



Priests are our shepherds and witnesses for Catholic Education. On November 13, Alberta's largest Catholic district, Calgary Catholic Schools invited priests of the Diocese of Calgary to join their principals for an afternoon discussion about Catholic education and advocacy. Special speakers that afternoon included Father Avi of Ascension Parish and Principal Frank Durante who spoke to the importance of relationship and the value of working together to meet the needs of students at Notre Dame high School. Parent GrACE member, Kimberly Cichon, gave a powerful testimony as to why she has chosen Catholic education for her children. Bishop McGrattan and Superintendent Gary Strother added their voices to the call for leadership and action in the cause for Catholic Education.



On November 9, the clergy of Edmonton Archdiocese hosted a GrACE session. The conversation was enthusiastic and vibrant. Thank YOU!



*I'm happy to be an advocate. If not us then who? We must be vocal cheerleaders and bearers of the faith.*

*Edmonton Clergy*



*Catch them young and bring into their lives the goodness of God. I am and will always be an advocate for this noble task.*

*Edmonton Clergy*

On October 9, Bishop McGrattan, the clergy, principals and trustees of Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools met for a morning of conversation on issues of Catholic education. As well, CTR Catholic's GrACE Group facilitated a GrACE engagement session. This annual gathering builds relationships and understanding between parish and school.



*Calgary Catholic principals with their parish priests.*



## GrACE Toolkit Tips for November

1. Ensure that you and your stakeholders complete the government of Alberta's survey on Choice in Education [right here](#). Bring your passion for Catholic education to our government!
2. Plan for, schedule and host a school leadership meeting that invites your priests into the conversation.



## November Engagement Numbers

#1 strategy for advocacy is a GrACE engagement session. The format of an engagement session is to share information, facilitate conversation, dialogue and provide feedback.

In the month of November, more than **491 Albertans participated in a GrACE engagement session**. If we add the engagement numbers from August-September-October more than **799** stakeholders have attended GrACE engagements!!!

Edmonton Archdiocese Clergy	85	<b>November Engagement Numbers</b>
CCSD & Priests of Diocese of Calgary	190	
Evergreen Administration	35	
Elk Island Catholic & OLPH	150	
Holy Family CRD (Manning & Grimshaw)	31	
	<b>491</b>	
Sept-Oct Engagement Numbers	308	<b>August-October TOTAL</b>
Alberta GrACE Engagement Fall 2019	<b>799</b>	

Please let us know when you engage your community so we can all celebrate!

### Welcome GrACE Groups #19 and #20

#### #20 Grimshaw GrACE Group- HFCRD



#19 Manning GrACE Group- HFCRD



#### Great Teamwork for Catholic Education!

On November 4, Our Lady of Perpetual Help parish and Elk Island Catholic Schools hosted a panel on Catholic Education. 150 stakeholders attended. Check out Grandin Media's article for the full story!

**Grandin Media's Article:**  
[The Greatest Threat to Catholic Education](#)



## Survey on Choice for Education

"Alberta has a long and proud history of education choice. This choice is on display within a **robust education system** that includes public and separate schools, francophone schools, charter schools, independent schools, early childhood education, and home education."

— Education Minister Adriana LaGrange



On November 21, Evergreen Catholic Schools hosted a GrACE session for their administrators and senior leadership team. The conversation was dynamic and encouraging and left the group excited to lead their schools and communities in advocacy for Catholic education.



Deadline for responding to the survey on Choice for Education in Alberta is December 6. Please take this opportunity to let your voice be heard in support of Catholic Education. Find the survey link [here](#).

GrACE Facebook address is

[www.facebook.com/GrACE4cathed](http://www.facebook.com/GrACE4cathed)

Grace email is [gracedirector7@gmail.com](mailto:gracedirector7@gmail.com)

GrACE Twitter address is

[@GrACE4cathed](https://twitter.com/GrACE4cathed)



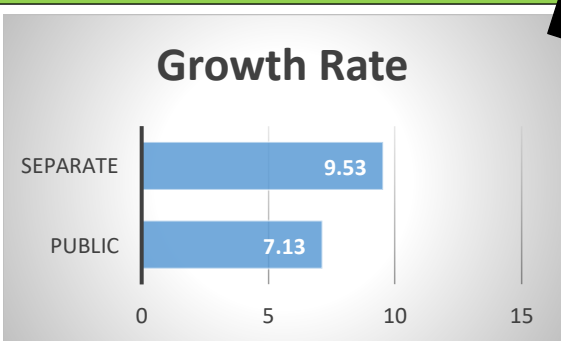
I feel empowered to go out into our community and be a strong voice for Catholic education.  
Evergreen Administrator



I have been inspired by the **unity** of the GrACE movement.  
Evergreen Administrator

The mission of GrACE is to **inspire, invigorate** and **embolden** the **spirit** of Catholic education in order to **unite, engage, educate** and **communicate** with one voice on its behalf.

## Public vs Catholic Enrollment Growth Rate



HOT OFF THE PRESS!!!  
Updated enrollment statistics



Thank you to ACSTA who, with the cooperation of the Council of Catholic Superintendents, has provided us with current and relevant data to support our advocacy work. Much appreciated!

## Public vs Catholic Enrollment (Alberta Ed. Website)

	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	Increase of	Growth Rate
Public	473174	483661	487454	32,426	7.13
Separate	166215	168687	173164	15,070	9.53