

Red Deer Catholic Regional Division (RDCRS) Board of Trustees Engagement Session

November 12, 2024: Virtual from 6:30 - 8:30 pm *Registration is not required for the online session*

- Zoom Session Link:
<https://zoom.us/j/94832588396?pwd=OcrR9wl3dQEUDy1HuCgIfD3MmSWQaK.1>

November 13, 2024: In person from 6:30 - 8:30 pm

- St. Thomas Aquinas Middle School Learning Commons (3821 39 St. Red Deer)
- Registration is required for the in-person session.
- Registration link:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/red-deer-catholic-regional-schools-engagement-summit-tickets-1048222871827>

Backgrounder

Red Deer Catholic Regional Division (RDCRS) Board of Trustees looks for ways to regularly engage our community to help form the decisions and direction of the school division. The RDCRS Engagement Session allows parents, staff, and community members to provide input into two key areas of our strategic planning. The two areas for this engagement session are (1) helping to establish budget priorities for future planning, and (2) developing a culture of wellbeing.

Topic 1: Establishing Budget Priorities

RDCRS has an annual operating budget of \$119 million, serving student enrollment of 10,657 students. We employ over 600 teachers and 475 support staff.

Participants will be asked questions similar to the following:

1. *What essential programs or services do you believe are critical for maintaining student success and well-being, and how would you prioritize them given the necessity of not incurring a budget deficit?*
2. *Given our current financial constraints, what specific areas do you believe should receive the highest priority for funding to ensure that our core mission of fostering a Catholic education remains strong?*
3. *What innovative strategies and/or partnerships could we explore to maximize our existing resources and enhance educational offerings for students while staying within our budget limitations?*

Topic 2: Developing a Culture of Well-Being

Engaging with parents is a crucial step in enhancing a culture of well-being for our students, as it allows us to gain valuable insights into what families believe will best support their child's development across all areas of life. In our recent stakeholder session (November 2023), parents identified key goals they want to see in their child's future: the ability to confidently communicate (both oral and written), read fluently, and

be independent to name a few. These goals highlight the importance of a well-rounded approach to education, one that nurtures not just academic skills but also emotional, social, spiritual, and physical well-being. By seeking parent feedback on the type of culture that would best support these aspects of a child's growth, we can create a more holistic environment that aligns with both family values and the needs of the child. Parents have a unique perspective on what their children need to thrive, and their input helps ensure that we are fostering an inclusive, supportive, and balanced culture where students can truly flourish.

Participants will be asked questions similar to the following:

- *What specific resources or programs do you believe would best support your child's social and emotional well-being at RDCRS?*
- *What specific cultural practices or initiatives do you think our school division should implement to foster a supportive environment for all students?*
- *In what ways do you feel the school division could better incorporate feedback from parents and students to create a culture that ensures well-being?*

We look forward to engaging in conversations with you on November 12 and November 13.

Please note that if you are joining us in person at St. Thomas Aquinas Middle School parking is provided at the east and west ends of the school.

Asking a Question

If you are attending either session and would like to ask a question, we ask that you fill out the following Google Form so that we can provide you with the most relevant information. Click [here](#) to access the Google Form.