



BOARD OF EDUCATION PRIORITIES AND GOALS 2007-2009

The 10 trustees on the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Board of Education began their three-year term in office after municipal elections were held on Oct. 25, 2006. Early in 2007 trustees began consultation with staff and school communities to determine the board's new priorities and goals.

The results chart a strong course for Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. Within each priority area there are several detailed goals that shape the division's work.

As well, several themes describing our school division and our distinctive mission have been developed. Board priorities and goals align closely with these key themes, which are: Rooted in Faith, Growing in Knowledge, Reaching Out to Transform the World.

Rooted Growing Reaching Transforming

ROOTED IN FAITH

***PRIORITY:* CELEBRATING CATHOLIC IDENTITY**

RATIONALE: Catholic education in Saskatoon, Biggar, Humboldt, Viscount and area grew from a shared desire by home and parish to teach children in a faith-filled setting. This relationship between parents and church has sustained Catholic education for more than a century. Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools will continue to define and strengthen its Catholic identity to ensure Catholic education exists in our communities for another 100 years.

GOALS:

- To nurture an awareness and understanding of Gospel values, ensuring they are part of the fabric of each school and each student's experience.
- To focus on faith formation for staff and students, supporting each individual's faith journey.

Growing in Knowledge

***PRIORITY:* IMPROVING STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT**

RATIONALE: Catholic education helps each child develop their God-given talents as they strive to reach their full potential spiritually, academically, physically, socially, and emotionally. Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools combines academic excellence and spiritual development with support for the physical wellness of each student. A well-rounded Catholic education helps students become contributing citizens in their communities.

GOALS:

- To focus on learning and academic excellence for all students.
- To improve academic achievement, with an emphasis on literacy and numeracy.
- To have each student complete high school.
- To commit to increasing physical fitness development of students.
- To support transitions for students of all ages, from those entering early learning programs to those preparing for careers after high school.

Reaching Out ... to Transform the World

PRIORITY: BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS

RATIONALE: Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools believes a strong relationship between parents, the church and the school is needed to educate children and youth to their full potential. We will continue to develop and enrich our relationships with the broader community and all levels of government. We are committed to working with many groups and organizations within our communities because we all share responsibility for educating our children and youth.

GOALS:

- To continue to focus on relationships with parents, through Catholic School Community Councils; and the church, through the Diocese, Eparchy and parishes.
- To establish formal partnerships with First Nations and Metis groups, so these relationships may contribute to improved outcomes for First Nations and Metis students.
- To maintain our focus on academic success for New Canadians through a variety of shared initiatives.
- To establish formal partnerships with post-secondary institutions, to better reflect our shared role as educators in our communities.

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PRIORITY: PROMOTING STEWARDSHIP

RATIONALE: Catholic education is a calling to take care of God's abundant gifts. As stewards the Board is entrusted with the gifts of people, finances, facilities, and the environment. We seek to receive these gifts gratefully and tend to them responsibly so that our work contributes to the greater good of the school division, our communities and our world. The Board of Education strives to govern the operations of school division with forethought and diligence.

GOALS:

- To nurture and develop God's people: our human resources.
- To responsibly allocate and use financial resources.
- To build and maintain facilities as centers of learning.
- To teach children and youth to care for God's creation.
- To define and implement practices to achieve and sustain excellent board governance.