



LAKELAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

BETTER EDUCATION... *It's as simple as that!*



Trustee Corner

The Importance Catholic Education as a Publicly-Funded Education System

As Albertan Catholics, we are fortunate to have the option in our province to have our children educated in schools devoted to teaching students Catholic beliefs and values. There are over 360 Catholic schools in Alberta, serving more than 141,000 students.

Catholic schools are a fundamental part of the Catholic triad of home, parish, and school in educating children. They aim to educate the whole child, based on Gospel values and Sacramental life, with a focus on the life of Jesus Christ. Essentially what Catholic Schools are doing is preparing students for all the challenges and successes they will face once they graduate from our schools, as well as those they will face while in our schools.

We teach more than just a religion class to these students. We focus on ensuring the Catholic teachings are part of every aspect of the school, from the moment students walk into the school, in every class they take, until they come home to you and share what it is they have learned. Lakeland Catholic schools are inclusive. Parents from all faith backgrounds have the option to send their students to the District which best meets their child's needs.

Academically, our students excel. Catholic schools across the province, including ours, have been recognized for progressive and innovative programming that is meeting the needs of all learners. Our focus stays on the student, and we strive to provide all necessary tools to ensure our students leave our schools prepared. Lakeland Catholic received the 2005 Premier's Award for excellence and innovation and overtime our

schools are or have been performing at or above the provincial average on Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Exams.

As parents, you have the choice to send your children to Catholic schools, public schools, Francophone schools, Private schools, and Charter home schools. With the potential for changes to the Alberta School Act on the horizon we as your trustees want to ensure the choice for Catholic Education remains yours. Having this choice allows Alberta students to learn in an educational system which best fits both their and the parent's specific educational needs.

In Catholic education, we all play an integral part in educating the whole child. From the school, to the home, to the parish, we need to ensure we have the choice to have our children receive the best possible education which helps develop not only the mind, but also the heart.

Please contact your local trustee if you have any questions and also to voice your support for Catholic Education.

Thank you and God Bless
Lakeland Catholic Board of Trustees

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