

School Council Newsletter

May
2021

Almost time to get those gardens going. Thank you to all who purchased plants from our recent Growing Smiles fundraiser. We hope you enjoy. Please see below for news and updates from our recent meeting.

Draft K-6 Curriculum. The Government is still seeking feedback on the DRAFT which is planned to be piloted in participating schools in September 2021. We encourage all staff, parents, and guardians to read the curriculum and complete the survey at this link: <https://extranet.gov.ab.ca/opinio6/s?s=public2021EN> as soon as possible before the pilot implementation. To see the full DRAFT curriculum please [CLICK HERE](#). If you have specific concerns or feedback regarding the current draft, we also encourage you to write to your MLA, the Minister of Education, and Premier.

To find your MLA please [CLICK HERE](#)
Minister of Education, Adriana LaGrange education.minister@gov.ab.ca
Premier of Alberta, Jason Kenney premier@gov.ab.ca

ECSD Response to the Curriculum. Edmonton Catholic Schools has released its analysis of the new DRAFT K-6 Curriculum presented by the Government. The entire report is publicly available on their website. You can access this document using this [LINK](#).

Other Curriculum Analyses. You can also find diverse, non-partisan, research-informed scholarly and expert advice / analysis on the DRAFT K-6 curriculum at <https://alberta-curriculum-analysis.ca/>, an initiative supported by the Associate of Alberta Deans of Education.

Registration 2021-2022. Reminder to families, you have until **August 16, 2021** to commit to attending Holy Cross in-person or registering for online learning. As before, ECSD has advised that there are not enough students registered for online French Immersion for 2021-2022 (Grades 4-9) for them to support the French Immersion online programming. Online learning will still be available for K-12, but only in English.

New Principal. As we mentioned in our April Newsletter, Mme. Lorraine Sylvestre has been reassigned to Our Lady of the Prairies and will be leaving Holy Cross after the end of the year. We wish Mme. Sylvestre all the best in her new post as we welcome our new Principal, Mme. Marlene Forest-Wallace who will be joining us at our June meeting.

Staff Appreciation. In May we celebrate our staff and thank them for all their hard work throughout the year. We are currently planning for Staff Appreciation Week (including catered lunch and other treats) which is tentatively scheduled for **May 25-28** for when staff and students return to Holy Cross in-person, but like all things this year, is subject to change depending on restrictions. Take some time during that week to thank a staff member and show them your appreciation! Let's make our staff feel special.

School Council Meetings. We only have one more meeting left this school year (June 8). Meetings are always open to all those involved in the school community, including parents, guardians, and staff. We encourage you to join us whenever you can. If you are interested in attending, please email holycross.schoolcouncil@gmail.com to receive link.

If you have any ideas for new events, suggestions for speakers, questions, or a topic you want to know more about let us know at holycross.schoolcouncil@gmail.com.

Important Dates

May 25-28 – Staff Appreciation Week

June 8– Council Meeting

June 24– Full day

June 25– Early dismissal

Aug 16 – Deadline to commit to online/in-person

School Closures

May 21– PD gr 7-9 only

May 24– Victoria Day

We hope everyone stays healthy and safe and wish everyone a happy May.

Liaison Corner

St. John the Evangelist Parish

At this time only 15 people are allowed at any given mass, so Sunday Masses in May are reserved for First Holy Communicants and their families. Weekday masses for May are already booked. Additional masses will resume in June, hopefully with higher capacity. Live streamed masses can be viewed at link below.

Check out last week's email from St John's Flocknote [CLICK HERE](#).

May is the month of Mary. Pope Francis is asking for a global prayer of the Rosary during the month of May for an end to the pandemic. [CLICK HERE](#) to view. For a guide on how to pray the Rosary [CLICK HERE](#).

Here are some links to see mass at home:

<http://grandinmedia.ca/livestream/> (St. Joseph the Basilica)

<https://www.facebook.com/archedmonton/> (St. Joseph the Basilica)

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnnevangelistdm/?f=715797901944723/> (St John)

[CLICK HERE](#) for weekly Bulletins from St John or call 780-452-3988 for more information.

Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)

ASCA Donations. ASCA urgently needs our help. ASCA received a \$500,000 reduction in grant funding and needs \$300,000 **by June 15** to sustain operations for next year. Donations, which will be matched with an additional 15% from ATB, can be made by clicking [HERE](#). ASCA is a registered charity (#125812651 RR 0001).

ASCA AGM. The ASCA AGM was held Apr 25, 2021. 272 School Councils were represented at the AGM. New Advocacy Resolutions were presented for discussion and voting. Ecole Holy Cross Council Chair, Veronica Coronado, attended the AGM and voted on behalf of Holy Cross as per Council majority votes. See [HERE](#) for results of the voting. For an overview on ASCA's Advocacy role [CLICK HERE](#).

K-12 Education and Covid-19 Resources

<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/education-in-alberta/education-and-covid-19>

Canadian Parents for French (CPF)

CPF also invites parents who have concerns about the DRAFT K-6 curriculum to write to their MLA, the Education Minister Adriana LaGrange, or to the Premier. Victoria Wishart, President of CPF Alberta has written a letter regarding the DRAFT K-6 curriculum and it can be found at the following link: <https://ab.cpf.ca/en/we-are-worried-about-our-kids-future-and-you-should-be-too/>

Fun French Hour – Summer 2021 Program July 19th – Aug 9, 2021 – Ages 6-14

There will be 4 sessions a week, each with a different theme (Baking / Cooking, Art, Coding and Zumba). Sessions can be enjoyed by both you and your kids. The cost is \$5 per session. Must be CPF member. To join & receive further information on our Fun French Hour [CLICK HERE](#).

Check out CPF Alberta for French Tutoring Programs, French Camps, Contests, and Resources: <https://ab.cpf.ca/en/>

Upcoming Events of Interest

Rest Refocus Recharge May 14 9AM-10:15AM

What would it take for each one of us to really thrive? Optimize our learning? Transform our lives? Dr. Greg Wells answers these questions. [REGISTER HERE](#)

The Curriculum and Our Kids: A Forum for Parents and the Public on Curriculum and Development Monday, May 17 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Join: Jason Schilling, President, The Alberta Teachers' Association, Brandi Rai, President, Alberta School Councils' Association, Dr Mark Swanson, Coordinator of Professional Development, The Alberta Teachers' Association, Dr Richelle Marynowski, Associate Professor of Education, University of Lethbridge [REGISTER HERE](#)

Help! My Child Is In French Immersion and I Don't Speak French! May 25 7-8pm

This webinar for non-French speaking parents is designed to clarify the importance of their child's pursuit of French Immersion, how they can encourage and motivate their child at home, and to highlight the key role they play in their child's success. [REGISTER HERE](#)

At-Home Learning: Finding Success for the Whole Family May 26 7-8 pm

This session is designed to help parents, K-12, navigate and support their children through the complexities of at-home learning. [REGISTER HERE](#)



RAISE SOME DOUGH

Reminder that when you shop at COBS Crestwood and mention that you are helping "Raise dough for Holy Cross", 5% of your purchase will be donated back to the Parents' Society. All monies raised will be used to support School Council events and initiatives.

COBS CRESTWOOD

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