



LCSD Board Highlights

February 16, 2022

Christ Our Model. Children Our Focus.

Curriculum Update

Sigrid Sollbach, Lakeland Catholic's Director of Curriculums and Programs, made a presentation to the board, outlining how the division is excelling and areas LCSD is focusing on improving.

Students are systematically working on the Five Pillars of Literacy across all subject areas. This includes, Phonemic Awareness (Kindergarten to Grade 3), Phonics (Kindergarten to Grade 6), Fluency (all grades), Vocabulary (all grades), and Strategies for Comprehension (all grades).

Teachers are utilizing resources and strategies on literacy and numeracy as provided by Alberta Education and Dr. George Georgiou in order to seamlessly incorporate these pillars into their curricula.

Superintendent Pamela Guilbault explained how the board is prioritizing student success in literacy and numeracy through pull-out intervention and the allocation of just shy of \$1 million.

This funding is for targeted intervention for students in Grade 1 to Grade 3. Approximately 300 students in Grades 2 and 3 are participating in this program currently, in both English and French Immersion.

So far, Guilbault outlined, testing has shown growth in the students taking part in the intervention programming.

Technology Update

Director of Technology for LCSD, Clint Elliott, provided the board with an update on technology.

One of the division's technology goals was to increase digital communication. This is being done through new websites and a new student registration process.

Elliott explained how at LCSD, the student-device ratio is 1:1. Students have access to computer labs at several LCSD schools, as well as student devices such as Chromebooks and iPads.

Teachers are asked to teach their students about the differences between good screen time and bad screen time, as well as how to be excellent digital citizens.

Overall, 96 per cent of parents are satisfied that computers are used effectively as a tool at Lakeland Catholic.

Later in the meeting, the board agreed to purchase 600 new Chromebooks for next year at a cost of approximately \$200,000, which will be taken out of the capital budget.

The board also approved entering into a new three-year lease for 190 devices for staff. The cost will come from the division's operational budget.



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Review of Three Year Plan

Goal Three of Lakeland Catholic's Three Year Education Plan is Equity and Inclusion. The outcome is for students to be supported academically, socially, and emotionally for optimal wellbeing.

Guilbault outlined the three strategies that fall under Goal Three:

1. Supports for inclusive education students
 - Ensure programs, accommodations, resources, and services are in place to meet the needs of students
 - Build the Multidisciplinary Team to enhance organizational capacity at all levels and increase service to students
 - Encourage and celebrate students taking on leadership roles within and outside of the school community
2. Supports for Indigenous students
 - Support the role of the Indigenous Outreach Worker in all communities
 - Provide the appropriate supports to ensure ongoing academic success of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) students
 - Collaborate with parents, elders, and FNMI community to enhance instruction and build traditional knowledge and understanding
3. Supports for English Language Learners (ELL)
 - Provide division ELL coaching support for teachers and students to increase literacy and learning needs
 - Support and ease transition of ELL students and their families into school and with instruction through relevant and effective programming for ELL students

Approval of Locally-Developed Course

The board approved a locally-developed course that will serve ELL by providing them with an opportunity to build and extend their academic language proficiency and overall communicative competency. This will be achieved through the investigation of and practice with language functions, forms, and vocabularies.

"This is a course we require to better support ELL at LCSD high schools," said Guilbault.

Stakeholder Engagement Session

A Virtual Stakeholder Engagement Session has been scheduled for February 24 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. The focus will be on gathering feedback on the division's 2022-23 school year priorities.



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Mental Health Campaign

Guilbault updated the board on the division's Mental Health Matters Campaign and how the committee is working with schools to create support groups for students.

She explained how the campaign will generate opportunities to expand on the resources and supports that are already available in our schools and communities, while also connecting parents, students, teachers, and stakeholders with these supports.

The winners of the poster design contest have been chosen and their entries will be displayed in all LCSD schools. Students have been put in charge of placing the posters throughout their schools.

"The key is to have students involved, because when they are involved there will be investment, and the goal of this campaign is to support our students' mental health," Guilbault stated.

COVID Update

Deputy Superintendent Chantel Axani shared a COVID-19 update.

She reported schools are continuing to update their website daily with parent-confirmed cases.

"These are cases parents call and report to our schools, and we share the most accurate information that we can that parents voluntarily provide us," Axani said.

In addition to the update on positive cases, Guilbault outlined the division's latest COVID-19 communication, a document highlighting LCSD's most recent health measures following the province's announcement earlier this month.

This includes:

- Students are no longer required to wear a mask while in school or on the bus
- Spectators are now permitted
- Volunteers/Visitors will be permitted starting February 22, contact your child(ren)'s principal for volunteerism opportunities
- Continuation of enhanced cleaning and sanitization of high traffic and touch surfaces
- Use of the daily health checklist
- Cohorts continue until March 1, 2022
- All adults attending the school, whether staff, volunteer or visitor, are required to wear a mask until March 1, 2022 (Step 2)