



Board Political Advocacy Plan



This plan seeks to advance and support the education system, ensuring it is properly supported by government policies, while also advocating for resources and decision-making autonomy at the local level. The plan ensures that trustees represent the interests of the Catholic school community, including students, teachers, and parents, while navigating the broader educational and political landscape.

Listed below are the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School's Board of Trustees five areas of political advocacy:

1 Support for continued publicly-funded Catholic education

STAR Trustees advocate for the ongoing provision of publicly-funded Catholic education, ensuring it remains accessible and sustainable for all families. They work to protect the funding model that supports its existence, growth and stability.

2 Advocate for appropriate funding of school divisions (WMA, Grants)

STAR Trustees advocate for fair and sufficient funding, including the integration of grants into per-student allocations to align funding with the school year, while facilitating smoother budgeting and ensuring the timely distribution of funds to reduce administrative burdens and better support students.

3 Advocate for a Catholic Beaumont High School

STAR Trustees advocate for the timely development of a Catholic Beaumont High School to accommodate the growing student population and provide high-quality educational spaces. Work to

ensure that infrastructure needs align with Beaumont community growth and student demand.

4 Community Mental Health Supports

STAR Trustees advocate for increased funding and resources for community-based mental health services to ensure accessible, timely, and effective care for individuals in need. Work to integrate mental health support into local schools, workplaces, and public services to promote overall community well-being and resilience.

5 Transportation – Ponoka / Lacombe

STAR Trustees advocate for enhanced school transportation services to ensure safe, reliable, and timely access for students across the Ponoka and Lacombe regions. Push for additional funding to support school bus fleets, reduce overcrowding, and address rural transportation challenges.