

**For immediate release – November 8, 2016**

### **Boyko re-elected as Catholic board chair**

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' Board of Education held its organizational meeting, the first meeting since October's civic election, on November 7, at which Diane Boyko was re-elected chair of the board.

The 10-member board has nine returning trustees: Debbie Berscheid, Ron Boechler, Diane Boyko, Jim Carriere, Tom Fortosky, Todd Hawkins, Tim Jelinski, Alice Risling and Wayne Stus. Sharon Zakreski-Werbicki was elected to fill the tenth seat.

Trustee Wayne Stus, who represents rural areas around Saskatoon, including the cities of Martensville and Warman, was elected vice-chair for the second consecutive year.

"The electorate appears pleased with the direction of the board," Boyko said, referring to the fact all nine incumbents were re-elected. "We have the opportunity to build on the momentum of the past several years. Catholic faith-based education is as strong as it ever has been. Our growing enrolment, opening six new schools next year and an increasingly diverse student body demonstrate the support of our parents and the community. We continue to improve student outcomes and achieve the academic excellence we strive for as a division."

Fiscal challenges around funding and uncertainty around "transformational change" for education in Saskatchewan are also top of mind for trustees. "We will go forward doing the good work that we do. Our board and our administrative team will continue to show great care for our students, our staff and for each other."

Rev. Kevin McGee, diocesan administrator for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon, began the meeting with an opening prayer and short commissioning service. He spoke about trustees using their God-given gifts in service to students, parents and staff.

With 44 schools and over 17,000 students, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools is Saskatchewan's largest Catholic school division, providing Catholic education from pre-kindergarten through Grade 12 in Saskatoon and area, Biggar, Humboldt, Martensville and Warman. We are rooted in faith, growing in knowledge and reaching out to transform the world.

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