



From the Principal's Desk...

Welcome back everyone to the 2025-2026 school year at Sister Alphonse Academy. We are excited to get back to work and see our students and families very soon. If you are new to SAA, welcome to our wonderful school, we are so happy to have you with us. If you are an existing family, welcome back to another year of faith, fun and learning.

As we make our way to the beginning of the school year, please see a list of things that families should know about SAA. Have a great weekend everyone, we will see you at the BBQ on August 28th from 4:30 - 6PM! God Bless.

Week At a Glance:

August 28th: Welcome Back BBQ (4:30-6:00PM)

September 1st- Labour Day(No School)

**September 2nd- Gr. 1-9 ALL students
Kindergarten A-M**

September 3rd: Kindergarten N-Z

Prayer To Start The Year



**Lord Jesus,
I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year.
Allow me to experience Your presence in the many
blessings You put before me. Open my eyes to the new
challenges and exciting opportunities that this new
school year brings. Open my heart and mind to new
friends and new teachers. Give me a generous spirit to
be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept
new opportunities. Help me to be attentive to my
teachers and let me experience Your presence in my
new friends. Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!
Amen**

SAA's Mission and Vision

MISSION:

Sister Alphonse Academy is a welcoming learning community that awakens the hearts and minds of students while educating and nurturing each to learn, live fully and serve others.

VISION:

Excellence in learning through faith, learning and engagements.

At SAA we strive to: Serve, Achieve, Aspire



Welcome Mr. Kary and Mrs. Kantolic (Jr. High)



Staffing Update

We just wanted to let everyone know that Mrs. Rawcliffe will be away for the first few months of the school year as she recovers from major surgery. In the meantime, we are in the process of hiring someone to take over in Mrs. Rawcliffe's absence. Once we have an update we will let everyone know. Please send positive thoughts and prayers to the Rawcliffe family. The power of positive thinking and prayers cannot be overestimated. Thanks everyone and get well soon Mrs. Rawcliffe!



Bell Schedule

Please see the attached bell schedule for the 2025-2026 school year.

For the AM Kindergarten Program, please note that dismissal is at 11:07 AM

TIMES	
8:15 - 8:20	Entry
8:20 - 8:24	Announcements
8:25 - 9:05	Block 1
9:05 - 9:45	Block 2
9:45 - 10:25	Block 3
10:25 - 10:42	Recess
10:42 - 10:45	Warning Bell
10:45 - 11:25	Block 4
11:25 - 12:05	Block 5
12:05 - 12: 30	Recess
12:30 - 12:52	Lunch
12:52 - 12:55	Warning Bell
12:55 - 1:35	Block 6
1:35 - 2:15	Block 7
2:15 - 2:57	Block 8
2:57 - 3:00	Clean up and Dismissal

Welcome Back Event

- **August 28th**
- **4:30-6 PM**
- **Simple Meet and Mingle**
- **Drop off School supplies**
- **Meet staff**
- **Grab a hotdog**
- **Take a tour of the school**



First Day of Classes

September 1st: (Labour Day - No School)

September 2nd: (All students in grades 1-9)

Kindergarten- Students A-M

September 3rd: Kindergarten Students N-Z



School Apparel

Limited Availability at school to purchase:

Water Bottles: \$5.00

Cinch Bags: \$5.00

Baseball Hats: \$10.00

Winter Toques: \$10.00

T-Shirts: \$10.00

CASH ONLY



Online Store Ordering:

<https://sisteralphonseacademy2025.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>

-Closes September 18th

-4-6 week turnaround

-Items sent to the school for pickup

SAA Nutrition Program

For those families new to the school, we wanted to let you know that SAA has a nutrition program available to all students. Each day a piece of fruit, or vegetables, yogurt, etc. will be available to those students who want it. This program is free of charge to families. Students will be able to access nutrition program items at the snack shack at recess and lunch times.



Entrances For Students

Entry to the Building

All students are to enter and exit through assigned entrances.

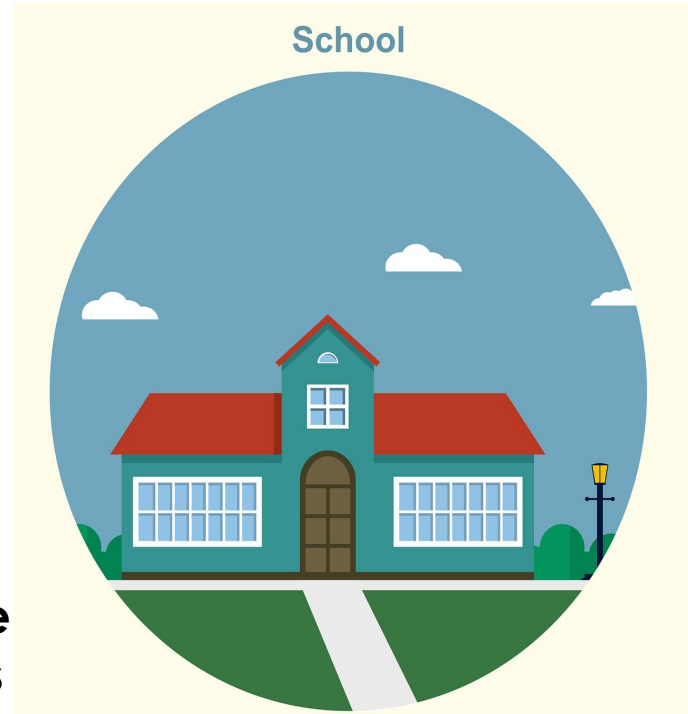
Main Entrance – Kindergarten/SIGIS

East Entrance – 1, 2, 3,

South Entrance (Back Field)- 4 & 5

West Entrance - 6, 7, 8, 9

***Other than the main doors, entrances are marked on the glass above the entrances with the appropriate grades**



Parking

Bus Lane: Just a reminder that our **bus loop will be for school busses, REC busses and daycare vans only.** With the amount of traffic at the start and the end of the day, it is important to keep these areas as uncongested as possible to keep everyone safe. Please utilize parking out on the main street to ensure student transport vehicles have access to the bus lane.

SIGIS Parking: For those families utilizing SIGIS, there is a small window of 7-8AM that parents can access the main bus loop before busses start rolling in.



Senior Girls Volleyball Tryouts

First round of tryouts! All grade 7-9 students are invited. **NO EXPERIENCE** necessary.

- Tuesday Sept. 2nd @ 3:00-4:45 pm
- Wednesday Sept. 3rd @ 3:00-4:45 pm

Second Round(by invite only)Some gr. 7/8 students may be sent down to the junior level.

- Thursday Sept. 4th @ 3:00-4:45 pm
- Friday Sept. 5th @ 3:00-4:45 pm

Team practices will start Sept. 8-12.
U of A Fog Tournament Sunday Sept.14th.



Boys Volleyball Tryouts

Tryouts! All grade 7-9 boys are invited. **NO EXPERIENCE** necessary.

- **September 4th 3:00-4:15 pm**
- **September 5th 3:00-4:15 pm**

Possible tournament Sept. 14th.



Team practices will start Sept. 8th.

Knight's Notes (K-6)

SAA's elementary Knight's Note Program allows faculty to recognize students for working hard, being respectful, showing kindness, etc. Students are then put into a draw and prizes awarded at Friday assemblies.



Jr. High Knight's Program

We are excited to continue with our Jr. High Knights Program for the 2025-2026 school year. Our positive behaviour support program is designed to honour students who consistently do great things everyday, but who may not always get recognized. Jr. High students are nominated by faculty each month to participate in a lunch or fun activity generously sponsored by a family or local business (\$300). If this is something you are interested in sponsoring, please reach out to Mr. Hinks at dhinks@gsacrd.ab.ca for more information.

Kindness

Nobel

Integrity

Genuine

Honour

Teamwork

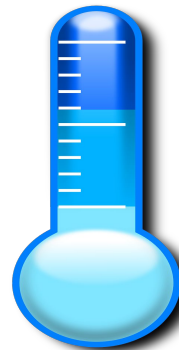
Spirit



Air Quality/Temperature Reminders

The new cutoff for sending students outside during cold days will be -25 with the wind chill. Please make sure students come to school in the proper attire to be able to go outside in these temperatures.

Air Quality: The cut off for air quality for students to go outside is 7 on the index. That said, please know that students with asthma, medical conditions or issues with breathing can remain inside during those days when the air quality is poor.



SAA School Council



***First School Council Meeting (AGM) on September 16th.**

***6:30 PM**

***SAA Foods Lab**

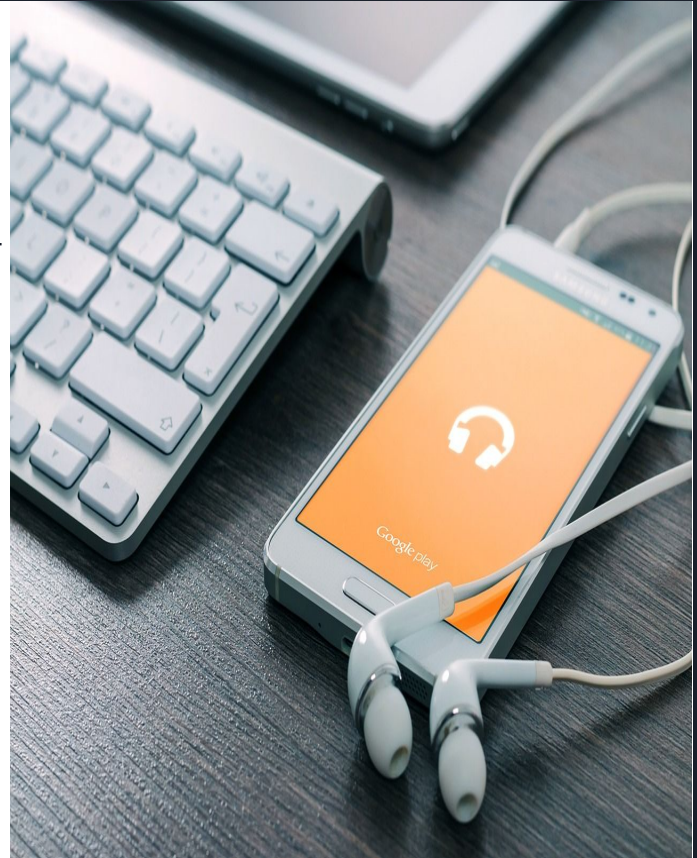
***Elections for positions**

***Excellent way to get involved with the school**

Electronic Devices

For the 2025-2026 school year, we wanted to let all families know that devices will not be permitted at school for students in K-9. **Cell phones, smartwatches, air pods, etc. will not be allowed even during break times.** In conversations with our School Council and with legislation supporting not using non essential device use in schools, we feel this is the best decision for our students.

Please note there are exceptions as we understand some students use their device for medical and safety reasons. Additionally, we are also still a bring your device to school (chromebook) for learning purposes so please still bring those. Everything else however will be off limits for the 2025-2026 school year. Thanks for your support!



Class Configurations

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we prepare for the upcoming school year, we would like to take a moment to share some information about our classroom placement process.

At SAA, our primary goal is to create a positive, supportive, and productive learning environment for every student. Each year, our staff devotes considerable time and care into organizing classroom configurations that best support the academic, social, and emotional needs of all our students. This process involves thoughtful consideration of many factors, including individual learning styles, peer relationships, academic needs, and teacher strengths.

We understand that parents may have insights or preferences regarding their child's educational experience. While we value your perspective, we kindly remind families that all classroom placements and configurations are ultimately at the discretion of our administrative team, in consultation with our teachers. Our team works collaboratively and professionally to ensure each student is placed in an environment where they can thrive.

Thank you for being a valued part of the SAA family. We look forward to another wonderful year of growth and learning together.

Chargers Cheer Tryouts

The Chargers team is built up of Grades 7-9 students from VJM, Fowler, Grades 6-9 from ESSMY, and Sister Alphonse Academy. Depending on the number of athletes who try-out, the Chargers will have two separate teams this season! We are hoping to run an Intermediate and a Median cheer team! Both teams will run simultaneously at SACHS. Athletes will be expected to try-out as one large group from September 8 until October 8 with team placements on October 15. Parent emails will go home prior to the end of practice on October 15 with regards to their athletes placement.

Tryouts will be in SACHS Small Gym, Starting Sept. 8th and 10th
Practice days will be MONDAY and WEDNESDAY 6-8pm

Should you have any questions please contact Leanne Oake
loake@gsacrd.ab.ca

Please use the following link if you are interested:
<https://forms.gle/8RkXVPnsT74XDuvb9>



The poster features a large, stylized 'CHARGERS' logo at the top in blue and red. Below it are two photos of cheerleaders in blue and red uniforms. The text 'Who Can Join?' is prominently displayed. Below this, a table lists participating schools and their grade ranges. The word 'CHEER' is written in large, block letters, with a Chargers logo integrated into the 'H'. The text 'Go to @chargerscheerteam for more information to sign up!' is followed by 'When & Where?' and the tryout details. A photo of a cheerleader performing a stunt is at the bottom.

CHARGERS

Who Can Join?

École Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville	Richard S. Fowler	Vincent J. Maloney	Sister Alphonse Academy
Grades 6-9	Grades 7-9	Grades 7-9	Grades 6-9

CHEER

Go to @chargerscheerteam for more information to sign up!

When & Where?

September 8 6:00-8:00 PM
St. Albert Catholic
High School Small Gym

Photo credit: St. Albert Catholic High School

Spirit Days - Knights Wear

Every Thursday will be Spirit Days where students and staff wear their Knights apparel to show our school spirit. Please remember that that we will have some t-shirts available for purchase at the welcome back BBQ. We will also be doing our fall clothing order so families can purchase additional items if they want.

If you do not have any SAA apparel and are not wanting to purchase anything, please feel free to wear blue if you want to participate in the day.

GO KNIGHTS!!!!



Grade 6 & 9 Immunizations

Monday, October 7th, 2025- grade 6
first doses

Monday, January 12th, 2026- grade 9

Monday, April 12th, 2026- grade 6
second doses and grade 9 students
who may have missed their
immunizations on January 12th,



SNACK SHACK IS NOW OPEN!

On Tuesday September 2nd, Snack Shack will officially open for students to purchase items. Until we can get Snack Shack cards and fees uploaded, we can only do cash sales. If you have a snack shack card from last year, those are still good to use.

Please note that we also do special food specials intermittently throughout the year. We will let our families know when those come up. Prices range from \$2-\$4

Items Available:	Price:
Gatorade/Ice Drinks	\$2.00
Water	\$1.00
Bubly	\$1.00
Muffins	\$2.00
Cookies	\$1.00
Small Chips/Pringles	\$1.00
Hot Rods	\$1.00
Pizza Pops	\$1.00
Rice Krispie Squares	\$0.50
Welch's Fruit Snacks	\$0.50
Chocolate Milk	\$1.50
Cup of Noodles	\$2.00
Ice Cream/Freezies	\$1.00



August/September Dates

August 28- Welcome Back BBQ @4:30

September 2- First day of classes (Grades 1-9)

Kindergarten Only (A-M)

September 3- Kindergarten Only (N-Z)

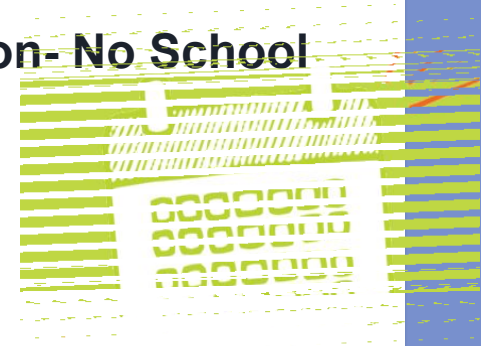
September 18- Opening Mass @ St. Albert Parish 9:30

September 19- PD Day

September 23- Picture Day

September 27- Gr. 7 Faith Rally

September 30- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation- No School



Stay Connected

<https://www.saa.gsacrd.ab.ca/> (Sister Alphonse Academy)

<https://www.gsacrd.ab.ca/> (GSACRD)

<https://stalbert.caedm.ca/> (St. Albert Parish)

<https://twitter.com/KnightsCommons> (SAA Learning Commons)

Don't forget to look for us on Facebook and Instagram!

Also, please join our SAA Parent Facebook Page.

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/1024072471126540/?ref=share&mibextid=S66qvF>

