



LCSD Board Highlights

January 19, 2022

Christ Our Model. Children Our Focus.

COVID Update

Superintendent Pamela Guilbault and Deputy Superintendent Chantel Axani provided the board and those in attendance a COVID update.

Alberta Health Services is no longer informing school jurisdictions of confirmed COVID cases. Instead, Lakeland Catholic is relying on a parent/guardian or staff member to report a positive case.

This voluntary information is shared on each school's website.

"It was very important that we continue this communication with our parents," said Axani.

In addition to sharing the number of active COVID cases among students with the board, Axani outlined the current staff absences due to illness, not necessarily COVID.

While Axani focused on providing the statistics, Guilbault explained the most recent changes to the division's and province's COVID protocols, following the announcement of an extended winter break on December 30, 2021.

After meeting as a division with principals and staff, as well as neighbouring school jurisdictions, the Minister of Education, and AHS officials, Lakeland Catholic amended their COVID protocols ahead of students returning to school January 10.

Part of this process was ensuring the division's guidelines aligned with those of other local school divisions.

This included Lakeland Catholic's decision not to allow inter-school athletics. Guilbault explained while students are permitted to practice sports, they aren't competing at this time.

"We are reviewing this weekly and we will make sure that (all local school division) resume at the same time. We want the students to play, but we want them to play safely," Guilbault said.

As part of the province's protocol adjustments, divisions now have the authority to shift a class or grade to online learning if it is operationally impossible to have that class due to lack of teaching staff or student assistant staff. As of the board meeting, there were no LCSD classes learning online due to a lack of staffing.

Lakeland Catholic received their first shipment of medical-grade masks and rapid tests for students. These items have been distributed with another shipment on the way. The division has additional masks available in case there is a delay in receiving the next order.



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Each school has been outfitted with MERV-13 air filters and the filtration systems are being closely monitored by LCSD's Operations and Facilities Manager. In addition, the division has contracted an engineering firm based out of the Edmonton-area to review LCSD mechanical systems.

"We are doing what we need to do to ensure the health and safety of our students" stated Guilbault.

Students in Grades 4 through 12 are now being asked to wear their masks more than they were before they went on the winter break.

Guilbault emphasized that mask breaks are permitted throughout the day and teachers are encouraged to give their students breaks as needed.

Rapid tests are available to staff at each site should they feel the desire or need to take one.

These protocols have been put in place in addition to the already-existing ones such as enhanced cleaning of high-touch and high-traffic areas, cohorts, fogging, and hand hygiene.

Goal Two of Three Year Education Plan

Guilbault outlined Goal Two of the Lakeland Catholic's Three Year Education Plan: Student Success.

The goal speaks to four main outcomes: Literacy, Numeracy, Early Learners, and Innovative, Relevant, and Experiential Programming.

"Our students' classrooms expand beyond the four walls of Lakeland Catholic Schools," said Guilbault, adding through these goals LCSD is creating a strong foundation for students that will set them up for success.

Speaking specifically to literacy, Guilbault explained the importance of focusing on this area because "we know that due to the pandemic and disruptions our students have encountered there have been gaps in their learning."

The division is working with Dr. George Georgiou on the Five Pillars of Literacy and Literacy Intervention.

"We understand the foundational need for lifelong literacy with students and with individuals. Our AEAM and local measures indicate that literacy gaps are growing. It's clear, and as such, we have committed to literacy as a priority for 2021, 2022, and into the future, until we close those gaps," stated Guilbault.

Click [here](#) to view our Literacy in Our Schools video.



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Wellness Report Presentation

Julie Chorney, Director of Teaching Staff, and Jo Jo Pollicarpio, SIS Manager, gave a presentation on the division's wellness committee.

The focus of this committee is to support wellness in staff through self-care.

Chorney explained how wellness "touches everything we do as a division."

LDC ESL Expository English 15/25

The board approved the ESL Expository 15/25 courses, which are geared toward English Language Learners in their high school years.

The primary goal of these classes is to provide students with the opportunity to build communicative competence with the English language while developing and extending their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through the exploration and creation of expository English texts.

Locally Developed Course - Tabletop Game Design

Tabletop Game Design is a three-credit course for Assumption Jr/Sr High School students. It provides them the opportunity to use inductive design method to develop a novel table-top role-playing game.

By the end of the course, students will have created an original game.

The course was approved by the board.

Student/Board Engagement

The first Student/Board Engagement Session for the 2021-2022 school year is scheduled for next month. It's an opportunity for the board to gather feedback from students in the division. Trustees will be virtually meeting with students from Holy Family Catholic School and Notre Dame High School.