



Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association

Celebrate, preserve, promote and enhance Catholic education

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October 30, 2017 - Support the "Catholic" in Catholic Education!

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

The Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA) would like to clarify recent negative media around the issue of a Catholic focused Health and Wellness curriculum and are calling on the help of stakeholders and partners in the Catholic community in keeping our Catholic schools Catholic! Our Catholic faith plays a vital role in making our schools unique in developing the intellectual, spiritual, academic, moral, and physical well-being of students. We encourage you to share the information here with those you know so we as a Catholic community can come together in support of Catholic education. Please show your support in keeping Catholic education and the worldview of love and faith its spouses as part of the Alberta education system!

In addition to the bullet points below, we are providing you with links to news articles which give the Catholic superintendents' perspective on the recent media news stories.

<https://caedm.ca/PastoralScene/entryid/626/catholic-educators-set-record-straight-on-human-sexuality-education>

<https://globalnews.ca/news/3827042/alberta-catholic-superintendents-respond-to-criticism-of-proposed-sex-ed-curriculum/>

- Catholic school boards in Alberta teach the provincial curriculum but permeate it with a Catholic perspective, which is what the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA) have been working successfully on in tandem with Alberta Education, at Alberta Education's request.
- Recent false reporting has led to misconceptions around the area of sexual consent. Catholic schools will always teach that consent is always necessary for any sexual activity to be healthy. The basic minimum in regards to consent is between two adults. In addition to this, we will also teach that as Catholics, we believe that commitment, a loving relationship, and ideally sex being within a marriage are fundamental in fostering stable and loving relationships. This is the Catholic worldview.
- Our Catholic schools are open and supportive of inclusive communities that teach care and compassion for every person regardless of age, race, sex, gender or sexual orientation. Everyone deserves to feel welcome, safe, included and respected in our schools.
- Our Catholic schools have a mission to help each student to fulfill their God-given potential in all aspects of their persons: physically, academically, socially, morally and spiritually.
- Catholic schools, and by extension their teachers are committed to raising a generation of well informed, critically thinking, morally developed young people who will have a deep foundation in moral teachings as well as an understanding of human sexuality.
- Catholic schools are committed and responsible for ensuring that students are permeated with the authentic teachings of Jesus Christ and the church in a loving and compassionate manner.
- The parental voice is extremely important, and Catholic schools look to parents as the primary educators of their children.

For more information, contact us at:

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