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## Joan Crockett/Trustee/St Albert Ward

Thanksgiving is a perfect time to share our gratitude to those who make GSACRD a better place to learn, grow and serve.

Although GSACRD is recognized as one of the highest achieving of Alberta's 61 Divisions, it is the individual schools which earn these awards. We are grateful for the staff for their outstanding work and high level of commitment every single school day. The rich learning environment they provide, creates a perfect setting for each student to grow to their potential academically, physically, spiritually and emotionally.

Along with our exceptional staff we have school councils. School Councils are grass roots government. Here decisions are made that affect the most important resource in our school community – our students. Not only do they provide advisory support to School Admin they enhance student well being by providing and supporting the “wants” of school staff and the fun events that enhance student well being.

We give thanks to Mrs. Trottier and Mrs. Gauthier who oversee the whole student learning operation at St Gabes and to our senior Admin at Division Office for their exceptional leadership, vision, and commitment to GSACRD.

“God has two dwellings: one in heaven, and the other in a meek and thankful heart. “Izaak Walton

We are truly blessed and thankful to walk this learning journey with all this talent and support.

### School News

- Congratulations to St Gabriel Education Centre hosting their annual Terry Fox BBQ and activities. It sounded like it was a lot of fun.
- Congratulations to Stacey Palidar from St Kateri for being recognized as September Teacher of the Month at the St Albert Rotary meeting.
- A mural legacy project that depicts the story of St Kateri was installed September 17<sup>th</sup> by local artist Lewis Lavoie. The unveiling will likely take place in the spring for an in-person event with students and the community.

### **Division News**

- Justine Kuntscher, a first-year teacher at Bertha Kennedy was featured in an article recently in the St Albert Gazette. Justine, is the 2020 Edwin Parr Teacher award nominee from our Division. Games and magic tricks are her tools for engaging students. Lucky students!
- Staff from District Office Services Centre delivered wellness kits to all Greater St Albert Catholic Schools. The kits include various items for staff as initiative to boost wellness.
- A new podcast, titled “Living Well at GSACRD Schools” was launched in mid-September. Christina Mackinnon (Director of Innovation and Wellness) and Joseph Dumont (Assistant Superintendent of Human resources Services) discuss the importance of creating a culture of wellness within our school community. More podcasts to follow.

### **Action and Consent Items from Regular Board Meeting September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

- Renaming of Vital Grandin Catholic School to Holy Family Catholic School
- Review of Policies 2, 3, and 12
- Senior Admin tasked to draft a letter to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Health regarding division concerns related to the Covid – 19 pandemic.

### **Superintendent Report**

- Return to School Plan

**Next Board Meeting** - October 25 will be the organizational meeting following the election of October 18.

