

January 15, 2021

Superintendent's Update: Students, Parents/Legal Guardians, and Staff

I hope that you all had a great week. It has been a week of excitement with students returning to schools and a special event on the Church's liturgical calendar. On January 10th we celebrated the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, commemorating the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River. *"You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit...how he went about doing good and healing...for God was with Him"* (Acts 10:36-38). Indeed, through our baptism God is with all of us and the Holy Spirit serves as a constant source of inspiration, enlightenment and guidance.

We had a wonderful start back with in-person learning. As we continued to follow [public health measures](#) this week, on Thursday, January 14, 2021, we learned from Dr. Deena Hinshaw, Chief Medical Officer of Health, that regular school updates will be provided on the [Alberta Health website](#) and simplified terminology will be used. She explained that as of January 18, 2021, the following terms will be used by Alberta Health Services when describing positive cases of COVID-19 in schools:

- Alert: 1-4 cases
- Outbreak: 5+ cases

The term "watch," which many partners found confusing, will no longer be used.

We have updated our [Parent Guidebook for Re-Entry: 2020-2021](#) accordingly, with any relevant changes. Our [website](#) and official social media channels ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)) are also reliable sources of Division news and announcements.

Our [2021 Pre-K & Kinder Virtual EXPO](#) was held on **January 14**. If you did not have an opportunity to participate in this online event, please contact your designated school to learn about our dynamic Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten English and French programming, Sports and Recreation Academies, and how to register your child(ren) in one of our schools.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the three [virtual information sessions](#) regarding the benefits of French Immersion Kindergarten in Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools. Please [join us](#) to hear from some of our families, who will share their personal experiences with French Immersion in our schools. Time will also be allotted in these one-hour sessions for questions and answers. Questions can either be submitted in advance, using the online [registration form](#), or asked during the live events. **All sessions will start at 6:30 p.m.**

| Date | Host School |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Tuesday, Jan. 19 | École Marie Poburan |
| Tuesday, Feb. 9 | École Father Jan |
| Tuesday, Feb. 23 | École Notre Dame |

Please [register](#) by **Jan. 15** and **Feb. 5** for the January and February sessions, respectively. After you submit your online registration, you will receive a confirmation with details on how to access these virtual sessions.

With the hope of vaccines becoming available to the general public in the coming months and a greater degree of normalcy to life sometime soon, we can look forward to the regular, everyday things as they will seem new and exciting. I am anxiously awaiting the time when we can have an unmasked visit with friends and family in our homes, as I am sure we all are.

Take care and God bless.

Sincerely,

Dr. Clint Moroziuk
Superintendent of Schools