



St. Charles Catholic  
Elementary School

## **Principal Report January 7 2026**

**Happy New Year to everyone and Merry Christmas to our Ukrainian families!**

### **Highlights since our last meeting:**

- Students enjoyed an exciting performance of Pinocchio by Alberta Musical Theatre.
- We had great feedback from both parents and teachers on the Parent Teacher Interviews we held in November. We look forward to our Demonstration of Learning on March 5th. This is also our Open House day.
- The COSC (Community of School Councils) evening held at Lumen Christi on November 18 was a huge success. Our Chief Superintendent, Lynette Anderson and Trustee Palazzo highlighted the importance of gathering feedback on the values and priorities we want to see in our schools. The information collected through this engagement evening, surveys and school councils set the direction for the next 3 year Division Plan for Continuous Growth. The evening engaged principals and parents in understanding and exploring the priorities of Catholic Identity, Optimal Learning conditions for all students, Student wellbeing, and Classroom Complexities. Following detailed presentations from various departments, parents were given the opportunity to share their experience within their own school context.
- December was filled with beautiful daily Advent reflections, which concluded with two amazing Christmas Concert evenings. Despite the very cold temperatures, the joy in our students' voices filled our St. Charles Parish with warmth and love of the Christmas season.
- In the spirit of giving our students and families supported, two important organizations. Led by our Grade 4B class, who in our December Assembly taught us about charity, donations were collected for the Stollery Children's Hospital. The total amount collected was \$1064.20. We also accepted donations at our concerts in support of Catholic Social Services- Sign of Hope Campaign and raised \$782.60
- All this, in addition to a cereal drive to support Anne Fitzgerald school, socks, mittens, toques and treats for the homeless, and other service projects

completed since our St. Charles Faith Day, truly demonstrates the lived mission statement of our school.

- We had a lovely Epiphany celebration yesterday with Fr. Glen MacDonald our Division Chaplain led by our our Grade 6B

### **Looking Ahead: Focus on Instruction**

- Update on enrollment- We have welcomed several new students and families who have recently moved into our area, which puts our **enrollment at 357**.
- Teachers continue to use SPACES EDU to share your child's learning in real time. January Summary reports will be available on **January 27 at 4:00pm**
- We also continue to engage in professional development in the area of mathematics, assessment, social emotional learning and collaborative response.
- Last year we revised our mission statement, this year we will do the work of revising our vision statement.
- Staff Changes/ Updates- Mrs. Gale is back in Grade 4B, but we are keeping Mrs. Magee who will be supporting students with math intervention in addition to teaching the grade 4 students math in the combined class.
- Our upcoming PD day is Thursday January 29. There will be no class for students.
- Our School Growth Plan review was posted just before Christmas Break and is available to view on our website. You can also see the results from last year's survey results. As a staff we use the results to help us identify areas of growth and help us shape our school growth plan.

### **Upcoming:**

- Our Grade 4A will be leading our Assembly on Courage this Friday at 9:00AM
- The ECSD Annual Survey is now open for Parents and students in grades 4-6. They will be coming home this Friday. Surveys can be completed and returned to the school in the sealed envelope or mailed directly to Lumen. We would love to get more responses to help with planning for next year. All surveys must be returned by Jan. 23
- Grade 4-6 FLEX Options will be starting this month. More details will be shared in the next week.

- National Family Literacy Day is Jan. 27. Look for more information in our newsletter that will give you some great ideas on engaging your family in learning time.
- February 2nd is the start of our pre enrollment for next year. We have some signs that we would love to see out on lawns starting in February.
- Feb. 2-13 Alien In-line will start for all our students.
- Feb. 3rd- Grade 4-6 will ski at Snow Valley
- Feb. 13- Family Winter Carnival
- The season of Lent is quickly approaching. Our students will be participating in social justice activities and collections as part of Almsgiving.
- Shrove Tuesday (tables and chairs ordered) and Ash Wednesday are important dates. Last year SAC provided pancakes for all students. We will be having a liturgy and distribution of ashes on Wednesday.
- Feb. 25- ECSD Faith Development Day- No School for students
- Feb 26 and 27- Teachers convention
- We have a PD day scheduled for March 19th. This is replacing the one we lost in October.

### **Updates on School Zone-**

- This week has been a challenge regarding drop off, pick up and the use of the parking lot. A message was sent to parents and the city has shared that school zone clearing is scheduled for weekends starting January 23, 2026. Work will run from Friday 7 PM to Monday 7 AM. Expected to take 3 to 4 weekends. "No parking" signs will be posted before clearing begins. A call has been made to 311 regarding our issues. The city has sent us a letter confirming their plan.

### **Northwest Solution- Update**

[video presentation](#)- The video explains the proposal, anticipated timelines, and how this work fits within ECSD's long-term planning for the Northwest.

Please check your email for the summary of the survey. The next step will be a visioning session on Jan. 21 at 3:30 pm. The meeting is approximately 2hrs. If anyone is interested please let me know. We have space for 25 parents.



## St. Charles Catholic Elementary School

### **School Requests for 2025-2026**

- Chromebooks and iPads 21,900 approved- covered by SAC
- Student experiences - \$40 per student approved- covered by SAC
- Feb 2-13- Alien Inline Skating K-6-\$6137.25 - covered by SAC (parents who have already paid will see a credit)
- April 10- April 24 Groovebox Hip Hop Residency-K-6-\$6900+gst- covered by SAC
- June 16 Games Day- Fitset Ninja Mobile Obstacle Course K-6 -\$1,875+gst - covered by SAC
- Bibles for Grade 4 (Fall 2026)- \$25 each x 55= \$1375
- Yearbooks - 1 per family @\$5.00 each

### **Items below are included in the School Fee Schedule:**

- Alberta Musical Theatre- \$997.50- (charged to parents)
- Feb. 13- Family Winter Carnival- SAC to cover cost of activities and cookies/hot chocolate
  - Horses booked- Lonestar 2 hr. minimum \$1500 plus GST, Delivery & Pick up Charge \$200 plus GST
- Snow Valley Skiing Lessons-Grade 4- 6
  - Booked February 3, 2026 & March 2, 2026
  - Lift Ticket & Lesson- \$35/student + \$12/student (rental) =\$47
- March 18 Family Math Games Night -Box Cars and One-Eyed Jacks
  - \$650 +GST
- Symphony at the Windspear for Grade 1-6 (Edu Concerts)
  - 1-3 May 13-\$1925 plus bussing
  - 4-6-March 6- \$1650 plus bussing

## School Initiatives for 2025/2026

### Literacy & Numeracy Focus:

- Pathway to Reading Research –Gr. 2
- Grade 1 Reading COP
- Targeted Writing in Grades 2 & 6 Pilot Project
- Mathematics Framework- PD for Grades 1 & 4. This year we will target Number Sense Routines
- Reframing Curriculum COP- Year 2
- Assessment & Reporting using SPACES EDU
- Collaborative Response- Year 2

### Creating Communities of Belonging:

- Be An Upstander
- SEL Pilot School
- Wellness Champion/ LEAD Recess
- Restorative and Proactive Circles

### We Continue:

- Monthly Assembly–Hospitality, Gratitude, Peace, Charity, Courage, Love, Forgiveness, Justice, Compassion, Faithfulness
- FLEX Options for 4-6 (October start) 1-3 (January start)
- Reading Intervention
- Spirit Days/ Hot Lunch Dates

### School Wide Events:

- October 14-28- Alien Inline Skating K-6
- November 13- Alberta Opera- Pinocchio
- Feb. 13- Family Winter Carnival
- Feb.17- Shrove Tuesday- Pancakes for School Community
- Snow Valley Skiing Lessons–Grade 4- 6
  - Booked February 3, 2026 & March 2, 2026
- Symphony at the Winspear for Grade 1-3 (May 13), 4-6 (March 6)
- March 18- Family Math Games Night with Box Cars and One-Eyed Jacks

- April 10- April 24 Groovebox Hip Hop Residency
- June 16 Games Day- Fitset Ninja Mobile Obstacle Course

### Student Fundraising Planning

- Terry Fox
- Cereal Drive & Socks/ Mittens/ Toque
- Faith Day Service Projects
- Stollery Hospital
- Catholic Social Services- Sign of Hope
- ECSD Foundation
- Social Justice Project planned for Advent & Lent- TBA
- Grade 6 Farewell/Camp