



# ACSTA HAPPENINGS

MONTHLY UPDATE FROM THE ALBERTA CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION

June 2013

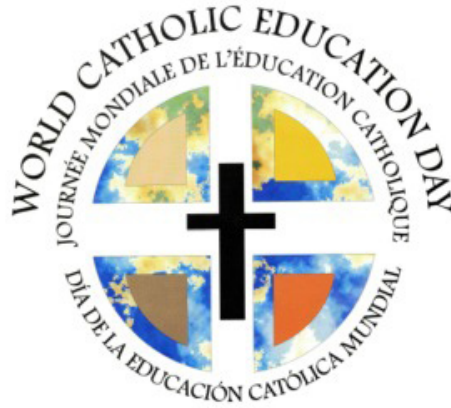
## 2013 World Catholic Education Day Recognized by the Alberta Legislature

On May 9, 2013, in celebration of World Catholic Education Day, ACSTA President, Tony Sykora, ACSTA Executive Director, Dean Sarnecki, Archbishop Gerard Pettipas, Bishop David Motiuk, and Bishop Gregory Bittman attended the Alberta Legislature for recognition of World Catholic Education Day and Alberta's Catholic schools.

In his opening introduction of guests to the Alberta Legislature, Education Minister Jeff Johnson acknowledged the ACSTA, the Alberta Bishops, and the value of Catholic education as part of Alberta's public funded education system. This sentiment was echoed by Edmonton-South West MLA, Matt Jeneroux, who spoke in the Alberta Legislature to recognize World Catholic Education Day saying:

*Mr. Jeneroux: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a pleasure to rise today and speak about World Catholic Education Day, which is being celebrated world-wide. The Minister of Education had introduced guests earlier this afternoon, and I would like to acknowledge them as well and thank them for joining us here today.*

*Mr. Speaker, this day is a time for Catholics around the world to take a moment to reflect on the importance of Catholic education and its values of peace, justice, and respect. It's also an opportunity to reflect on how Catholic education has served*



*students and parents over the years. This year's theme, You Will Be My Witness, will be celebrated by Catholic schools, boards, and parishes across Canada.*

*Mr. Speaker, Alberta's world-class education system is built on a range of educational choices, including separate, public, charter, francophone, and private schools. The availability of choice strengthens our education system and supports the rights of students and parents to have the options that meet the objectives of the School Act. This range of choice continues to bring new ideas and innovative approaches to learning that ultimately benefit all our students and help them to perform amongst the best in Canada and around the world. I'm personally proud of our Catholic education system, including the two schools in my constituency, Monsignor Fee Otterson and Sister Annata Brockman.*

*I would like to wish everyone a very happy World Catholic Education Day, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to our guests for being here today to celebrate this important day. (text at Alberta Hansard: [http://www.assembly.ab.ca/ISYS/LADDAR\\_files%5Cdocs%5C%20hansards%5CChan%5Clegislature\\_28%5Csession\\_1%5C20130509\\_1330\\_01\\_han.pdf](http://www.assembly.ab.ca/ISYS/LADDAR_files%5Cdocs%5C%20hansards%5CChan%5Clegislature_28%5Csession_1%5C20130509_1330_01_han.pdf))*

To be acknowledged in the Alberta Legislature and commended for the value that Catholic schools bring to Alberta's publicly funded education system is something that we are exceptionally proud of as an organization representing the great work all our member districts do in Alberta and the Northwest Territories sharing the Great Commission of our Lord (Matthew 28:16-18) to teach all nations.



## 2013 Blueprints Conference - Video Available

We are pleased to be able to share with you the presentations given by Dr. Richard Gaillardetz from the 2013 ACSTA Blueprints Conference. At the conference, Dr. Gaillardetz

spoke on the theme of *Spiritual Wisdom for Ordinary Christians*.

The videos can be found at:

[http://videoe.lcsd150.ab.ca/app/sites/index.aspx?destinationID=mM\\_JUYi\\_SUSZScTpKM0uQ](http://videoe.lcsd150.ab.ca/app/sites/index.aspx?destinationID=mM_JUYi_SUSZScTpKM0uQ)

The talks were videotaped and made available by Glenn Nowosad from the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA). We would like to thank them for the time and the work that they put into this. We are grateful that these valuable talks have been made available to everyone.

## 2013 Municipal Election Preparation Underway - October 21, 2013



Are you interested in becoming a Catholic school trustee in Alberta?

The ACSTA's guidebook to becoming a Catholic school trustee is now available on

the ACSTA website at <http://www.acsta.ab.ca/resources/electionbook> in both English and French.

The ASBA is hosting a series of sessions across the province to provide those interested in running for the position of school trusteeship with the information needed to run for election. More information on the ASBA sessions can be found on the ASBA website ([www.asba.ab.ca](http://www.asba.ab.ca)) at

*Become a School Trustee.*

## ACSTA Prayer Book Is Available Online

Prayers written by the ACSTA are now available online for download. The prayers, in both English and French, are written specifically to be used at various public functions.

To download a copy of the prayer book, go to:

<http://www.acsta.ab.ca/resources/prayerbook>

## ACSTA Member Board Good News Stories

“And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.”

Member boards of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association are excelling in faith, academic, athletic, and innovative programming.

Check out what is happening across Alberta and into the Northwest Territories on our new blog

Good News Stories ([www.acsta.ab.ca/good-news](http://www.acsta.ab.ca/good-news)).



## CCSTA Catholic Education: A National Conversation Conference

The CCSTA will hold its National Conversation on Catholic Education from Oct. 3-5, 2013 in Ottawa. Please read the attached information from the CCSTA to find out how to take part in this exceptional opportunity.

The ACSTA wishes you a relaxing and blessed summer. Look for our next edition of the *ACSTA Happenings* October 1, 2013.

Keep up-to-date with all ACSTA news by visiting our website at [www.acsta.ab.ca](http://www.acsta.ab.ca) or following us on Twitter at ACSTANews.



# **Attention All Members of the Catholic Community**

**Mark Your Calendars for the third  
*Catholic Education: A National Conversation Conference*  
Oct. 3-5, 2013, Ottawa**

**Theme:  
Witnessing to the Hope Within Us /  
Témoigner de l'espérance en nous**

**The conference will explore the relationship between  
Catholic Education and the New Evangelization.**

**Come share in the conversation about:**

- **Why this relationship is important**
- **Where evangelization needs to take place**
  - **How we all share in this mission**

**All members of the Catholic community including parents,  
trustees, clergy, parish and diocesan organizations, chaplaincy  
leaders, teachers, catechists, administrators and youth are invited  
to join in this national conversation.**

Visit [www.ccsta.ca](http://www.ccsta.ca) for more information.

Registration open and accommodations available for booking November 15, 2012.