



# News Release

## **RDCRS launches new community engagement platform**

***For immediate release – April 14, 2021***

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools (RDCRS) is excited to launch their new online engagement website, RDCRS Connects, in an effort to engage and communicate with community stakeholders on a new and innovative level, providing them with various feedback and participation opportunities.

“The well-being and success of the children and young people that attend our Catholic schools is the highest priority for the Board of Trustees. Effective stewardship of the division’s resources calls for the active engagement of all of our stakeholders,” said Board Chair, Kim Pasula at Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools.

“RDCRS Connects, our new online engagement vehicle, will improve the board’s capacity to hear and learn from families, students, school staff and members of our broader community. The board expects that this additional engagement tool will improve its ability to deliver results and improve accountability to the community we serve,” said Pasula.

RDCRS Connects was created using Bang the Table, a leading online engagement company specializing in community engagement, that will give students, staff, parents and community members access to discussion forums, surveys, polls and other input opportunities on the site. All user information will remain confidential, and will be monitored 24/7 to ensure comments and conversations follow the Division platform’s terms-of-use policy.

“The creation of RDCRS Connects is an extension of the Division’s Strategic Development Plan to engage with stakeholders more collaboratively. We are looking for their thoughts, and feedback to help us ensure our vision and direction matches the wants and needs of

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our community,” said Superintendent, Kathleen Finnigan at Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools.

The information collected will also help to provide school leaders and teachers a better understanding of the needs of the community. Careful analysis of the results will improve the Division’s understanding of areas of strength and effectiveness as well as those areas that could potentially need improvement. The results will enable RDCRS’ trustees, senior leadership team and school leaders to understand the attitudes and beliefs of the community and help target improvement strategies focused on student achievement, as well as school and district effectiveness.

RDCRS Connects is now live with its first feature project, “Reimagining RDCRS.” Interested participants are encouraged to register at [www.rdcrcsconnects.ca](http://www.rdcrcsconnects.ca).

*Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools serves over 10,360 students in 20 schools in Red Deer, Blackfalds, Sylvan Lake, Rocky Mountain House, Innisfail, and Olds, as well as an at-home learning program. It also supports the learning of over 1095 students in a Traditional Home Education Program. The Division is committed to serving children and parents with a complete offering of learning opportunities delivered within the context of Catholic teachings.*

**For more information, contact:**

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