

Brandie Towers - Red Deer Catholic School Board

Education Priorities

1. What specific steps would you advocate to improve the quality of education?

I would like to see more funding towards inclusive education, as well as funding enabling teachers more prep time and support staff to ensure the students are receiving the best education possible.

2. What are the main directions we need to take to develop the full potential of all students?

We need to work with the government to set up a strategy for guaranteed funding. Thus, enabling the school boards the ability to be proactive in budget planning.

3. Please indicate if you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree or have no opinion on the following statements

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	No opinion
Schools currently have enough specialized staff and resources to develop the full potential of all students.		X			
Increased class sizes will hurt the high school completion rate.				X	
The board should provide support for community schools rather than expanding alternative programs.					X
The school board should make sure that students with special needs should be provided additional supports.				X	
School boards should work with the provincial government to assure access to early childhood education and quality before and after school care programs.				X	
School boards should advocate for the Alberta government to fully fund junior kindergarten and full-day kindergarten as recommended by the Alberta Commission on Learning.				X	
School boards should advocate for the Learning Commission recommendation on class sizes at all grade levels.					X
School boards should advocate for renewed emphasis on the arts, trades and language learning in their schools.				X	
School boards should advocate for appropriate programs and supports for ESL students.				X	

Please comment on any of the above statements:

The Roles of the Trustee

1. What are the most important changes that need to be made regarding the role of school boards in Alberta?

They need to be consulted with and more communication lines being opened.

2. How can the school board and you as trustee most effectively influence the financial and policy decisions made by the provincial ministry of education?

Open communication.

3. Please indicate if you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree or have no opinion on the following statements

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	No opinion
A trustee must be a team player and always defend the decisions of the board, even if the trustee disagrees with those decisions.					X
All business of the board should be dealt with in open public sessions except when the board is required to protect the privacy of employees or students.				X	
Trustees should actively consult with constituents and school councils on important policy matters.				X	
At times, school boards need to take more active public stands on education issues, even if it means being critical of the provincial government.					X
The provincial government has seriously undermined the power and authority of trustees and school boards.					X

Please comment on any of the above statements:

Education Funding

1. In light of the current funding situation, what strategies should the board use to meet the needs of students and the community?

No Response

2. What changes respecting the funding of education would you advocate for?

No Response

3. Please indicate if you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree or have no opinion on the following statements

No Response

Privatization and Commercialization

1. Should the provincial government continue to use Public Private Partnerships (P3s) for building new schools, what guidelines would you propose be placed on P3 contracts?

No Response

2. What limitations, if any, should the school board place on the involvement of private firms in schools?

No Response

3. Please indicate if you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree or have no opinion on the following statements

No Response

School Infrastructure

1. What reasons, if any, might you vote for the closure of a school?

No Response

2. Please indicate if you strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree or have no opinion on the following statements

No Response