

School Council Newsletter

April
2021

We hope you enjoyed your Spring break and had a nice Easter with your family. Welcome to the last quarter of the school year! Please see below for news and updates from our recent meeting.

No Online French 2021-2022. ECSD has advised that there are only approximately 70 students in the district that have chosen online French Immersion for 2021-2022 (Grade 4-9) which is not enough to support the French Immersion online option. Online learning will still be available for K-12, but only in English. We encourage parents looking to keep up with French to check out Canadian Parents for French for tutoring options and other resources. Reminder to families, you have until **August 16, 2021** to commit to attending Holy Cross in-person or registering for online learning with Genesis Catholic Online School.

New Principal. This year has seen the retirement of several Principals in the district and these positions need to be filled. Mme. Sylvestre has been reassigned to Our Lady of the Prairies and will be leaving Holy Cross after the end of the year. Our new Principal will be Mme. Marlene Forest-Wallace, currently Assistant Principal at Holy Trinity Catholic High School. Farewell Mme. Sylvestre! We wish you all the best in your new posting and hope you remember Holy Cross fondly. Thank you.

Spring Plants Sale. Our Annual Spring Plants Sale is underway. Paper forms (and cash/cheque payment) are not an option this year. All purchases must be made online and paid by credit-card or e-transfer. Products include fertilizer, soil, annuals, veggies, herbs, planters and hanging baskets. All funds raised go to support School Council initiatives. Deadline to order is **Apr 30** and plants will be available for pick-up May 21. Please check out our website and feel free to share the information on your social media and tell your friends and family! Thank you for your support.

<https://holycross.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>

Draft K-6 Curriculum. As you are surely aware, the Government has recently released its draft of the new K-6 curriculum and there has been much coverage in the media. The Government is seeking feedback on the draft which will be piloted in participating schools in September. We encourage all parents 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 curriculum please [CLICK HERE](#). Please also see the side bar on the second page for some additional resources. We encourage you to write to your MLA, the Minister of Education, and Premier if you have any specific concerns or feedback with the current draft.

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

School Council Meetings. We only have two meetings left this school year (May 11 and 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 be added to the email list.

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

Apr 22 – Earth Day

May 9 – Mother's Day

May 11– Council Meeting

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

Happy Spring! We hope everyone stays healthy and safe.

Liaison Corner

St. John the Evangelist Parish

Mass. Weekday masses, which were cancelled this past week, resume April 20 at 8:30 am. St John livestreams every Friday mass at 8:30 am and needs 9 volunteers for each mass! Please call the Parish if you can help out. If you need to go to Confession please call the Parish to make an appointment. Parish phone number is 780-452-3988.

Donations Needed. As a result of COVID, St. John's has had a large decrease in parishioner contributions. Any donation will be greatly appreciated.

Other Livestreamed and Televised Masses:

<https://caedm.ca/PastoralScene/entryid/788/livestreamed-masses-and-events>

<https://grandinmedia.ca/livestream/>

St. Joseph's Basilica masses broadcast on Telus Optik TV Channel 877

Interested in growing your teen's faith? See <https://www.mikeisthird.com/biblestudy/>

May is a time to thank the Blessed Virgin Mary for the gift she gave us, Jesus. What better way to do so than to pray the Rosary! [CLICK HERE](#) for a guide on how to pray the Rosary.

[CLICK HERE](#) for full weekly Bulletins from St John's.

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).

2021 Annual ASCA Conference & AGM is April 23 - 25

This year's theme is "School Council: Leading with Purpose", promoting the work of school council in the school community to benefit student success. School Council representatives will attend sessions and vote on this year's advocacy resolutions to guide ASCA's work: <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/173828>. The ASCA board is also working to create a forum for discussion on the K-6 Draft Curriculum during the conference/AGM. If you have anything specific you would like to ask, please email holycross.schoolcouncil@gmail.com.

Canadian Parents for French (CPF)

Concours d'Art Oratoire will be virtual this year. To find out more click [HERE](#)!

Summer Camps. CPF Alberta partners with Alliance Française for Summer Camps! For a full list of camps in Edmonton [CLICK HERE](#). CPF AB members receive \$25 discount.

French Tutoring. Summer 2021 Program May 17 - Jun 13 for Ages 6 – 14. Must be a CPF Member. 4 weeks; one 45 min one-on-one session/week. \$20 administration fee/child. To join the summer waitlist [CLICK HERE](#).

Free French Cooking Classes. CPF NWT is proud to present "Ateliers de cuisine". Check out our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/cpfnwt> for more information.

Study. The University of Alberta is conducting a study to better understand why French Immersion programs are not always successful at retaining students. For more information and link to questionnaire, [CLICK HERE](#).

Curriculum Resources

[Biographies of Advisors on the draft curriculum](#)

Link to [printable curriculum](#) and [page](#) where you can see current K-12 Curriculum for comparison

Education Ministerial Order: what the government promised it would do with the curriculum

[Guiding Framework for Provincial Curriculum](#)

Blog: A [guide](#) to assessing the quality of school curricula

Some Opinions

[Alberta Teacher's Association](#)

[Carla Peck, Elementary Education professor, UA](#)

[David Staples opinion on math](#)

[Opinion on Computer Science](#)

[Richard Brown, retired teacher](#)

[Lethbridge School Division](#)

[Dyslexia Canada, ELA](#)

[Curriculum and Learning, UC](#)

There is a lot out there; some for; others against. Please research, compare and review various other resources, and form your own opinion. Then, let the Government know what you think.



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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