



SAA Bulletin - Monday, August 17/20



We are busy preparing for the start of the 2020/21 school year and re-entry back to school.

August 17 - Bulletin - SAA Re-entry Update

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We hope that all of you are having a healthy, happy and safe summer! We are looking forward to welcoming all students, parents and staff back to **Sister Alphonse Academy** for another exciting year of learning. We thank you for your patience as we diligently work on creating a safe, caring and organized plan for our school re-entry for the 2020/2021 school year. Our district recently shared a comprehensive Parent Guidebook with Parent/Guardians regarding Re-entry on August 13, 2020. This document may answer many of your questions about what school will look like when we return to school on **August 31, 2020**. This [Parent Guidebook](#) will be revised as new health measures evolve and further information becomes available from the Ministries and Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health. See our [GSACRD district website](#) to read the most recent information available.

Health & Safety Protocols:

- Before coming to school each day, all staff and students must complete the Alberta government's [COVID-19 Information Screening Questionnaire](#), which is available in [multiple languages](#), to determine whether they **can attend or must stay home**. The form does not need to be submitted to the office. If your child has any symptoms, contact your school office to let your child's school know. Everyone who enters a school will see a sign that reminds them to complete the daily COVID-19 Information Screening Questionnaire before entering the building.
- On August 4, grades 4-12 students and all staff have been asked to wear masks and mask use will be mandatory in common areas and when physical distancing of 2m is not possible. K-3 students are not required to wear masks.
- Students with **pre-existing health conditions** that cause symptoms of illness should be tested for COVID-19 at least once before returning to school. A negative test will help show that symptoms are related to their pre-existing conditions, and not to COVID-19. This will establish what their baseline for being healthy looks like. Families should notify their school about any pre-existing condition and the symptoms it causes. As long as these symptoms remain the same, the student can attend school.
- Additional **hand sanitizer dispensers** have been installed in every school and division office and additional hand sanitizer has been provided to schools to enable individuals to practice good hand hygiene.
- It is recommended that **individual-sized hand sanitizer** bottles be purchased for your children so that they have this with them throughout the day.
- Students are encouraged to **bring their own water bottles** to school and **not** to share them. Water fountains will remain open and be cleaned regularly.

- Students are asked to have a **mask to wear upon entry** for the first day of school and when riding a school bus.
- Approved cleaning protocols have been put in place in all Division buildings. Custodial staff have been trained to identify high touch areas and to know how to clean, sanitize, and disinfect them.
- If your child becomes ill at school, your child will be placed in a safe space until you or your emergency designate picks up your child.

**More guidelines and healthy and safety protocols may be found in the [Parent Guidebook for School Re-Entry](#)*

Programming Choice:

As described in the *Parent Guidebook*, parents or guardians may choose whether they would prefer online or face-to-face learning. Students who learn online will be part of an online learning group with an assigned teacher from the Division. Online students will remain enrolled at the school where they registered for 2020- 2021. If you did not complete the division survey that was previously shared but you are interested in online learning, please contact Christine Samson, SAA Principal, at csamson@gsacrd.ab.ca. Once your child is enrolled, you will have a teacher assigned who will then share information required for school start up.

Student Drop off & Pick up Procedures:

- Adults bringing students to school will be asked to stay in their vehicle or outside the school, and to maintain a safe physical distance between themselves and others. Those who need to enter the school must book an appointment with the school office. Individuals without an appointment will not be able to enter the school.
- Parents/guardians are required to set an appointment in order to enter the school at this time. Communication will happen through email and phone calls. This means that if a lunch is forgotten, this will be resolved by first calling the school and then meeting the student outside or arranging to drop off the item at the office.
- All persons who enter the school will be required to wear a mask.
- All persons who enter schools or division buildings will need to sign in using the regular visitor/student sign in books.

Please contact the office if you require any assistance or clarification. Thank you.

Teacher and Class Configurations

Thank you to all families who have completed the registration process! We are working diligently on finalizing class lists and enrollment numbers and will be able to share more information about teacher and class configurations soon. If you know of someone who may be interested in attending [Sister Alphonse Academy](#), please encourage them to contact our office today.

Welcome Back to SAA Meet and Greet

Our Meet and Greet was scheduled for *Thursday, August 27th*, but due to COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings, this event will not be taking place. We will be working with our staff to create a meet and greet presentation and will be sharing further details shortly so stay tuned!

SAA Office Open – 9:00 am to 3:00 pm beginning Tuesday, August 18th

Our school office will be open to accept registrations beginning Tuesday, August 18th. We welcome all students and look forward to meeting all of our new families at Sister Alphonse

Academy. **Please note:** A registration is not considered complete until reviewed and approved by the school Principal.

Please Visit our Office to Check Registration Information or Update Your Information

Our school secretary Mrs. Despina has asked that all parents please call the school to ensure that all registration documents have been submitted and all paperwork has been 100% completed. If you have had any change in email or contact information, please call the office at **780-809-2996** to ensure this information has been noted and updated. Accurate phone numbers and email addresses are crucial in being able to have accurate communication with parents. Thank you in advance for attending to this important task.

SAA Spirit Wear Clothing Online Store

Throughout the school year students and staff are invited to wear their school colors and show school spirit! School clothing as well as a school ensignia mask is available for ordering until **August 26th** through the following link: <https://sisteralphonse2020.itemorder.com/sale> (Please note that this clothing order may take three to five weeks to arrive)

School Supplies

Click on the link to access [School Supply Lists](#) for the 2020/21 school year. Parents who chose to take part in the Staples School Supply Program can still order them.

Staples School Tools Program provides you with direct access to the school supplies your child will need – as provided by their actual teachers – and an easy way to order them without ever leaving home. You'll save time. You'll save money and you'll have exactly what you need to give your child the best start possible.

How do I start?

Go to Staples.ca/SchoolTools

Find / select your child's school, and grade.

Order your child's supply list when it appears.

Make any adjustments to the list to suit your child's individual needs.

Select free delivery with your paid order, arriving directly to your home within 2-3 days.

Kindergarten Programming

As per usual, Kindergarten classes will have a staggered start, on August 31st and September 1st respectively. Families will receive a phone call from the school to confirm the exact staggered start date. Providing a small group orientation provides a smoother transition for students for having a fun, engaging, successful year! Like all classrooms, Kindergarten classes focus on creating **cohorts** (a group of children and staff members assigned to them who stay together throughout the day). As much as reasonably possible, the classroom teacher will group students into **subgroupings or sub-cohorts** for play and activities. In addition, extra attention is paid to limiting interactions while waiting for parents at pick-up times and while students are waiting to enter school at drop-off times. These smaller groupings/sub-cohorts also spend time together at mealtimes, playtimes, and outdoor activities. If you are a new family to SAA and would like further information about the school please contact the office.

Bring Your Own Device

School owned technology lent out to students are high touch areas that require extra cleaning and sanitizing protocols. Students are encouraged to bring their own device to school if possible. If a student wishes to bring his/own device to school, here are some recommended the devices:

Laptop (ex. Macbook Pro, Macbook Air, Acer Aspire, HP Laptop, Toshiba Satellite Laptop)

Chromebooks (ex. Asus Chromebook, Acer Chromebook, HP Chromebook, Samsung Chromebook)

Cohorts & Options:

Students will be instructed in their classroom cohorts and teachers will move classrooms to teach different classes where possible. The option schedule and timetable established for this year will still be followed with some changes in entry and exit routines in addition to some activities being changed within courses in order to facilitate and support health and safety guidelines.

SAA School APP

The SAA App for iOS and android is now available. Just search for "My School Day" on the app store. When you run it, it will guide you through selecting Sister Alphonse Academy- this only needs to be done once. The app will be used to send out news and notifications from our school.

Volunteer Information

Please note that virtual field trips, in- class/classroom field trips and socially distanced community walking trips that follow COVID-19 health and safety protocols are the only trips being permitted at this time. We value our volunteers at SAA and we will let everyone know when the status of volunteers working in the schools changes. Thank you!

Snack Shack & Hot Lunch Program

Due to health and safety restrictions, the Snack Shack and hot lunch programs will not be taking place at this time, but we will keep you informed if/when the status changes.

Holy Family Parish Update:

Parishioners with a computer or device are now asked to register for weekend Masses on this site: www.pretix.eu/HolyFamilyParish/ For each weekend Mass, registration begins at 9:00am on Mondays and closes at midnight on Thursdays, or until a given Mass is full, whichever comes first. Please note that volunteers are needed for point of entry (2), ushering (2), and Extraordinary Minister (for the Masses presided by Fr. Jozef), a lector, and cleaners (2) for sanitizing after Mass.

There is an urgent need for volunteers at every Mass, both weekdays and weekends. We are very grateful to all the volunteers who helped us adjust to the new safety protocols for Mass. Please see the Holy Family Parish website at: <https://www.holyfamilyparish.ca/> for instructions and more information.

St. Albert Parish Update:

Please note that you can now sign up for next weekend Masses using the following link :<https://stalbertparish.hrp.ca/> There will be some spots reserved for those who do not have access to the internet. Sign up will be available through the above link, or by calling the Parish Office at (780) 459-6691, starting Monday at 10:00 a.m.

School News - Take a look at what's coming up! **Aug. 24 - 28**

Tuesday (18) - Friday (21)	<i>School Office Open - 8:30 am to 3:30 pm (phone in or book an appointment to come in)</i>
Monday (24)	<i>School Office Open - 8:30 am to 3:30 pm</i>
Tuesday (25)	<i>School Office Open - 8:30 am to 3:30 pm</i>
Wednesday (26)	<i>School Office Open - 8:30 am to 3:30 pm Staff Meeting/Planning Day</i>
Thursday (27)	Meet and Greet - Virtual Online <i>Staff Meeting/Planning Day School Office Open - 8:30 am to 3:30 pm</i>
Friday (28)	School Closed - <i>Blueprints Faith Development Day for all GSACRD Staff.</i>
Monday (31)	The First Day of Classes <i>Kinder - Staggered entry start</i>
Tuesday (1)	<i>Kinder - Staggered entry start</i>

God bless and take care.

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