



ACSTA HAPPENINGS

UPDATE FROM THE ALBERTA CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION

CELEBRATE, PRESERVE, PROMOTE AND ENHANCE CATHOLIC EDUCATION.



Regulations for New Education Act

The Minister of Education released the proposed regulations to accompany the *Education Act* in December. ACSTA was invited to participate in three areas affecting our mission: Transportation, Governance, and Separate School Formation. The regulations are now available for public comment – by education stakeholders, parents, educators, and the general public—between December 16, 2014 and January 31, 2015. To provide comment on some or all of the regulations, please visit <http://www.education.alberta.ca/department/policy/education-act.aspx>

CCSTA Justice James Higgins Award Deadline

The deadline for nominations for the 2015 Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association (CCSTA) Justice James Higgins Award is January 15, 2015. This award is the highest honour provided by CCSTA. It reflects recognition of an exceptional contribution to Catholic education in this country. <http://www.ccsta.ca/en/initiatives-en/higgins>

Catholic Schools - Sharing the Good News

We ask for your prayers always for Catholic education in Alberta and Northwest Territories that we continue to be beacons of God's grace and faithful disciples of Christ.

**Registration is Now Open
for the ACSTA Spring, SPICE and Blueprints Retreats**
<http://www.acsta.ab.ca/events>

Spring Retreat– Cold Lake (March 6-8, 2015)

We are very pleased and excited to welcome Father Jonathan Stewart from Plymouth, England. His presentations on the theme *A Faith for all Seasons*, promise to be enlightening and entertaining.

2015 SPICE (April 23 - 26) and Blueprints (April 28 - May 1) Retreats - Kananaskis

These retreats are strongly endorsed by our bishops and we truly believe that faith formation for everyone involved in Catholic education is a must.

SPICE (focus is on classroom teachers and staff) and Blueprints (focused on administrators and Catholic education leaders) are ACSTA's preeminent faith formation and community building events. We encourage everyone to make these events a priority! Using his abundant energy, humour and stories, keynote speaker Mike Patin - a "faith horticulturist", will help participants at both retreats to take the time they need to rest, reflect and recommit to *sowing the seeds of faith* in Catholic education. And as a faith community, to affirm God's goodness and presence among us - enabling us to take the next step in our journey with God.