

January 22, 2021

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

With gentle winter days, we are blessed to be back in school as a faith community in our second week in Ordinary Time. We have been celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and our school communities have focused on, and prayed for, unity of Christians all over the world. We have been praying to dissolve the barriers that divide Christian communities in order to aspire to become one body in Christ.

On Thursday, January 21, 2021, Dr. Deena Hinshaw, Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health, emphasized that declining COVID-19 case numbers show that current health restrictions are working. She asked that Albertans continue to sustain such measures, and we thank you for supporting us to keep our schools safe.

Alberta school jurisdictions also received an updated [Guidance for School Re-entry - Scenario One](#). Key changes are related to language use when Alberta Health Services' staff report on cases in schools. They will use the following terms when describing positive cases of COVID-19 in schools: Alert (1 case/2-4 cases) and Outbreak (5-9 cases/10 + cases). An investigation is triggered when 2 or more cases are identified in a school. When the number of cases reaches 5+, the investigation will be reported as an Outbreak (5-9) or Outbreak (10+) on the school status map. "Watch" will no longer be used. In addition to these changes, we have updated our [Parent Guidebook for Re-Entry: 2020-2021](#) accordingly. Our [website](#) and official social media channels ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)) are also reliable sources of Division news and announcements.

As we look ahead to the 2021-22 school year, we are interested in gathering your preliminary thoughts about whether you would prefer to access face-to-face and/or online education for your child(ren). We will ask for your feedback again as we get closer to the summer, so this survey will provide us with your thoughts right now. Thank you in advance for answering this very [brief survey](#) by Friday, January 29, 2021.

Virtual open houses are underway in our schools, and we warmly welcome you to join us virtually. Please learn more about our open houses [here](#).

For families who are considering registering their child in Kindergarten French Immersion, we are hosting 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 be allotted in these sessions for questions and answers. Questions can be submitted in advance, using the online [registration form](#), or asked during the live events. **All sessions will start at 6:30 p.m.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Host School</u>
Tuesday, Feb. 9	École Father Jan
Tuesday, Feb. 23	École Notre Dame

Please [register](#) by Feb. 5. After you submit your online registration, you will receive a confirmation with details on how to access these virtual sessions.

Thank you for being partners on this journey of learning together during a pandemic. Everyone's willingness to research questions that arise and to understand and sustain health measures together enables us to be vibrant faith-filled, hopeful companions on this journey. Take care and God bless.

Sincerely,

Dr. Clint Moroziuk  
Superintendent of Schools