

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## For immediate release – October 7, 2015

## Catholic school enrolment nears 17,000

Student enrolment at Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools (GSCS) has exceeded expected growth, adding 300 students over last year (growth of 1.8 %), for a total of 16,934 students.

## Some key figures include:

	Sept. 30, 2014	Sept. 30, 2015	Growth
Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 8*	11,711	12,079	368
Grades 9-12**	4,923	4,855	-69
Division Total	16,634	16,934	300

<sup>\*</sup>Includes home school

"We're encouraged that parents continue to choose a Catholic education for their children," said Diane Boyko, chair of the GSCS board of education. "It's clear that parents want spiritual growth and development for their children, on top of the intellectual, physical, artistic, emotional, psychological and social development we offer."

Growth in language programs, including French, Cree, and English as an Additional Language is representative of an increasingly diverse city population and student body.

_	Sept. 30, 2014	Sept. 30, 2015	Growth
Cree bilingual program	262	346	84
French immersion program	2,442	2,630	188
Ukrainian bilingual program	254	223	-31
English as an Additional Language	1,552	1,845	293
International Student Program	150	203	53

<sup>&</sup>quot;As our city and surrounding areas experience growth, our language programs become increasingly important to serve our diverse communities," said Boyko.

With 45 schools and nearly 17,000 students, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools provides Catholic education from pre-kindergarten through Grade 12, rooting students in their faith, helping them grow in knowledge, and encouraging them to reach out and transform the world.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Includes cyber school and adult learners 22 years of age or older