



CALGARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 8, 2016

Dear Parents and Residents of the upcoming south Cranston Catholic school community;

We are pleased to announce the Calgary Catholic School District will be opening the south Cranston Catholic school in September 2016. As shared at previous community meetings, the opening date of the actual building will be late fall/Christmas 2016. Construction progress is difficult to predict due to weather variables and potential challenges that might be encountered, and we will be monitoring the status of the construction project and provide the community with updates as time goes on.

Knowing that the building occupancy is scheduled for late fall/Christmas, the district is currently preparing a detailed contingency plan to ensure that students begin the school year as a south Cranston Catholic School community, housed in an alternate location until the new school building is ready. This plan will include having students in a "school within a school" model until the school building is ready.

A "school within a school" model ensures the following:

- The south Cranston Catholic school will open with their own student population and administration/teacher/support staff allocations.
- Knowing the students will be located offsite at the start of the school year, they will be transported to the alternate location. This temporary location will be located in another school facility (location to be determined).
- Students are assigned to a regular homeroom teacher and will be engaged in courses appropriate for their grade level.
- The class of students and homeroom teacher would then move into the new south Cranston Catholic school together as a group once the facility opens. This process ensures continuity with educational programming and the strong relationships developed from the first day of school with the teacher of the students.

The district also is looking forward to announcing the new principal of the upcoming south Cranston Catholic school soon. This appointment will be based on the "School Administration: Qualities, Attributes and Characteristics" profile developed at the parent public participation session on October 13, 2015.

The process to determine the name of our new Catholic school has been initiated. Watch for opportunities through surveys in the future to voice your opinion on potential names for the school.

In June 2015, letters were sent home identifying the boundary for the south Cranston Catholic school. At that time a number of decisions for some grades were deferred, with a commitment to survey parents in early 2016 with respect to choice. These letters will be sent home following Teachers' Convention, and we ask your cooperation in returning them to the school in a timely manner so that we might continue the work of preparing for our new school opening.

Finally, a reminder to all future parents and students to keep up to date on school developments through the Calgary Catholic School District website at <http://www.cssd.ab.ca/schools/cranston/>.

Sincerely,

Mike Ross
Superintendent, Area D Schools