

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## For immediate release - October 12, 2015

## Catholic school enrolment surpasses 17,000

Student enrolment at Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools (GSCS) has exceeded expected growth, adding 503 more students—a three per cent increase—over last year's enrolment. Growth exceeded the projected 365-student increase by 138, bringing total enrolment to 17,437 students.

## Some key figures include:

	Sept. 30, 2015	Sept. 30, 2016	Growth
Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 8	12,079	12,529	450
Grades 9-12	4,855	4,908	53
<b>Division Total</b>	16,934	17,437	503

"The fact that so many parents entrust us with the education for their children is quite humbling," said Diane Boyko, chair of the division's Board of Education. "It shows a real demand for Catholic, faith-based education that fosters spiritual growth as well as intellectual, physical, social, emotional and artistic development."

Part of the growth comes from Martensville and Warman, where kindergarten classes are being offered by the division for the first time. Space is being leased in each of the cities before the new schools—Holy Mary and Holy Trinity, respectively—open in the fall of 2017.

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, 2015	Sept. 30, 2016	Growth
Cree bilingual program	346	413	67
French immersion program	2,630	2,805	175
English as an Additional Language	1,845	2,007	162

With 44 schools and over 17,000 students, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools is Saskatchewan's largest Catholic school division, providing Catholic education from pre-kindergarten through Grade 12 in Saskatoon and area, Biggar, Humboldt, Martensville and Warman. We are rooted in faith, growing in knowledge and reaching out to transform the world.