

November 6, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### **COVID-19 Update**

As of today, we have 43 schools with active cases of COVID-19. There are 137 positive cases of COVID-19 across our district and 3,877 students and staff are isolating. This increase in numbers is a serious reminder for us all to continue following our five key health measures and follow direction from Alberta Health Services (AHS). We also encourage all our families to avoid large gatherings. Together, we can help slow the spread of this virus. Also, please stay home if you are feeling ill with any of the provincially recognized symptoms.

### **Catholic Education Sunday**

Catholic Education Sunday will be celebrated this year on November 8, 2020. The theme is: Those who hope in the LORD shall renew their strength. (Isaiah 40:31).

This is an important annual event that celebrates the significant and critical role which our Catholic schools play in the province of Alberta. Publicly funded Catholic education is a gift, which provides faith-based education to more than 180,000 students in Alberta. This year, the occasion will be marked by special prayers in our parishes and schools and a letter from the Catholic Bishops of Alberta who work along with the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA), the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA) and Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education (GrACE) to ensure the future of Catholic education in our province. Please say a prayer for our schools and all who work to support them.

### **Cleaning Supplies**

When it comes to selecting cleaning supplies for our schools, our district follows the recommendations from AHS. While we know there are many products that can be used to meet disinfecting requirements, 1000 PPM bleach was selected with support from AHS due to its efficacy, its limited contact time (amount of time a surface must remain wet to be effective) and its availability. This is a highly diluted solution that is 99.9 per cent water and very safe for students and staff to use.

### **Remembrance Day**

Wednesday, November 11, is a statutory holiday for students and schools will be closed. We encourage all families to participate in two minutes of silence on November 11 at 11 a.m. May we remember all those who died fighting for our freedom.

### **New Websites Coming Soon**

On November 19, we will be launching a new Calgary Catholic School District website and a new website for each of our 118 schools. These websites have been redesigned to better serve our stakeholder groups. We hope that our new websites will provide visitors a seamless user experience where they can find and access the information they seek and encourage return visits to our websites.

Blessings,

Dr. Bryan Szumlas  
Chief Superintendent  
Calgary Catholic School District

November 6, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### **COVID-19 Update**

As of today, we have 43 schools with active cases of COVID-19. There are 137 positive cases of COVID-19 across our district and 3,877 students and staff are isolating. This increase in numbers is a serious reminder for us all to continue following our five key health measures and follow direction from Alberta Health Services (AHS). We also encourage all our families to avoid large gatherings. Together, we can help slow the spread of this virus. Also, please stay home if you are feeling ill with any of the provincially recognized symptoms.

### **Catholic Education Sunday**

Catholic Education Sunday will be celebrated this year on November 8, 2020. The theme is: Those who hope in the LORD shall renew their strength. (Isaiah 40:31).

This is an important annual event that celebrates the significant and critical role which our Catholic schools play in the province of Alberta. Publicly funded Catholic education is a gift, which provides faith-based education to more than 180,000 students in Alberta. This year, the occasion will be marked by special prayers in our parishes and schools and a letter from the Catholic Bishops of Alberta who work along with the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA), the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta (CCSSA) and Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education (GrACE) to ensure the future of Catholic education in our province. Please say a prayer for our schools and all who work to support them.

### **Cleaning Supplies**

When it comes to selecting cleaning supplies for our schools, our district follows the recommendations from AHS. While we know there are many products that can be used to meet disinfecting requirements, 1000 PPM bleach was selected with support from AHS due to its efficacy, its limited contact time (amount of time a surface must remain wet to be effective) and its availability. This is a highly diluted solution that is 99.9 per cent water and very safe for students and staff to use.

### **Remembrance Day**

Wednesday, November 11, is a statutory holiday for students and schools will be closed. We encourage all families to participate in two-minutes of silence on November 11 at 11:00 a.m. May we remember all those who died fighting for our freedom.

### **New Websites Coming Soon**

On November 19, we will be launching a new Calgary Catholic School District website and a new website for each of our 118 schools. These websites have been redesigned to better serve our stakeholder groups. We hope that our new websites will provide visitors a seamless user experience where they can find and access the information they seek and encourage return visits to our websites.

Blessings,

Dr. Bryan Szumlas  
Chief Superintendent  
Calgary Catholic School District

November 1, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you may be aware, the Government of Alberta has updated the [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#) for children under 18 as well as those who are 18 and over and attending high school. This revised checklist will take effect province-wide on Monday, November 2, 2020. Please note there is a separate checklist for adults.

The most significant change to the checklist is the removal of runny nose and sore throat from the core symptom list. The core symptoms that require students to isolate for 10 days include one or more of the following:

- Cough
- Fever
- Loss of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath

A student can return to school prior to the 10 days if they receive a negative COVID-19 test, symptoms are gone, and they are not considered a close contact of a positive COVID-19 test.

If a student has one of the secondary symptoms, they can return to school after monitoring their symptom for at least 24 hours and have noted improvement. Testing for COVID-19 is not recommended. Secondary symptoms include:

- Chills
- Sore throat or painful swallowing
- Runny nose or congestion
- Feeling unwell or fatigue
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Unexplained loss of appetite
- Muscle or joint aches
- Headache
- Conjunctivitis (pink eye)

If the symptom gets worse or additional symptoms develop, parents should continue to monitor their child and keep them home until the symptoms disappear. A COVID-19 test is recommended but not required.

Please see the attached Government of Alberta visual on the new symptom list effective Monday, November 2, 2020. [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist for Children and Youth](#)

Translated versions of the updated Alberta Health daily checklist as well as additional documents that have been amended to reflect the recent changes can be found at: [alberta.ca/returntoschool](https://alberta.ca/returntoschool).

We will continue to notify parents of active COVID-19 cases in their child(ren)'s school as soon as we are made aware of a confirmed case. Alberta Health Services will complete an investigation and families of students who are considered close contacts will be notified.

Thank you for your cooperation and support during this challenging time in our schools. Together, we can all work to keep our students, staff and school communities healthy and safe. Please direct any questions or concerns you may have to your school principal.

Blessings,

Dr. Bryan Szumlas  
Chief Superintendent  
Calgary Catholic School District