



Ted Paszek

Candidate for Trustee

Elk Island Catholic Schools

I am an experienced trustee seeking re-election in the Strathcona County ward of Elk Island Catholic Schools. My wife, Jan, and I are a long time residents of the County of Strathcona and active parishioners at our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Sherwood Park. My four children all graduated from Elk Island Catholic Schools and I have grandchildren currently attending Catholic schools in Sherwood Park. I am a retired Catholic teacher and Catholic school principal.

I am currently serving as EICS Board chair. I am a former president of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association and a past president of the Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association. I completed my doctorate in educational policy studies at the University of Alberta in 2012. I have developed expertise in the history of the constitutional rights for Catholic education in Canada. I recently served as an expert witness in the Saskatchewan Theodore court case regarding constitutional rights.

I wish to continue my work as an advocate for Catholic education. It has been my lifelong passion. Our Catholic schools provide an excellent education but even more importantly, we provide a Gospel values based education that helps develop the whole child, academically, physically, socially and spiritually. I will continue to work to remind our own community as well as the larger community of the importance of Catholic education. I am well aware that there are those who are pushing to do away with Catholic schools. I believe that Catholic education is precious to us as Catholics but it is also important to the fabric of Alberta society. More than ever we need the values given to us by the life and teachings of Jesus. Our Catholic schools teach us to care for each other and our environment which counters an increasingly individualistic and materialistic world.

Our staff is the most important resource we have in creating the best learning conditions for our students. I will continue to support the hiring of the best staff possible, ensuring that salaries and benefits remain competitive and that faith development and professional growth opportunities continue to be a priority for our staff.

Parents are our partners in education and I will continue listening to their voices.

Elk Island Catholic schools are a success story and I wish to help our Catholic schools become even more successful. I am devoted to providing the choice of Catholic education in the communities that we serve as Elk Island Catholic Schools.