edmonton Catholic Separate School Division approves the **Division Operating Budget 2026 - 2027** as presented.

CARRIED

Trustee Mutala moved that based on the evidence provided in the **Division Operating Budget 2026 - 2027**, the Board of Trustees determines that the following Quality Indicators have been met as per **Board Policy 12 – Appendix B**, relative to the current evaluation period:

- QI 4.4 Ensures all collective agreements and contracts are being administered and interpreted so staff and contracted personnel are being paid appropriately, and appropriate deductions are being made.
- QI 4.8 Monitors and reviews expenditures to ensure continuous improvement in terms of value for money.
- QI 8.3 Develops short- and long-range plans to meet the needs of the Division and provide for continuous improvement.
- QI 8.4 Ensures key results identified by the Board are achieved.
- QI 8.5 Ensures the budget and three-year plan are developed according to a timeline that ensures the Board's ability to provide direction and revise priorities and is approved within Alberta Education deadlines.
- QI 9.1 Ensures Division compliance with all Alberta Education and Board mandates.
- QI 10.3 Ensures information is disseminated to inform appropriate publics.

CARRIED

2.3 Chief Superintendent Evaluation 2025-2026

Trustee Turchansky moved that the Board approve the Superintendent evaluation report as developed during the evaluation workshop of May 29, 2026, as an accurate accounting of the Superintendent's performance for the period June 4, 2025, to May 29, 2026, and further that the Board authorize the Chair to make any required technical edits and to sign the report on the Board's behalf.

CARRIED

Trustee Turchansky moved that pursuant to section 222 of the Education Act, the Board of Trustees reappoints Lynnette Anderson to the position of Chief Superintendent of Schools for Edmonton Catholic Separate School Division, subject to terms and conditions of employment as agreed to between the Board and Ms. Anderson.

CARRIED

2.4 Board Self-Evaluation 2025-2026

Trustee Turchansky moved that the Board approve the Board self-evaluation report as developed at the facilitated workshop of June 11, 2026, and that the Board Chair be authorized to monitor the priorities and suggestions agreed to and bring items forward for Board consideration as deemed appropriate.

CARRIED

3. Presentation and Review of Accountability Report(s)

3.1 Social Justice in Edmonton Catholic Schools Report 2025-2026

Trustee Turchansky moved that based on the evidence provided in the **Social Justice Report 2025-2026**, the Board determines that the following Quality Indicators have been met as per **Board Policy 12- Appendix B**, relative to the current evaluation period:

- QI 1.1 Ensures that all school leaders actively promote education in a Catholic context.
- QI 1.3 Ensures religious celebrations and social justice are organized by schools and departments.
- QI 10.3 Ensures information is disseminated to inform appropriate publics.

CARRIED

3.2 Systems Excellence Report

Trustee Mutala moved that based on the evidence provided in the **ECSD Systems Excellence Survey Results Report 2025/2026**, the Board of Trustees determines that the following Quality Indicators have been met, as per **Board Policy 12 - Appendix B**, relative to the current evaluation period:

- QI 1.1 Ensures that all school leaders actively promote education in a Catholic context.
- QI 1.3 Ensures religious celebrations and social justice are organized by schools and departments.
- QI 5.6 Implements requirements of Occupational Health and Safety legislation, including required staff professional development.
- QI 8.1 Ensures the three-year planning process involves appropriate input and results in high satisfaction.
- QI 10.3 Ensures information is disseminated to inform appropriate publics.

CARRIED

3.3 Truth and Reconciliation Report

Trustee Thibert moved that based on the evidence provided in the June **Accountability Report 2025-2026**, the Board of Trustees determines that the following Quality Indicators have been met, as per **Board Policy 12 - Appendix B**, relative to the current evaluation period:

- QI 2.1 Conducts an analysis of student success and ensures school principals develop action plans to address concerns.
- QI 3.1 Develops measurements and monitors progress relative to providing a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment.
- QI 3.2 Ensures that a continuum of supports and services are available to address the needs of students in their growth and achievement.
- QI 5.3 Fosters high standards of instruction and professional improvement (Teaching Quality Standard).

CARRIED

4. Celebration of #ECSDfaithinspires:

- 4.1 Board Chair Report**
The Board of Trustees acknowledged receipt of the **June 2026 Board Chair Report on #ECSDfaithinspires** for information purposes.
- 4.2 Chief Superintendent Report**
The Board of Trustees acknowledged receipt of the **Chief Superintendent’s Report on #ECSDfaithinspires – June 2026** for information purposes.

5. Adjournment

- 5.1 Trustee Palazzo** said the closing prayer.
- 5.2 Trustee Turchansky** moved the meeting be adjourned at 4:39 PM.

CARRIED

DRAFT



Date: June 17, 2026
Time: Immediately Following the Public Meeting
Location: Public Board Room, Lumen Christi Catholic Education Centre
9405 50 Street NW | Edmonton AB | T6B 2T4
Phone: 780-441-6004
Web: ecsd.net

1. Call to Order

- 1.1 **Corporate Secretary C. Naccarato** called the meeting to order at 4:48 PM.
Lynnette Anderson began the meeting with the Opening Prayer.

1.2 LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Lynnette Anderson acknowledged that we are on the traditional land of Treaty 6 and homeland of the Metis. We also acknowledge the Inuit and other diverse Indigenous peoples whose ancestors have marked this territory for centuries, a place that has welcomed many peoples from around the world to make their home here.

We, at Edmonton Catholic Schools, commit to restoring and honouring the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action; we strongly believe the truth must be acknowledged to move forward to reconciliation. Together, we call upon all our collective communities to build a stronger understanding of all peoples who dwell on this land we call home.

1.3 ROLL CALL

Sandra Palazzo, Board Chair
Lisa Turchansky, Vice-Chair
Debbie Engel – joined virtually
Leah Fiorillo
Alene Mutala
Kara Pelech
Laura Thibert

2. Election of Chair

1st call for nominations for the position of Board Chair.

Trustee Mutala nominated **Trustee Palazzo** for the position of Chair of the Edmonton Catholic Separate School Division for the 2026-2027 year.

Trustee Palazzo accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations after the second and third call.

Trustee Turchansky moved that nominations cease.

CARRIED

Trustee Palazzo was acclaimed as Chair of the Edmonton Catholic Separate School Division for the 2026-2027 year.

3. Election of Vice Chair

Board Chair Palazzo assumed the Chair.

Trustee Engel nominated **Trustee Turchansky** for the position of Vice-Chair of the Edmonton Catholic Separate School Division for the 2026-2027 year.

Trustee Turchansky accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations after the second and third call.

Trustee Mutala moved that nominations cease.

CARRIED

Trustee Turchansky was acclaimed as Vice-Chair of the Edmonton Catholic Separate School Division for the 2026-2027 year.

4. Board Committee Structure:

Trustee Turchansky moved that the 2026-2027 Board Committee Structure be approved as follows:

I. Committees of the Whole

Reference: Board Policy 8

Audit & Finance Committee

S. Palazzo

Chair: _____

Governance Committee

L. Turchansky

(Vice- Chair serves in this role)

Chair: _____

Reference: Board Policy 6:6

II. Board Standing Committee

Reference: Board Policy 8

Community Engagement Committee (2)

S. Palazzo

K. Pelech

L. Fiorillo

L. Turchansky

III. Board Representatives

Reference: Board Policy 9

Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board of Directors (1 plus Alternate)

2nd year of 2nd 24-month term (Max: two 24-month terms ending conclusion of 4th Yr)

D. Engel

ASBA Zone 2/3 Representative

D. Engel

Alternate: _____

A. Mutala

Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association

A. Mutala

Alternate: _____

L. Thibert

Newman Theological Senate

Vacant

Edmonton Catholic Schools Foundation Board of Directors _____ S. Palazzo

Teachers' Employer Bargaining Association (TEBA)
Representative _____ A. Mutala

IV. Other Committees

GrACE Committee _____ L. Fiorillo
_____ K. Pelech

V. Division Committees

Interpretation Committees (Per Agreements)

Alberta Union of Provincial Employees (AUPE) _____ L. Turchansky
Alternate: _____ K. Pelech

Negotiating Committees – Actively Negotiating

ATA _____ L. Pelech
Alternate: _____ L. Fiorillo

Unifor _____ K. Pelech
Alternate: _____ L. Fiorillo

AUPE _____ K. Pelech
Alternate: _____ L. Thibert

VI. Linkages Committees

Council of Elders Representative _____ L. Thibert

CARRIED

5	Dates & Times of Public Board Meetings for 2026-2027
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Trustee Thibert moved that the Board of Trustees approves the dates, time and location of the Public Meetings for the 2026-2027 school year as follows:

(a) Dates

September 23, 2026
 October 28, 2026
 November 25, 2026
 December 16, 2026
 January 27, 2027
 February 17, 2027
 March 24, 2027
 April 21, 2027
 May 26, 2027
 June 16, 2027

(b) Time

Public Board Meetings will be scheduled to commence at 3:00 PM and will adjourn at 6:00 PM. If required, the meeting may be extended by a majority vote to 6:30 PM. Exceptions to these times may be made, if necessary, and with proper notice to trustees.

(c) Location

Public meetings will be held in the Main Board Room located at Lumen Christi Catholic Education Centre, 9405 50 Street, unless otherwise determined. The Chair of the Board of Trustees may change the time, cancel, or postpone any regularly scheduled public meeting of the Board upon receiving concurrence by a majority of trustees.

CARRIED

6.	Adjournment
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6.1 Chief Superintendent Lynnette Anderson said the closing prayer.

6.2 Trustee Turchansky moved that the meeting be adjourned at 5:11 PM.

CARRIED



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMO

September 23, 2026 Public Board Meeting **1.6**

Date: September 23, 2026

To: The Board of Trustees

From: Lynnette Anderson, Chief Superintendent

Originator: Christine Kennerd, Superintendent of Human Resource Services

Re: **Death of Connie Engeline Moellering**

We regret to inform the Board of the death of Connie Engeline Moellering, who unexpectedly passed away on Friday, August 21, 2026, at the age of 64.

Connie was a beloved mother, grandmother, sister, daughter, aunt, Omy, and dear friend. She will be deeply missed by her daughter, Alyssa (Owen), her cherished grandson, Liam, her siblings Dinie (Bill), John (Marion), and Mick (Marlene), as well as her extended family and many friends.

Connie dedicated many years of service to Edmonton Catholic Schools as an Educational Assistant, making a lasting impact on countless students, families, and colleagues. Much of her career was spent at Ben Calf Robe Catholic School, where she was known for her compassion, patience, and commitment to supporting students and helping others succeed.

Connie will be remembered for her kind heart, wonderful sense of humour, and ability to find joy in life's simple pleasures. She loved thunderstorms, politics, gardening, and spending time with family. Her warmth and care touched many lives.

Edmonton Catholic Schools extends sincere condolences to Connie's family and friends. May her soul, and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.

An expression of sympathy has been sent by the Administration to this family on behalf of the Board.



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMO

September 23, 2026 Public Board Meeting **1.7**

Date: September 23, 2026

To: Board of Trustees

From: Lynnette Anderson, Chief Superintendent

Re: **Welcoming Our New School Leaders**

Background:

On August 24, 2026, we welcomed 8 Principals and 18 Assistant Principals to their new Catholic educational leadership roles through a blessing and symbolic gesture at our Catholic Educational Leadership Opening Meeting. All of our school -based leaders have completed a formation program through Leadership Services in preparation for their new roles, and they will now embark on further formation and training with mentors as they begin their new journey of servant leadership. It is my pleasure to formally introduce them to the Board.

Principals

Sigrid Sollbach	Father Leo Green Catholic School
Mandy Jensen	J. J. Bowlen Catholic School
Michael Paszek	Our Lady of Peace Catholic School
Elise Thorne	St. Bonaventure Catholic School
Shanley Alger	St. Leo Catholic School
Sandra Hartum	St. Monica Catholic School
Ferdinand Filipic	St. Paul Catholic School
Ela Stachniak	Sir John Thompson Catholic School

Assistant Principals

Jodi Koidjos	Annunciation Catholic School
Bryn Jonzon	Cardinal Leger Catholic School
Raquel Aviles Torres	Divine Mercy Catholic School
Megan St. Croix	Father Michael McCaffery Catholic School
Fitzroy Ford	H. E. Beriault Catholic School
Sarah Novosel-Ulbrich	Holy Cross Catholic School

Owen Holloway
Alexandra Nadeau
Sandra Jesus
Wieke Steynen
Melanie Mercier
Christine Szaszkievicz
Leila deDios
Colleen Van Tighem
Victoria Saccomani
Elana Bryks
Amber Morgan-Manchuk
Michel Gagnon
Jennifer Nicol

Katherine Therrien Catholic School
Our Lady of the Prairies Catholic School
St. Angela Catholic School
St. Benedict Catholic School
St. Boniface Catholic School
St. Cecilia Catholic School
St. Elizabeth Catholic School
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School
St. Francis Xavier Catholic School
St. Gabriel Centre for Diverse Learning
St. John XXIII Catholic School
St. Vincent Catholic School
St. Vladimir Catholic School

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees acknowledges and welcomes our school based Catholic educational leaders to their new journeys.





EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMO

September 23, 2026 Public Board Meeting **1.8.1**

Date: September 23, 2026

To: Board of Trustees

From: Lynnette Anderson, Chief Superintendent

Re: **French Immersion Professional of the Year – Ahmed Seif**

Background:

The Canadian Parents for French (Alberta & NWT) branch presents annual French as a Second Language(FSL) and French Immersion (FI) Education Awards to recognize outstanding contributors to French language education in Alberta. The French Immersion Professional of the Year Award honours educational assistants, language monitors, librarians and other support staff.

Ahmed Seif has made an exceptional contribution to French Immersion and FSL programming through his leadership as French Cultural Coordinator for Edmonton Catholic Schools. He has significantly expanded access to authentic francophone cultural experiences by building strong partnerships and creating engaging opportunities for students and teachers across the Division. In 2025-2026 alone, he facilitated 75 cultural activities for our 12 French Immersion schools. He has created 27 cultural resources for staff and has obtained grants that have allowed students to experience French language activities of all sorts including French language concerts, interacting with francophone authors and even meeting French journalists. His work has broadened students' understanding of la francophonie and increased their enthusiasm for using French in meaningful, relevant contexts. Through his creativity, organization, and commitment, Ahmed has had a lasting impact that extends well beyond individual schools.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees recognizes and celebrates Ahmed Seif for receiving the **French Immersion Professional of the year award**.



EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

9405 50 Street NW | Edmonton, AB T6B 2T4 | T: 780-441-6000

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMO

September 23, 2026 Public Board Meeting **2.1**

Date: September 23, 2026
To: Board of Trustees
From: Lynnette Anderson, Chief Superintendent
Originator: Ryan Feehan, Superintendent of Leadership Services
Resource Staff: Sandra Talarico, Manager, Religious Education Services
Re: **Catholic Education Week Update 2026**

Catholic Education Week is an annual provincial celebration that highlights the distinctive mission and value of Catholic education in Alberta. Edmonton Catholic Schools has participated in Catholic Education Week since its inception, recognizing it as an important opportunity to celebrate the partnership among schools, families, parishes, trustees, clergy, and the broader Catholic community in supporting students' faith formation and educational development.

For 2026, Catholic Education Week will be celebrated from October 18 to 23, beginning with Catholic Education Sunday on October 18. The Alberta Bishops, Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA), and the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA) continue to provide provincial leadership and resources to support local celebrations across Catholic school jurisdictions. The 2026 theme, "The Power of the Holy Spirit," is inspired by Romans 15:13: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Throughout the week, Edmonton Catholic Schools will join Catholic school jurisdictions across Alberta in celebrating the gift of publicly funded Catholic education through prayer, liturgical celebrations, faith formation activities, service initiatives, and opportunities to strengthen the school-home-parish partnership. Catholic Education Week provides an opportunity for all Catholic educational partners to recognize the important role Catholic schools play in forming students in mind, body, and spirit so they can learn and prepare to live fully and serve God in one another.

Recommendation:

That based on the evidence provided in the **Catholic Education Week Update 2026**, the Board of Trustees determines that the following Quality Indicators have been met, as per *Board Policy 12 - Appendix B*, relative to the current evaluation period:

- QI 1.3 Ensures religious celebrations and social justice are organized by schools and departments.
QI 1.4 Facilitates cooperative religious initiatives involving school, home and parish.

Attachments:

- Catholic Education Week Update 2026

| Edmonton Catholic Schools |

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK UPDATE 2026

| September 2026 |



CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

Edmonton Catholic Schools has been an ardent supporter of Catholic Education Sunday and Catholic Education Week since its inception. For us, Catholic Education Week is an opportunity to celebrate the distinctive mission of Catholic education and to recognize the important partnership among students, families, schools, parishes, and the wider Catholic community.

This year, Catholic Education Week is scheduled for Saturday, October 18th until Friday, October 23rd, with Catholic Education Sunday being celebrated on October 18th. While Catholic Education Week has taken many forms over the years, the Alberta Catholic Schools Trustees Association (ACSTA) and the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA) currently lead its development.

This year, the theme: "The Power of the Holy Spirit," is inspired by Romans 15:13: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Saint Pier Giorgio will also be featured as part of Catholic Education Week. Pier Giorgio Frassati was an Italian Catholic activist and a member of the Third Order of Saint Dominic. He was dedicated to social justice issues and joined several charitable organizations, including Catholic Action and the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, to better aid the poor and less fortunate living in his hometown of Turin. Pope John Paul II beatified Frassati in May of 1990 and dubbed him the "Man of the Eight Beatitudes." On September 7, 2025, Pope Leo XIV canonized Frassati along with Carlo Acutis.



The example of Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati reminds us that authentic faith is lived through service. As you heard during our School Opening Meeting for Division Leadership, Service is one of the 5 roots of Joy that we will intentionally explore at our sites

throughout the school year. Many schools choose to incorporate activities rooted in Catholic Social Teaching during Catholic Education Week. These may include charitable initiatives, outreach projects, fundraising campaigns, environmental stewardship activities, social justice projects, or acts of service that respond to local community needs. Such experiences help students understand that their faith

calls them to love their neighbor, serve the vulnerable, and work toward the common good. Through these acts of service, students encounter Christ in others and learn that Catholic education extends beyond the classroom into the wider world.

The master template for Catholic Education Week, including the bishop's letter, a liturgy, and some ideas and activities for schools, will be shared in the coming weeks. The CCSSA will also unveil a new logo created exclusively for Catholic Education Week.

CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

At its core, Catholic Education Week is an opportunity to give thanks for the gift of publicly funded Catholic education in Alberta. Throughout the week, students, staff, trustees, clergy, parents, parishioners, and community members are invited to reflect on the unique role Catholic schools play in forming young people academically, spiritually, socially, emotionally, and morally. Catholic schools remain places where faith and learning are intentionally integrated, helping students grow in wisdom, virtue, compassion, and faith while preparing them to contribute meaningfully to society. Catholic Education Week provides an opportunity to celebrate this mission and to recognize the countless individuals whose efforts help sustain and strengthen Catholic education throughout our province.



One of the most meaningful ways this celebration is expressed is through prayer and worship. Prayer remains central to Catholic Education Week, and schools across the province traditionally gather as communities of faith to celebrate liturgies, Masses, prayer services, and reflections rooted in the annual theme and accompanying scripture passage. These celebrations provide opportunities for students and staff to encounter Christ through prayer, proclaim the Gospel, and give thanks for the blessings of Catholic education. Provincial resources often include liturgical celebrations, prayers of the faithful, classroom reflections, and prayer experiences that schools can adapt to their own local contexts. Through these gatherings, Catholic schools demonstrate that faith is not simply taught in the classroom but is lived, celebrated, and witnessed through the daily life of the community.

This emphasis on prayer and faith formation helps remind us that Catholic education is more than an educational model; its shared mission of education, evangelization and discipleship remains one of the Board's priorities. Our shared missions seeks to form young people in mind, body, and spirit as they grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ and their commitment to serving others.

LIVING THE SCHOOL-HOME-PARISH PARTNERSHIP

One of the defining characteristics of Catholic Education Week is the opportunity to strengthen the relationship among schools, families, and parish communities. Edmonton Catholic Schools has long recognized that the faith formation of children and youth is most effective when school, home, and parish work together in a shared mission. During Catholic Education Week, schools may invite parish priests, pastoral assistants, trustees, and families to participate in prayer services, liturgical celebrations, faith-based learning opportunities, and community gatherings. These activities celebrate the important role each partner plays in supporting students as they grow in their relationship with Christ and become active members of the Church.

Within this partnership, students themselves are at the center. Catholic Education Week provides meaningful opportunities for young people to share their faith through leadership, service, creativity, and witness. Schools may invite students to lead prayers, proclaim Scripture, share reflections, create artwork, produce videos, participate in liturgies, or speak about the impact of Catholic education on their lives. These experiences not only highlight student voice but also demonstrate the ways in which faith is nurtured through the collective efforts of families, parish communities, and schools working together.

By creating opportunities for students to actively participate in the life of the faith community, Catholic Education Week reminds us that students are not merely recipients of Catholic education but active participants in the mission of the Church. This year's focus on Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati provides a particularly meaningful example of youthful discipleship, joyful faith, and courageous service. His witness invites students to embrace their own call to holiness, leadership, and service while recognizing the important role they play in bringing the Gospel to life within their schools, parishes, and wider communities.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION SUNDAY AND OUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES

Catholic Education Sunday traditionally serves as the opening celebration of Catholic Education Week and provides a unique opportunity to strengthen relationships between schools and parish communities. Schools may participate in parish liturgies through student involvement, choir ministry, hospitality, parish displays, bulletin inserts, faith witness presentations, or opportunities to share the story of Catholic education with parishioners. These celebrations make visible the close connection between parish and school and remind us that Catholic education remains an important ministry of the

Church, supported by the collective efforts of families, educators, clergy, trustees, and parish communities.

Building upon these parish connections, Catholic Education Week also provides opportunities to celebrate the broader Catholic community that supports our schools. Many schools choose to open their doors to parents, grandparents, trustees, parish representatives, alumni, and community members through open houses, learning showcases, faith fairs, classroom visits, student performances, prayer gatherings, and family events. These celebrations offer opportunities for guests to witness firsthand the learning, faith development, and sense of belonging that characterize Catholic schools throughout Edmonton Catholic Schools. They also serve as a reminder that Catholic education flourishes through the support, engagement, and shared commitment of the entire faith community.

To support these local celebrations, schools receive resources developed collaboratively by the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA), the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA), the Alberta Bishops, and Catholic school jurisdictions across the province. These resources often include lesson ideas, liturgical materials, classroom activities, prayer services, reflections, and communication supports designed to bring the annual theme to life. In addition, Edmonton Catholic Schools' Religious Education Services team continues to work alongside schools to adapt provincial resources to local school and parish contexts while ensuring that Catholic Education Week remains focused on faith formation, community engagement, and celebrating the enduring gift of Catholic education.



LOOKING AHEAD TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

As details continue to emerge from the Provincial Catholic Education Week Committee, schools may wish to begin considering how they will celebrate this important week within their local context. Opportunities to gather in prayer, celebrate the Eucharist, engage students in faith-filled activities, serve others, welcome families into the life of the school, and strengthen relationships with parish communities all contribute to making Catholic education visible and vibrant. While the specific theme resources are still forthcoming, Catholic Education Week remains an opportunity to celebrate the many ways faith is lived, shared, and nurtured within our schools and communities.

At its heart, Catholic Education Week is a celebration of Jesus Christ and the mission of Catholic education. It invites us to reflect on our shared responsibility to form students who are grounded in faith, committed to serving others, and prepared to contribute to the common good. Through prayer, liturgy, Scripture, faith-filled learning, service, and meaningful engagement with families and parishes, Catholic schools continue to witness to the Gospel and strengthen the partnership between school, home, and parish. Additional resources, including the annual pastoral letter from the Alberta Bishops, are anticipated and will provide further reflection and encouragement as schools prepare to celebrate this important week.

We are looking forward to celebrating Catholic Education Week together and giving thanks for the enduring gift of Catholic education.



EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMO

September 23, 2026 Public Board Meeting **3.1**

Date: September 23, 2026

To: Board of Trustees

From: Lynnette Anderson, Chief Superintendent

Originator: Christine Meadows, Manager, Communications

Re: **Connecting Families to Edmonton Catholic Schools**

Background:

Choosing a school is one of the most important decisions a family makes. For most families, the journey to choosing a school begins long before registration. It may start with an online search, a social media post, a conversation with a neighbour, an Open House invitation, or a visit to a school or Division website. Long before a family walks through a school door, they are gathering information, forming perceptions, and deciding whether a school community is the right fit for their child.

The Communications Department helps guide that journey. Through websites, marketing, social media, storytelling, and Open House support, Communications works to ensure families can easily access accurate information, understand their options, and experience the welcoming, faith-filled communities that define Edmonton Catholic Schools. This work supports effective home-school communication, informs appropriate audiences, and promotes positive public engagement in the Division. This report highlights the important work that the Communications team does to connect families to Edmonton Catholic Schools.

Recommendation:

That, based on the evidence provided in the **Connecting Families to Edmonton Catholic Schools Report**, the Board of Trustees determines that the following Quality Indicators have been met, as per Board Policy 12 - Appendix B, relative to the current evaluation period:

- QI 10.1 Ensures supports and services are in place to facilitate effective home-school communications.*
- QI 10.3 Ensures information is disseminated to inform appropriate publics.*
- QI 10.5 Promotes positive public engagement in the Division.*

Attachment:

- Connecting Families to Edmonton Catholic Schools

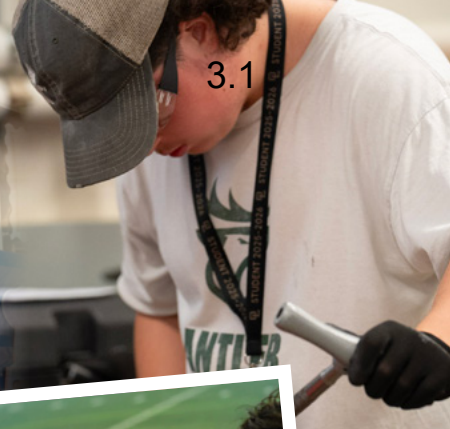
COMMUNICATIONS BOARD REPORT



CONNECTING FAMILIES

TO EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SEPTEMBER 2026



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INTRODUCTION



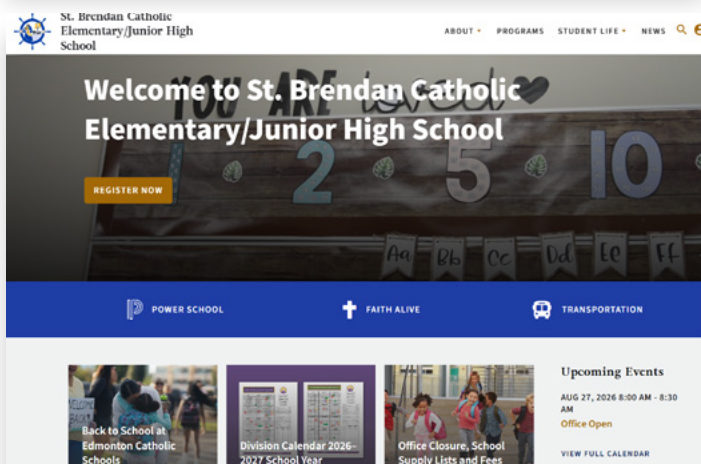
Connecting Families to Edmonton Catholic Schools

Choosing a school is one of the most important decisions a family makes.

For most families, the journey to choosing a school begins long before registration. It may start with an online search, a social media post, a conversation with a neighbour, an Open House invitation, or a visit to a school or Division website. Long before a family walks through a school door, they are gathering information, forming perceptions, and deciding whether a school community is the right fit for their child.

The Communications Department helps guide that journey. Through websites, marketing, social media, storytelling, and Open House support, Communications works to ensure families can easily access accurate information, understand their options, and experience the welcoming, faith-filled communities that define Edmonton Catholic Schools. This work supports effective home-school communication, informs appropriate audiences, and promotes positive public engagement in the Division.

Every interaction a family has with Edmonton Catholic Schools helps shape their understanding of who we are and whether we are the right fit for their child and family.



OPEN HOUSES: HELPING FAMILIES EXPLORE THEIR OPTIONS



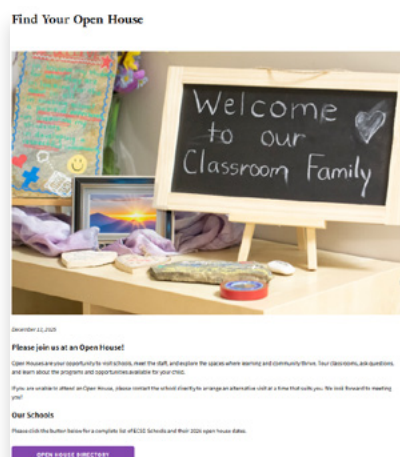
Open Houses: Helping Families Explore Their Options

Open Houses are among the Division's most important enrolment and family engagement opportunities. While families experience Open Houses as a single event, significant planning and coordination take place throughout the year to ensure schools can effectively connect with prospective families and showcase the value of Catholic education.

Families only attend an Open House if they know it exists. Communications helps schools reach prospective families through coordinated marketing, advertising, social media, websites, photography, video, and school-specific promotional support.

To help schools reach prospective families, Communications develops and implements Division-wide campaigns using multiple communication channels, including:

- Digital advertising
- Community and neighbourhood advertising
- Website promotion
- Social media campaigns
- Open House branding and promotional materials
- Registration messaging



A centralized Open House webpage on ecsd.net serves as the Division's primary information hub, allowing families to access school dates, times, websites, registration information, transportation resources, programs and options information, and the School Finder tool from one location. This approach creates a consistent, accessible experience for families and helps ensure information is easy to find.



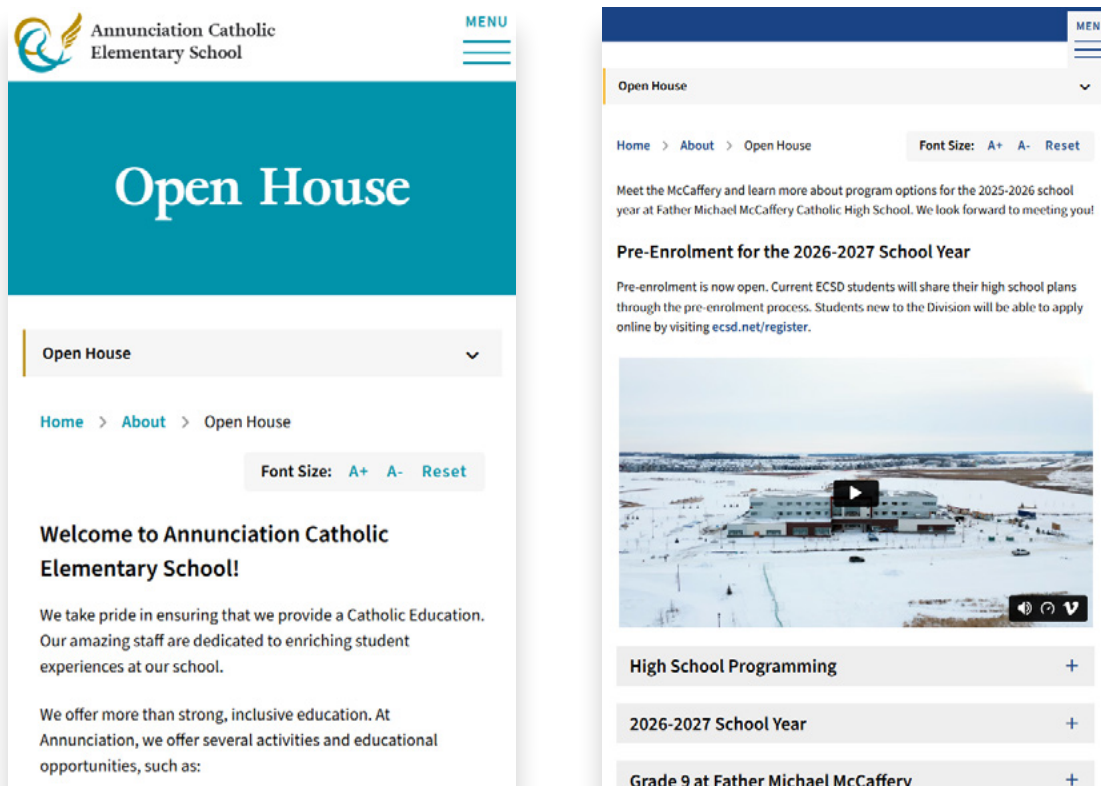
WEB TRAFFIC DATA

December 1, 2025 – April 1, 2026

5,000 Unique Views to ecsd.net/openhouse

SUPPORTING SCHOOLS ONLINE: OPEN HOUSE WEB STRATEGY

Supporting Schools Online: Open House Web Strategy



When families begin searching for a school, the website is often the first place they go and one of the last places they return to before making a decision. For many schools, that digital first impression is shaped by the support and guidance they receive from Communications.

Planning for the Open House web season begins in the spring of the previous school year. After each cycle, Communications reviews website traffic, messaging effectiveness, and school participation to identify what worked and what needs to improve. That review shapes the tools, templates, and training developed for the year ahead.

Templates are one of the most practical supports Communications provides. Web delegates are often administrators, teachers, or support staff managing website responsibilities alongside other duties. Templates give schools a professional, ready-to-use starting point that meets Division standards, follows accessibility guidelines, and uses language that is clear for families. Schools can personalize the content to reflect their community without having to start from scratch or worry about whether key information is accurate and consistent.

Approximately 75% of school web delegates utilized Open House resources and templates developed by Communications.

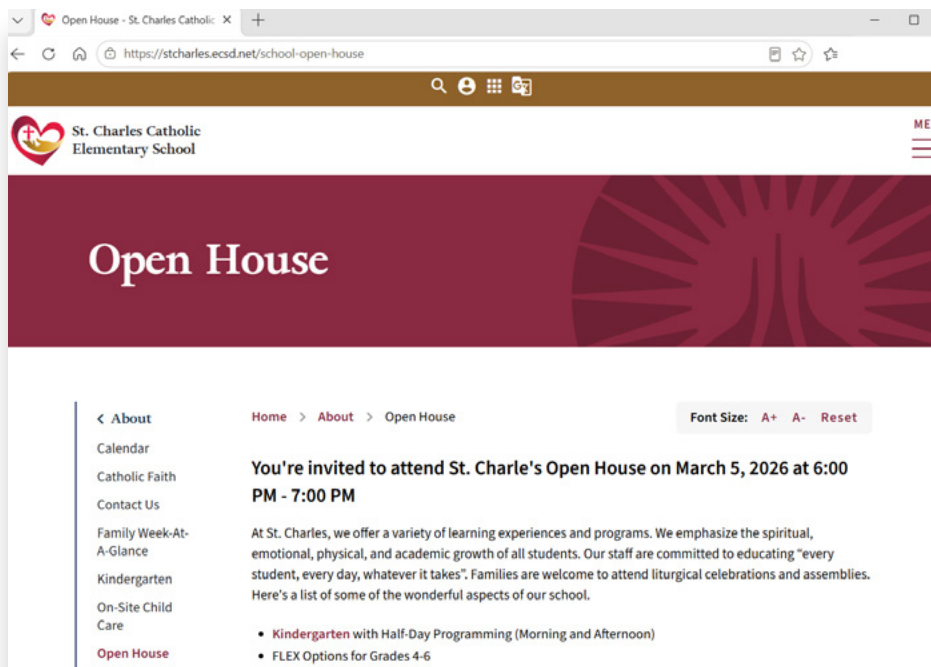
One-on-one support takes that work further. When Communications works directly with a school, the conversation goes beyond the website. It is an opportunity to understand what makes that school community distinct, identify gaps in how the school is communicating with prospective families, and develop content that reflects its strengths. Schools that have received direct support have come away with stronger pages, clearer messaging, and a better understanding of how their website fits into the Division's broader enrolment strategy.

Across the Division, this work has helped to:

- Improve website usability
- Enhance accessibility
- Increase the visibility of key information
- Identify and share best practices
- Strengthen school-level communications and marketing efforts

Division promotional efforts, including advertising, social media, and community outreach, direct families back to school websites.

Families are using the Open House web content as a key source of information during the school decision-making process. It also reinforces the importance of continued support for school websites as part of the Division's enrolment and communications strategy.



SUPPORTING SCHOOL RECRUITMENT AND AWARENESS

Supporting School Recruitment and Awareness

While Division-wide campaigns help raise awareness of Edmonton Catholic Schools, Communications also works directly with schools to help them reach families in their local communities and achieve specific goals.

These goals may include:

- promoting a new program
- increasing awareness of a specialized offering
- strengthening community engagement
- supporting student recruitment
- highlighting opportunities available within their school community

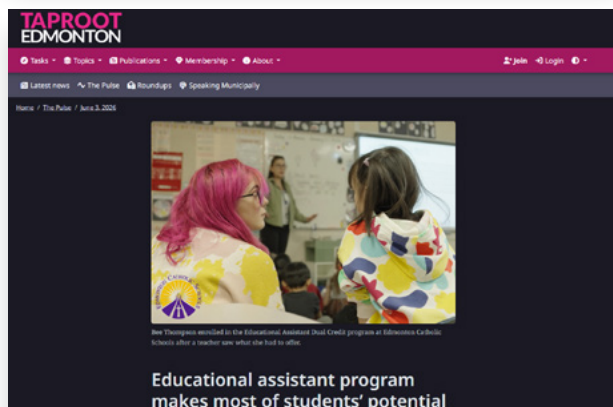
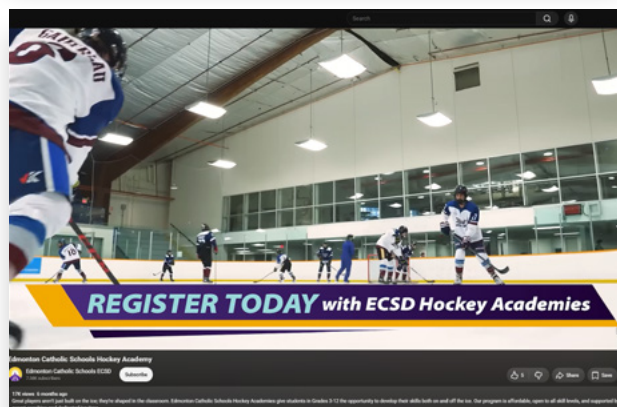
During the 2025–2026 Open House cycle, Communications worked directly with approximately 85 schools with a marketing plan.

Our team of specialists works with school principals and departments to understand their goals and concerns. After that initial meeting, our specialists develop a comprehensive multi-platform communication and marketing strategy tailored to their needs. Whether it's student recruitment, promotional opportunities, community engagement, or program awareness, every strategy is designed to strengthen engagement with ECSD and prospective families.



While Division-wide campaigns help raise awareness of Edmonton Catholic Schools, Communications also works directly with schools to support their unique goals and priorities. Support for individual schools may include:

- Communication Plans
- Marketing Strategies
- Website Enhancements
- Social media promotion
- Photography
- Videography
- Graphic Design
- Promotional materials tailored to individual school needs



Spotlight: Father Michael Troy Catholic Junior High School



When Father Michael Troy Catholic Junior High School introduced a new STEM program, Communications partnered with school administration to build awareness of the new opportunity and support the school's growth objectives.

Communications developed a comprehensive communications and marketing strategy that included a refreshed school brand, key messaging, website enhancements, promotional materials, social media support, and media relations opportunities. Together, these efforts helped communicate the school's unique learning opportunities and create greater awareness among prospective families.

By sharing a consistent message across multiple channels, Communications helped strengthen the school's profile within the community and support informed enrolment decisions. On top of promotion, the goal is ensuring families have the information they need to make informed decisions about their child's education.

EMPOWERING SCHOOLS TO TELL THEIR STORY

Empowering Schools to Tell Their Story

Every ECSD school has a unique story to tell. While schools share a common Catholic mission, each school community reflects the students, families, traditions, learning opportunities, and faith experiences that make it distinct. Families exploring schools want more than a list of programs and services. They want to understand what life is like within a particular school community and whether it is the right fit for their child.

The most authentic stories often come directly from the people living them every day. Principals, staff, students, and families are closest to the experiences that shape school culture, celebrate student success, and bring faith to life. For this reason, Communications focuses on empowering schools to tell their own stories.

Communications provides resources, guidance, training, best practices, website support, and strategic communications advice that help schools communicate effectively with current and prospective families.

By equipping school leaders and web delegates with tools and support, Communications helps build school-level capacity while promoting consistency, accessibility, and alignment with Division priorities.

At the same time, some stories deserve a broader audience. When a story reflects Division priorities, highlights innovative practices, showcases student achievement, demonstrates the impact of Catholic education, or may be of interest to families across the Division, Communications may share it through Division channels. This Division-wide lens helps amplify stories that illustrate the mission, values, and strengths shared across Edmonton Catholic Schools.

Together, school-based and Division-wide storytelling help families understand both the unique character of individual schools and the broader community they become part of when they choose Edmonton Catholic Schools. This balance of local authenticity and Division-wide consistency helps families make informed decisions and builds confidence in Catholic education.



SHARING THE STORY OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Sharing the Story of Catholic Education

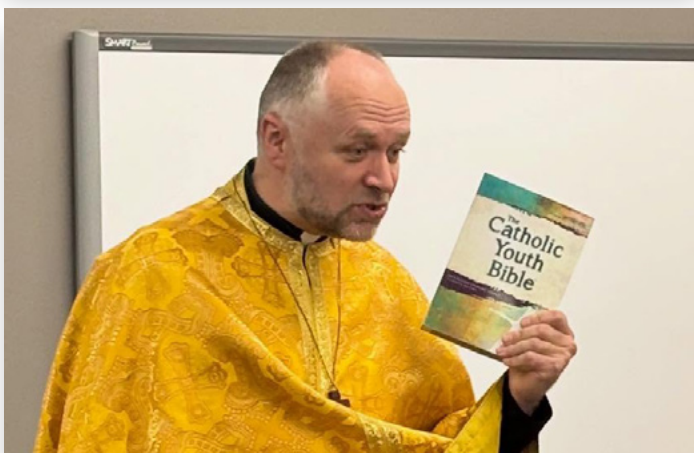
One of Communications' most important responsibilities is helping families understand what makes Catholic education distinct.

Through storytelling, photography, video, websites, social media, and marketing campaigns, Communications highlights how faith is lived each day across Edmonton Catholic Schools. These stories showcase academic excellence, faith formation, service, leadership, belonging, and community.

Content throughout the year highlights:

- Student Faith Leadership
- Grade 4 Bible presentations
- Social justice initiatives
- Youth Faith Day
- School anniversary celebrations
- Site blessings and grand openings
- Chaplaincy activities
- Student, staff, family, and alumni stories

Families want to see what life in an ECSD school actually looks like. This storytelling commitment gives current families, prospective families, staff, and our greater community a window into everyday life at Edmonton Catholic Schools.



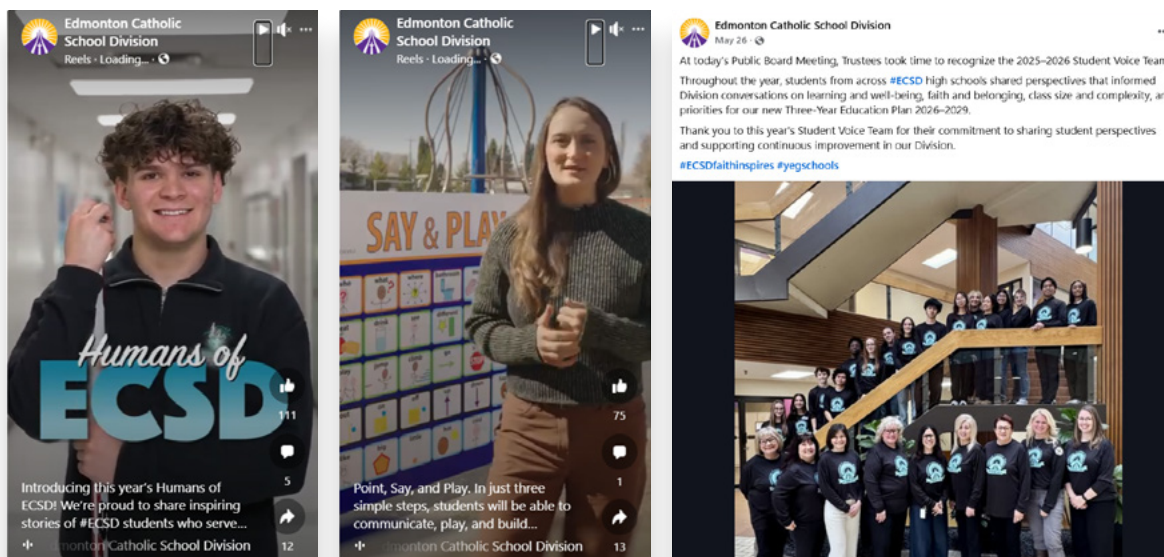


GROWING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

Growing Public Engagement Through Social Media

Social media is one of the Division's most visible communications channels. For many families, it provides a window into daily life at Edmonton Catholic Schools before they ever visit a school.

Communications uses social media to showcase student achievement, faith in action, school culture, learning opportunities, community events, and Division priorities. It's also one of the Division's primary channels for promoting Open Houses, registration, programs, school celebrations, and Division initiatives. Our social media content strategy focuses on storytelling that highlights what makes an Edmonton Catholic Schools education unique.



Social Media Growth and Impact

Data from the 2025-2026 school year points to a growing and engaged audience. Families are finding ECSD content, engaging with it, and choosing to learn more. Link clicks are worth watching closely because they signal intent, not just reach. A view means someone saw the content. A click means they wanted to know more, whether that is a school website, a program page, or awareness about an upcoming Open House. The Find Your Open House Campaign extended the Division's reach well beyond what traditional advertising channels can achieve at comparable cost.

Find Your Open House campaign had a 105K reach





SOCIAL MEDIA IMPACT

September 1, 2025 – July 30, 2026

New Followers:



TOTAL VIEWS
18M+



TOTAL CONTENT INTERACTIONS
159,900



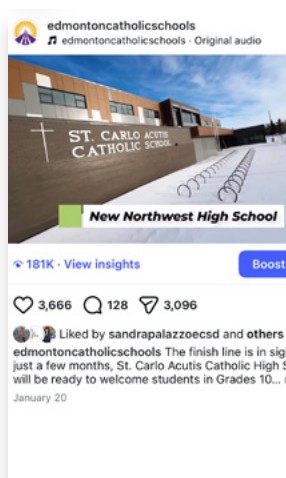
TOTAL LINK CLICKS
102,500

Top-performing Division Content:



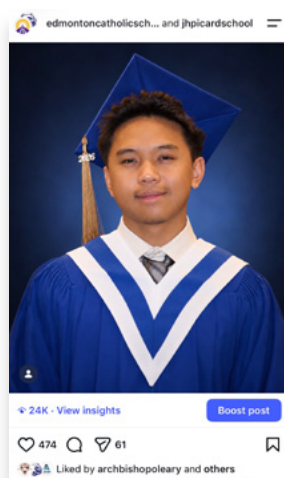
Alphonso Davies at St. Nicholas (July 2026)

250K Views



St. Carlo Acutis Drone Tour (January 2026)

180.2K Views



JHP Schulich Award Winner (June 2026)

133K Views

Top-performing School Content:



St. Edmund's Duckling Story (May 2026)

4.6M Views

School-based content consistently performs well when it reflects genuine community moments. Families respond to stories that reflect real moments from real school communities, and Communications works to give schools the tools and confidence to share them.

Reach, engagement, and link clicks all increased during the 2025-2026 school year, indicating that families are not just seeing ECSD content but acting on it. As the Division's audience continues to grow, so does the opportunity to connect families with the story of Catholic education in Edmonton.

LOOKING AHEAD

Looking Ahead

As Edmonton Catholic Schools moves into the first year of its Three-Year Education Plan (2026-2029), Communications will continue to support school recruitment, family engagement, and public awareness through marketing, storytelling, websites, social media, and direct school support. The Education Plan's priorities of Learning and Living our Faith, Excellent Learning Experiences, and Nurturing Student Well-being will shape how Communications engages families and shares the story of Edmonton Catholic Schools in the year ahead.

Over the coming year, Communications will focus on:

- Helping families understand the 2026-2029 Education Plan and what Optimal Learning means for students across the Division
- Showcasing how faith is woven into learning, relationships, and daily experiences across Edmonton Catholic Schools
- Highlighting engaging classroom experiences that reflect creativity, student ownership, collaboration, and real-world learning
- Supporting school and program recruitment and enrolment through Open Houses, marketing campaigns, storytelling, social media, and websites
- Expanding school website capacity through continued template development, training, and one-on-one support
- Expanding opportunities for schools to share authentic stories that reflect their communities and Catholic identity
- Growing the Division's digital reach through strategic social media content that connects families with the people, programs, and experiences that define Edmonton Catholic Schools

Through these efforts, Communications will continue to help families discover, understand, and experience the learning, faith, and community that define Edmonton Catholic Schools, while supporting enrolment, engagement, and confidence in Catholic education.



APPENDIX A: COMMUNICATIONS AT A GLANCE

Appendix A: Communications at a Glance

Communications supports schools, families, trustees, and Division departments through a broad range of strategic communications and marketing services. By helping families access information, understand their options, and connect with school communities, Communications supports the Division's mission to provide a Catholic education that inspires students to learn and prepares them to live fully and to serve God in one another.

Areas of Support

- School and Division marketing
- Open House promotion and enrolment support
- Social media strategy and management
- Website development and support
- Graphic design and visual identity
- Photography and videography
- Storytelling and content creation
- Event communications and coordination
- Media relations and public engagement
- Family communications and support
- Crisis and issues management

While the tools and tactics vary, the goal remains the same: helping families understand the opportunities available through Catholic education while strengthening awareness, trust, and engagement across Edmonton Catholic Schools.

Our Team

The Communications Team consists of:

- 1 Communications Manager
- 3 Communications Specialists
- 1 Graphic Design Specialist
- 1 Graphic Designer
- 2 Multimedia Specialists
- 1 Web Content Coordinator
- 1 Administrative Coordinator

Supporting Student Success

Communications is proud to support schools, families, and Division priorities that contribute to student success across Edmonton Catholic Schools.

We are proud to have played a role in welcoming more than 52,000 students.

Through marketing, websites, storytelling, social media, events, and family communications, the Communications Team helps families discover, understand, and connect with the learning, faith, and community that define Catholic education.



"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Philippians 4.13







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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMO

September 23, 2026 Public Board Meeting **4.1**

Date: September 23, 2026

To: The Board of Trustees

From: Sandra Palazzo, Board Chair

Re: **July – September Board Chair Report on #ECSDfaithinspires**

As we begin a new school year, the Board of Trustees would like to warmly welcome back our students, families, staff, and school communities. We hope everyone had an opportunity over the summer months to rest, recharge, and spend time with the people who matter most.

There is always something special about the beginning of a new school year. Our schools are once again filled with the energy of students reconnecting with friends, meeting new teachers, settling into new routines, and looking ahead to all that the year will bring.

This year, we are especially pleased to introduce our Division theme, *Rooted in Joy*. As a Catholic school community, joy is about more than happiness in a particular moment. It is something deeper, rooted in our faith, in the hope we find in Christ, and in the relationships and sense of belonging that make our schools such special places.

Throughout this year, *Rooted in Joy* invites each of us to recognize and celebrate the joy that can be found in our everyday work and interactions: in learning and discovery, in serving others, in supporting one another, and in the many moments—both big and small—that bring our school communities together.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to thank our staff for the care, energy, and commitment that went into preparing for another school year, and our families for continuing to place their trust in Edmonton Catholic Schools.

Most importantly, to our students: welcome back. We hope this year brings you opportunities to learn, grow, discover new things, build meaningful relationships and, fittingly, find plenty of joy along the way.

We look forward to all that the 2026–2027 school year will bring and to celebrating the many ways our students, staff, and families continue to make Edmonton Catholic Schools such a vibrant faith and learning community. May we begin this new year with gratitude, hope, and hearts truly *Rooted in Joy*.

Attached is a summary of meetings, events, and activities undertaken in my role as Board Chair since my last report. This summary does not include those meetings and events that I attended as a Trustee representing my Ward.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees acknowledges receipt of the **July – September 2026 Board Chair Report on #ECSDfaithinspires** for information purposes.

Board Chair Report on #ECSDfaithinspires – July-September, 2026**Summary of Meetings, Events, and Activities****Meetings and Events:**

- Attended One World...One Centre Newcomer Evening with Chief Superintendent and Board of Trustees
- Attended Community Engagement Committee Meeting with Board Representatives
- Attended quarterly meeting with Archbishop Hero and Chief Superintendent
- Attended Catholic Social Services Evening at the Mac with Chief Superintendent and Board of Trustees
- Attended Optimal Learning Working Group Kick-off with Chief Superintendent and Board of Trustees
- Attended School Opening Leadership Meeting with Board of Trustees
- Attended Division *First Riders* event
- Attended Edmonton Catholic Schools' Foundation meeting
- Attended virtual meeting with Metro Chairs
- Attended virtual meeting with ASBA and Board Chairs
- Attended virtual meetings and briefings with Chief Superintendent, Administration, and Board of Trustees
- Attended virtual agenda setting meetings with Vice-Chair
- Attended Public, Governance, and Audit and Finance meetings with the Board of Trustees

Activities:

- Filmed welcome back message with Chief Superintendent
- Filmed Catholic Education Week Message with Board of Trustees
- Participated in a Back to School Announcement with the Government of Alberta in Calgary
- Addressed numerous media requests
- Attended to correspondence and emails





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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMO

September 23, 2026 Public Board Meeting **4.2**

Date: September 23, 2026
To: Board of Trustees
From: Lynnette Anderson, Chief Superintendent
Re: **Chief Superintendent's Report on #ECSDfaithinspires –July-September 2026**

Background:

The 2026-2027 school year brings new journeys for Edmonton Catholic Schools. Our Division theme for the year, Rooted in Joy, will see our schools exploring how the foundation of our faith, God's great love for us, nurtures the deep roots of a life of joy for all. This new school year also brings a new [Three-year Education Plan 2026-2029](#) to guide our growth and improvement. The goals of this plan are grounded in creating the conditions for optimal learning for all students and are brought into focus through the Division Priorities of *Learning and Living Our Faith*, *Nurturing Student Well-being*, and *Excellent Learning Experiences*. I wish to highlight some of my activities as Chief Superintendent alongside some of the happenings in our Division as they relate to the framework of our Division Priorities.

Learning And Living Our Faith

- At the start of each school year, our staff is blessed to gather in celebration of the Eucharist and to recommit ourselves to the vocation of Catholic education. We are privileged to live out our Catholic faith in every aspect of our work, beginning with nurturing our relationship with Jesus. School opening Mass was held in eight locations across the city, and through the generosity of our staff, we raised just over \$11,000 to be shared between the Sign of Hope and The Edmonton Catholic Schools Foundation.
- Worship is a focal point for establishing the roots of faith for our students. Through daily prayer, liturgical celebrations, and Mass, our students have the opportunity to reflect on all of the goodness in their lives, the gifts of our Father, and to respond with thanksgiving and praise. This, in turn, empowers them to be witnesses of God's goodness beyond their schools. Our [school communities began the school year](#) with worshipful gratitude, purpose, and joy.

Nurturing Student Well-being

- A playground is so important to nurturing student well-being. It supports physical well-being, but there is also much social-emotional learning that takes place through play. I was pleased to send greetings for the blessing and grand opening of the St. Pius X Catholic Elementary School Playground, which was rebuilt after being lost to a fire last year. There was much joy to be experienced that evening.

- Our Division is hosting our Newcomer Information Evening again this year. This event is a great opportunity for families who are new to Canada to learn more about Edmonton Catholic Schools and the supports available. They will receive information on Intercultural Services , Community Partnerships, School Procedures, PowerSchool, Busing, and Resources for English Language Learners. Community partners will share resources and parents can attend breakout sessions with Intercultural Liaisons on topics critical for new families to integrate into schools - available in 10 languages: Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, English, Filipino/Tagalog, French, Spanish, Tigrinya, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese.
- Elementary students from across the Division participated in the 36th annual ECSD Cross Country Run. This two-day event saw 2700 students in grades 3-6 from 62 schools engaging in 1200 m (age 8 and under) and 2000m runs. There was much joy and fun had by all.
- Many of our schools will participate in the Terry Fox run. This annual event creates a wonderful opportunity for students to engage in service learning and well-being as they raise vital funds for cancer research.

Excellent Learning Experiences

- It was a very busy summer for Alternative Education as they have served our summer school students. Summer School remains an extremely important support for students in the completion of their high school requirements. Courses offered this year include: Religion 15, 25, 35, Religions of the World 35; CALM 20; CALM 20/Physical Education 10 Combination; Physical Education 10 (3 credit); Aboriginal Studies 10 and 30; English 10-1, 10-2, 20-1, 20-2, 30-1, and 30-2; Social Studies 10-1,10-2, 20-1, 20-2, 30-1, and 30-2; Math 10-3, 10C, 20-1, 20-2, 20-3 , 30-1, 30-2, and 30-3; Science 10, 14, 20, 24 , and 30; Chemistry 20 and 30; Biology 20 and 30; Physics 20 and 30. We also offered English as an Additional Language summer programs, and for Dual Credit, we offered Fundamental Kitchen Skills and Trade Calculations (NAIT), Health Care Aide (Norquest), and Policing in Canada (MacEwan University). Over 4100 students were served through these learning opportunities.
- Students will engage in age-appropriate learning experiences as we observe Orange Shirt Day and The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Our Indigenous Learning Services team has compiled resources to support staff in ensuring that learning about the painful history and legacy of residential schools is approached with sensitivity and care.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees acknowledges receipt of the **Chief Superintendent's Report on #ECSDfaithinspires – July-September 2026** for information purposes.

