



Update Bulletin #3,

Dear parents/guardians,

It's hard to believe that the last week of the 2017/18 school year is almost upon us. In about 8 weeks or so a new school will open in our District and for your children!

SCHOOL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION UPDATE – On Monday morning I joined others in a site walk through at Sister Alphonse Academy. If you have ever built a house you will know that prior to taking possession of your home you completed a walk through to note any deficiencies. Over the next couple of weeks paint touch ups and repairs due to the inevitable dents and scratches will take place. We found out today that we can have furniture and equipment delivered to the school starting on July 3, 2018. Unfortunately, public occupancy of our building is still a few weeks away. The final paving and curbing around the school is now scheduled for the week of July 9, 2018. It means school tours will be delayed for a few more weeks.

NO NUMBER YET – We should find out in the near future about the phone number for the school. If you need to reach Mr. Lamer or Mrs. Kleparchuk during the summer you can email us or contact District Office at 780-459-7711 and they will pass on the message.

2018/19 SCHOOL GRADE CONFIGURATION – Greater St, Albert Catholic Schools and your SAA school administration have been monitoring our school registration since December. Our goal is to ensure that we provide excellent dynamic programming that meets the needs of all our students. At this time, for the 2018/19 school year we are actively planning for a K-7 configuration as current enrolment at the grades eight and nine levels may not support viable programming. We are excited about the opportunities for families to see the school once we have received keys and will continue to accept registrations at all grade levels. We are hopeful for additional registrations and there exists the possibility of offering grade eight and nine pending summer registrations and the availability of program resources and personnel. We shall contact parents of students in grade eight and nine in mid to late August with an update on program offerings and viability. All parents who have children registered in grade eight and nine have been notified of this in June.

GRADE 4 - 7 OPTIONS – Time to register! if you have a child in grade 4-7 you will receive an Options Selection Form this week. Children in grade 4 – 6 will pick three options from a menu of six choices for the 2018-19 school year. Students in grade 7 will select 6 options from a menu of 8 choices. We shall do our best to ensure that each child receives 2 of their 3 requests in grade 4-6 and four of their choices in grade 7. If you don't receive the form by June 29 please email Mr. Lamer. We would ask you to complete and send the form back by July 5, 2018.

MUSIC SPECIALIST – We are pleased to let you know that we are planning to hire a music specialist to provide instruction in music to students in grade K-6.

2018/19 PLANNING– Our teaching staff spent the day on Monday, June 25 planning for the 2018/19 school year. We continued to plan our year around common conceptual areas. We spent some time finalizing room assignments as classroom furniture and equipment will arrive early in July. We finalized some initial plans for our Spirit Week activities in September and we decided that we will host an Open House on August 23. More details will follow.

FRONT ROW CLASSROOM SOUND – Did you know that research indicates 25% of what teachers say is not heard by their students and that this can go up to 40% in classrooms where students are seated at the back of the room. Thank goodness teachers regularly move students in the classroom and provide flexible learning and seating options on a regular basis. Research has also shown the benefits of classroom amplification systems and devices for students of all learning abilities. Sister Alphonse Academy will have state of the art sound field systems by Front Row installed in all our classrooms. The system will also allow us to set up a multitude of bell schedules and bell zones in our school.

SAA CALENDAR – If you access our website and click on the sub title "CALENDAR" you will be able to see upcoming events at SAA from July through June of 2019. This includes PD/Staff Meeting Days and No Kindergarten days. Check this out by clicking on the following link <https://www.saa.gsacrd.ab.ca/about/calendar#/month/2018/07>.

SIGIS CHILD CARE UPDATE – Last Monday I was able to show the staff of SIGIS the room that they will be allocated to operate the Before and After School Care Program at our school. They were very excited and thought the school was beautiful. They kept saying, "wait until your parents see it!" Spot are still available so call SIGIS if you require child care services at school.

ECS PARENTS – Just a reminder for parents of children in Kindergarten, Mrs. Despines will be contacting you this coming week to schedule a short orientation visit prior to the start of the school year. This will occur in late August. She will also provide you with information about the Staggered Start Date. This facilitates a small group on your child's first day. Your child will start on either September 4 or September 5. I am also very pleased to let you know that we have tentatively assigned Mrs. Kim Shamir to teach kindergarten at Sister Alphonse. Kim brings a

wealth of experience at the early childhood and primary level to our school. I know she is excited to set up her classroom and meet you and your children.

We will continue to send out bulletins during the summer, but not on a weekly basis. As soon as we can provide tours of the building we will let you know. Have a great week and an awesome summer!

Sincerely,

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