

MEGAN RICHARDS

Yellowknife Catholic Schools
2026 Trustee Candidate Profile



Biography:

I grew up in the small town of St. Anthony, Newfoundland, where community, education, and supporting one another were an important part of everyday life. For the past eight years, I have proudly called Yellowknife home, where I have built my career and raised my family. During my time in Yellowknife, I had the privilege of working at St. Patrick High School. That experience gave me the opportunity to know students, teachers, and support staff personally and provided valuable insight into the realities of working and learning within a school community. Although my career has since taken me into a different field, my interest in education and the development of young people has remained important to me. My current professional experience has strengthened my skills in communication, collaboration, planning, and working with people who bring different perspectives to the table. I am grateful for the opportunity to put my name forward and potentially contribute to Yellowknife Catholic Schools in a new capacity.

Question 1: Why are you running for trustee?

My interest in becoming a trustee comes from wanting to reconnect with education in a meaningful way and contribute to a system that has been an important part of my life in Yellowknife. Working at St. Patrick High School gave me an opportunity to see education from inside the school environment. I came to know many students and staff and saw both the rewarding moments and the challenges they experienced. Even after changing careers, those experiences stayed with me. I am now at a point where I would like to contribute from a different perspective. The trustee role provides an opportunity to participate in the long-term direction of the district, ask thoughtful questions, understand the needs of the school community, and contribute to decisions that will affect students for years to come. For me, running is ultimately about giving back and becoming involved again in something I continue to care deeply about.

Question 2: What is the biggest challenge facing Yellowknife Catholic Schools, and how would you address it?

One of the significant challenges facing education is balancing available resources with the increasingly diverse needs of students and schools. Those needs can extend far beyond academics. Schools may require specialized supports, appropriate staffing, programming, professional resources, and the ability to respond to circumstances that change over time. Decisions about resources therefore need to consider both immediate needs and the longer-term sustainability of the district. As a trustee, I would approach these decisions by ensuring I understand the information presented to the Board, asking questions where additional clarity is required, and considering the impact of decisions across the entire district. I would also support continued advocacy for the resources required to provide quality education. At the Board level, I believe responsible financial oversight, clear priorities, evidence-informed decision-making, and constructive relationships with administration and government are important parts of addressing these challenges.

Question 3: How will you support both student success and Catholic education?

I believe education should help students develop academically while also helping them become confident, compassionate, respectful, and responsible members of their community. Catholic education has an important role in bringing those objectives together. Values such as compassion, service, dignity, respect, and care for others can be demonstrated not only through religious education, but through the culture created within our schools and the way students learn to treat one another. As a trustee, I would support the district's responsibility to provide strong educational opportunities while maintaining the Catholic identity and values that distinguish Yellowknife Catholic Schools. I would also keep student well-being central when considering Board-level decisions. Every student comes to school with different strengths, circumstances, and needs. A strong education system should provide students with the opportunity to develop their abilities, feel that they belong, and leave school prepared for whatever path they choose next.

Question 4: What experience or perspective makes you the best candidate for the role?

I would bring a perspective shaped by having experienced Yellowknife Catholic Schools from inside the school environment, as a parent and community member, and now as a professional working outside the education system. My time at St. Patrick High School gave me an understanding that statistics and reports do not always capture the full reality of a school. I had the opportunity to know students, teachers, and support staff and became familiar with some of the everyday and longer-term challenges they experience. That perspective has remained

valuable to me. My current career has developed a different set of skills, including strategic planning, reviewing complex information, coordinating competing priorities, communication, and working collaboratively with multiple stakeholders. I would bring those experiences to the Board with an open mind. I am comfortable asking questions, learning from people with greater subject-matter expertise, considering different perspectives, and working toward practical, well-informed decisions.