



News Release

St. Patrick's Community School moves to a traditional calendar for the 2020-2021 school year

For immediate release – May 28, 2020

Due to COVID-19, the Board of Trustees passed a motion Tuesday evening (May 26) to move St. Patrick's Community School to a traditional calendar for the entire 2020-2021 school year. To ensure the safety of students and staff, Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools is following the Chief Medical Officer of Health and Alberta Education recommendations on the reopening of our schools and in-person classes.

Following the traditional calendar, students are scheduled to begin classes on August 31.

Please note that with the transition to a traditional calendar, students will be delivered the same quality of education and instructional time as in the year-round calendar.

"We know that families choose St. Patrick's Community School for a faith-based year-round educational experience, but in this unprecedented time, we cannot be sure that all safety measures will be in place for them to start on schedule in early August. So for this year, we have made the difficult decision to operate St. Patrick's Community School on a traditional calendar. The September start will allow us more time to work with Alberta Education and the Chief Medical Officer of Health to figure out how to keep our students and staff safe when schools reopen," said Board Chair, Anne Marie Watson at Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools.

"Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools has had a long standing tradition of offering year round schooling which successfully meets the needs of students and their families. In order to safely return all of our students to school we want to develop a consistent re-entry plan across the

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division, while ensuring we are adhering to the guidelines set out by the Chief Medical Officer of Health and Alberta Education. We appreciate the understanding of our staff, students and parents on this decision to move St. Patrick's Community School to the traditional calendar for the 2020-2021 school year," said Interim Superintendent of Schools, Kathleen Finnigan at Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools.

For more information and to see the school year calendar, please visit

<https://www.rdcrs.ca/download/172765>

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools serves over 10,480 students in 21 schools in Red Deer, Blackfalds, Sylvan Lake, Rocky Mountain House, Innisfail, and Olds. It also supports the learning of over 600 students in a Home Education Program. The Division is committed to serving children and parents with a complete offering of learning opportunities delivered within the context of Catholic teachings and within the means of the Division.

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