



CALGARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

June 4, 2021

Over the last several months, the Calgary Catholic School District's Board of Trustees has been considering the possibility of renaming Bishop Grandin High School. This work included directing, by carried board motion at the February 24, 2021, Regular Board Meeting our Chief Superintendent, Dr. Bryan Szumlas, to prepare a report regarding the possible renaming of Bishop Grandin High School. At our March 17th Regular Board Meeting, the Board of Trustees passed the following motion: 'That the Board of Trustees directs the Chief Superintendent to invite provincial representatives to be part of an extensive consultation process regarding the request to change the name of Bishop Grandin High School with the hope of bringing forth recommendations to the board by June 30, 2022'.

This important work has been underway for some time, and the committee struck was to meet this month. The recent heartbreaking discovery of the bodies of 215 Indigenous children at the former site of the Kamloops Indian Residential School has made this important work more urgent.

As a Board, out of respect for the need to grieve for these children, our immediate focus has been that of reflection, remembrance, and prayer. We recognize the importance of making a decision to rename the school in a timely and respectful manner. This determination cannot come at the cost, however, of consultation with our Bishop Grandin school community, Calgary Catholic staff, Bishop McGrattan and our Indigenous community. We want very much to hear your perspective. We have received a number of emails on this important issue, and in the upcoming days, we will be meeting to review feedback received from our Indigenous community, Bishop McGrattan, our Bishop Grandin School Community, and our community at large. Only after listening to these voices does the Board hope to make a decision shortly thereafter. Please know that we take this matter very seriously and value everyone's input as we create Calgary Catholic together.

We are inviting you all to participate in a ThoughtExchange that will give us your feedback and help us make our decision. Click on this link: <https://my.thoughtexchange.com/734111692> to provide your thoughts. It will be open until midnight on June 8, 2021.

Mary Martin
Chair, Board of Trustees