

August 27, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### **Revised School Resumption Handbook**

Recent revisions have been made to our [School Resumption Handbook](#). Revisions include updates to mask and physical distancing rules, guidelines on when to get tested for COVID-19 and isolation instructions, as well as instructions on what schools should do in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19. We will continue to update and edit this document as needed so please visit the district website regularly to ensure you have the most current information. Each school will be receiving posters that demonstrate “keep the space or cover your face” to help students understand mask protocols and wear their masks where social distancing is not possible.

### **COVID-19 Testing**

As per Alberta Health Services' direction, students with pre-existing conditions who have symptoms like those of COVID-19 (e.g., coughing, sneezing) should be tested and share the results with the principal prior to returning to school. We understand that some students may be delayed in resuming school as they wait for their results. Please visit the [AHS website](#) to book a test.

### **Grades 1-9 French Immersion Online Registration**

Registration for the grades 1-9 French Immersion program online will open this Friday, August 28 and will close at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 4. The link for registration will be posted on our website under [cssd.ab.ca/Parents/Registration/OnlineLearning](https://cssd.ab.ca/Parents/Registration/OnlineLearning). As well, a second round of registration for regular online programming will also be open during this time. High school online registration is ongoing.

### **Transportation**

Our Transportation department has released our plan for September. You can access it [here](#). September is normally a very busy time of year for transportation concerns and the COVID situation has added to this already significant volume of calls. We ask that you please be patient and also recommend that all parents/guardians have contingency plans in place for your child(ren) in the event that there are delays or challenges with bus routes.

### **2020-2021 Faith Theme**

We are pleased to announce our new three-part faith theme, “Faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.” (1 Corinthians 13:13). Faith, hope, and love are theological virtues, which help us to “live in a relationship with the Holy Trinity.” To deepen our understanding of the theological virtues, we will focus on each virtue separately, beginning with the virtue of faith for the 2020-2021 academic year.

We look forward to welcoming our students back to school next week. Peace and blessings on your day.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bryan Szumlas  
Chief Superintendent  
Calgary Catholic School District

August 18, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### **Online Learning Option**

On August 6, we released an [online learning](#) option for grades 1-12 students. If you have questions relating to online learning, please contact [St. Isidore \(grades 1-9\)](#) and/or [St. Anne \(grades 10-12\)](#) directly. The deadline to register is August 21. A second round to register for online learning will open in early September. This will help ensure all parents/guardians have had sufficient time to review their options and make the right decision for their child(ren). More information on this will come home next week.

### **Grades 1-9 Online French Immersion - Expression of Interest Survey**

Many parents have expressed interest in an online French Immersion option. We invite all parents (including those who have already expressed interest in online learning at St. Isidore) to please fill out our [Grades 1-9 French Immersion Expression of Interest Survey](#) by Monday, August 24 at 9 a.m. Registration for online French Immersion may follow, if we can confirm enough interest. Watch for updates.

### **School Resumption Handbook – Supporting FAQs**

We have posted our [School Resumption Handbook](#) on our website. This handbook is designed to help answer questions and support families and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional FAQs with answers to more specific inquiries are coming soon.

### **Staggered Entry (September 2-4) Clarification**

Soon principals will be contacting parents/guardians with their staggered entry schedule for Sep. 2-4. On these days, select groups or grades of students will enter the school to get familiar with new health and safety protocols. For example, on Sep. 2 perhaps grades 1-3 students come to school in the morning and grades 4-6 in the afternoon. Each school's schedule will be different; however, all grades 1-12 students will return and will begin their first day of curricular instruction on Sep. 8.

### **What happens if there is a reported case of COVID-19 at our school(s)?**

CCSD will work closely with Alberta Health and the Ministry of Education to decide on the next steps. This could mean that the close contacts in the school are sent home, an entire class or classes are sent home or the entire school population is sent home for 10 or 14 days of isolation. When students are isolating or sick, they remain at home with limited homework until they return to school. In some cases, the teacher may teach the class online while they too are isolating from home.

I would like to thank everyone for your continued patience and understanding as we prepare to go back to school. Let us have faith, hope and love as we face these challenges together. With God at our side, we can do this!

Dr. Bryan Szumlas

Chief Superintendent  
Calgary Catholic School District

August 14, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The 2020-2021 school year is fast approaching. We are working hard to prepare for the safe resumption of school under provincial scenario 1: In-school classes resume (near normal with health measures). Here are some important updates:

### **ThoughtExchange Results**

Earlier this month we asked the question, “What ideas would you like to share with CCSD to keep our students and staff safe in a world with COVID-19?” We had 3232 people participate. Participants shared 6733 thoughts and made 216649 star ratings. The top three thoughts include:

1. Cleaning throughout the day needs to be a priority and more custodial staff provided to do it.
2. Give clear communication about what happens if someone tests positive.
3. Government should give full support to school boards.

We also heard that the many participants support mandating masks in K-12, with some exceptions of course. These and many other of your thoughts are reflected in our School Resumption Handbook being released today.

### **School Resumption Handbook**

You can access CCSD School Resumption Handbook at: [ccsdinfo.ca/SchoolResumptionHandbook\\_Scenario1](https://ccsdinfo.ca/SchoolResumptionHandbook_Scenario1)  
This handbook is designed to help answer questions and support families and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our handbook will be supported by FAQ documents posted on our website.

### **Online Learning**

On August 6, we released an [online learning](#) option for grades 1-12 students. Grades 1-9 will take place through St. Isidore School and grades 10-12 will take place through St. Anne. Students who are interested in online learning will have to commit to a full year for program continuity (see the Resumption Handbook for more information). We currently have approximately 3000 students interested. If you have questions relating to online learning or to register, please contact [St. Isidore \(grades 1-9\)](#) and/or [St. Anne \(grades 10-12\)](#) directly. The deadline is August 21.

### **Masks Mandatory for Kindergarten to Grade 12 (Some Exceptions)**

When returning to school, **all students (K-12) and staff** will be expected to wear a mask (exceptions are outlined in the Resumption Handbook). Reusable masks will be provided to each of our staff and students upon returning to school. We encourage all parents to have their children practice safe use of masks. Useful information on masks as directed by AHS can be [found here](#).

Thank you to everyone for your continued patience and understanding as we work to plan for the upcoming school year.

May God bless and protect all of you.

Dr. Bryan Szumlas  
Chief Superintendent  
Calgary Catholic School District

Thursday August 6, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On July 21, the government announced that beginning September 2020, we will be proceeding with Scenario #1 – In school classes resume (near normal with health measures). We know that this news may cause anxiety. We have worked to develop an online learning program option that will begin in September (for students in grades 1-12). Since kindergarten is not mandatory in Alberta, parents of kindergarten children have the option to keep their children at home or register for face-to face learning at their nearby Catholic school.

Grade 1-12 students who are interested in online learning, will have to commit to a full year as we assign teachers to each class. At the end of the school year, students may return to their home school.

**2020-2021 Online Learning Details:**

- Catholic education remains our focus and appropriate resources will be used to support student Faith development online.
- Students would commit to a full school year of online learning.
- Registration and delivery of learning would be fully online. There will be no clubs or athletics.
- Diverse learners may register for online learning.
- Online learning will be offered in English. Other language options are not available at this time.
- Curriculum mandated by Alberta Education lessons will be planned and assessed by teachers.
- Access to reliable internet and a computer with a commitment for parental/guardian support at home is necessary.
- Staff will be assigned based on enrollment by CCSD for online learning.
- Due to room and resources, online learning is for CCSD students only.

We ask that parents/guardians please let us know if you would be interested in registering your child in online learning for the 2020-2021 school year. Registration is now open and will close on August 21 at midnight. To begin the registration process for online learning, please visit [ccsinfo.ca/OnlineLearning](https://ccsinfo.ca/OnlineLearning). Additional information will be shared with you upon registration.

Thank you for your input and patience as we prepare for the upcoming school year.

Dr. Bryan Szumlas  
Chief Superintendent  
Calgary Catholic School District