

Archbishop Jordan

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This summer there was a moment I completely forgot about COVID-19 and the pandemic – and did that feel good!! Although the moment was short, it was very nice to forget about the stress and the anxiousness that we have all been facing since last March. This moment of relief came as my family and I were out hiking the Berg Lake Trail at the base of Mount Robson. We were surrounded by the amazing forests, mountain peaks and beautiful Kinney Lake! My daughters who are 9 and 8 hiked 7km each way to our campsite and we enjoyed the solace of backcountry camping. It was a great opportunity to disconnect with no access to cellphone, news stories, or angry Tweets. It was just our family and God's creation, making dehydrated soup, treating glacial water for bacteria, exploring the rivers and playing cards. And for the briefest of moments everything felt normal. I really hope that all of our ABJ families had the same opportunity to unplug and



relax this summer, whether it was a relaxing time at the lake, a staycation with family or road trip. We all deserve the opportunity to feel rejuvenated, and ready to take on the upcoming school year.

PS. A majority of my summer was spent thinking about our school community and how we will come together to maximize the safety for everyone, while ensuring students receive the excellent educational opportunities that they have come to expect at ABJ!!



Upcoming Events

August 24, 25, 26

Student Registration

August 27

First day for all Teachers and EAs

September 7

Labour Day – No School



Welcome
Home

Meet ABJ's Two New Assistant Principals



ABJ is excited to welcome two new assistant principals for the upcoming school year. Mr. Marc St. Jean is joining ABJ from OLPH school where he started his teaching career. Mr. St. Jean is a French Immersion teacher who is passionate about language, CTS, physical education and leadership. He is a



dynamic teacher and he is very excited to join our team. Mr. Chad Starko is joining ABJ from STAR Catholic where he served as a teacher and a technology and innovation consultant. Mr. Starko taught high school math and science at Christ the King in Leduc for many years. Mr. Starko loves the outdoors and enjoying God's creation. He is very excited to join the team at ABJ.

ABJ's Admin Team for 2020-21

This year ABJ has shuffled supports and services within our leadership team to create an additional assistant principal role. This did not increase the amount of funding allocated to our total ABJ Leadership Team for a couple of reasons. This year all of our administrators will have a teaching assignment and we have modified other leadership roles to create this additional assistant principal position without impacting our teaching or support staff positions. We believe that having an additional assistant principal will allow our team to be more responsive to student, parent and staff needs, especially during this unprecedented time. If you have any questions regarding this change, please do not hesitate to connect with Mr. Dumont, Principal, at josephd@eics.ab.ca.

ABJ's Grade Level Coaches

The ABJ Admin Team will serve our students as grade level coaches for the upcoming school year. If students or parents have questions or requests, they may connect with their grade level coaches. We always recommend that students and parents connect with teachers first whenever a situation arises concerning the classroom. Our assistant principals are ready and willing to support any students and parents once that initial step has happened or if you have any other questions or concerns. Our principal, Mr. Dumont, is also available to support students and families as needed and he may be reached by email at josephd@eics.ab.ca.

Grade 9 - Mrs. Tymko, ruthb@eics.ab.ca

Grade 10 - Mr. St. Jean, marcs@eics.ab.ca

Grade 11 - Mr. Lakeman, gregl@eics.ab.ca

Grade 12 - Mr. Starko, chad.starko@eics.ab.ca



School Supplies Information

- Due to COVID-19 protocols, we are asking that students bring hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes to assist them in their personal hygiene during class whenever needed. Sanitizer and disinfecting spray will be available in all classrooms, but students may want to bring their own supply to minimize movement in the classroom.
- Students are recommended to acquire school supplies based on their courses and respective teacher expectations. Generally, students require a binder, loose leaf paper, pens, pencils, eraser, etc. for most courses. Any supplies beyond the basics will be directed by their individual teacher, based on the nature of the course.
- Students are required to bring a water bottle during the day, as all water fountains will be closed and beverages will not be available for purchase. Water bottles should be clearly labelled and should never be shared between students.
- Students will need their own lunch/snacks container, cutlery, serviettes, etc. Microwaves will not be available, and the Cafeteria will not have food sales until February of this year. ABJ will also no longer have vending machines.
- Students taking Math 10C require a TI84+ graphing calculator.
- Students will not be permitted to use a locker this year as a COVID-19 strategy to prevent students from congregating in the hallways. Students will need to bring their materials to and from school each day.
- Students are invited to bring a device to school as part of our “One to One Project”. ABJ recommends that students bring a device that will work best for them and their learning style. The device should be compatible with Google Apps for Education (also known as the Google Suite) – Google Docs, Google Drive, etc. We recommend that the screen is large enough for a student to complete assignments, take notes, and edit work, etc. The amount that a student may use the device will vary depending on the nature of the course and their teacher’s expertise. **Students will not be permitted to use a smartphone as their One to One device.** Please also note that students are expected to follow the One to One User Agreement - <https://www.eics.ab.ca/download/100432>.

Course Change Requests

It was shared with students back in April that their course selections would be adhered to as best as possible. Our timetable is very tight with very little room for changes. For any students who completed course selections and received their course requests, we will not making changes to their timetable unless they have an extenuating circumstance or completed an online course in summer school. We need to know if a student is dropping a class so we are able to make room for other students, so please complete a course drop request if that is the case. Priority for course requests will be made for students who need a course for graduation purposes or post-secondary programming needs. Course changes can be requested by completing the following form online: <https://forms.gle/7zSCF1V9AAc8nKaRA>

ABJ's Timetable Changes for 2020-21

In order to best serve our students as we navigate the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic will bring over the year, ABJ's staff has decided to move to a "quartered" timetable for the first semester. This will mean that students will take their courses in quarters – Q1 Sept – Nov and Q2 Nov - January. The results will mean that the pace of learning will be more intense, somewhat like a summer school course. Students will take up to 2 full block courses, such as English and Math in a quarter or up to 4 half block courses, such as PE, Art, or Foods. This will **limit student cohorts** per quarter and will also allow for more transition for students between the quarters to access online courses at St. Isidore Learning Centre (SILC) or in-person courses at ABJ. What is very important to stress is that this new model will mean that students will only have 2 classes per day – one in the morning and one in the afternoon, each class for approximately 2.5 hours. Students will need to be sure to stay up to date with their studies if they are not able to attend in person due to illness. Teachers will also ensure that learning materials and resources are available online. Student timetables will be available for pick up during registrations on August 24, 25. and 26.

COVID-19 Protocols

ABJ will be sending out our schools "Re-Entry Plan" for parents and students to review at the end of the week. In the meantime, ABJ's policies around a variety of topics such as graduation, attire, parking, student expectations, and others may be found on our website. Please take the times to familiarize yourself with these documents! <https://abj.eics.ab.ca/about/school-policies>

Online Course Options

ABJ students who would like to take a course online, may pursue this endeavor by contacting our E-Campus Coordinator, Mrs. McGhan at karrym@eics.ac.ca Mrs. McGhan will connect students with EICS online school, called St. Isidore Learning Centre or "SILC" (website - <https://silc.eics.ab.ca/>). ABJ students are welcome to take online courses through SILC as well as in-person courses at ABJ where their schedule and our schedule permits. Students who are working on an online course will be able to stay in the Learning Commons/E-Campus room during the school day when they are not in class.

***Note: If you and your child have decided to move to a completely online program for this school year, please complete the following form - <https://forms.gle/QJqn46LLBQ6is7Qj6> and a Grade Level Coach (assistant principal) will connect with you prior to the start of the school year to assist you with getting connected with St. Isidore Learning Centre.

ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (ENGLISH)
The requirements indicated in this chart are the minimum requirements for a student to attain an Alberta High School Diploma. The requirements for entry into post-secondary institutions and workplaces may require additional and/or specific courses.
100 CREDITS including the following:
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS – 30 LEVEL (English Language Arts 30-1 or 30-2)
SOCIAL STUDIES – 30 LEVEL (Social Studies 30-1 or 30-2)
MATHEMATICS – 20 LEVEL (Mathematics 20-1, Mathematics 20-2 or Mathematics 20-3)
SCIENCE – 20 LEVEL ^❶ (Science 20, Science 24, Biology 20, Chemistry 20 or Physics 20)
PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10 (3 CREDITS) ^❷
CAREER AND LIFE MANAGEMENT (3 CREDITS) ^❸
10 CREDITS IN ANY COMBINATION FROM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career and Technology Studies (CTS) courses • Fine Arts courses • Second Languages courses • Physical Education 20 and/or 30 • Knowledge and Employability courses • Registered Apprenticeship Program courses • Locally developed courses in CTS, fine arts, second languages or Knowledge and Employability occupational courses
10 CREDITS IN ANY 30-LEVEL COURSE (IN ADDITION TO A 30-LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND A 30-LEVEL SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE AS SPECIFIED ABOVE) ^❹
These courses may include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30-level locally developed courses • Advanced level (3000 series) in Career and Technology Studies courses • 30-level Work Experience courses^❺ • 30-level Knowledge and Employability courses • 30-level Registered Apprenticeship Program courses • 30-level Green Certificate Specialization courses • Special Projects 30

(continued)

- ❶ The science requirement—Science 20 or 24, Biology 20, Chemistry 20 or Physics 20—may also be met with the 10-credit combination of Science 14 and Science 10.
- ❷ See information on [exemption from the physical education requirement](#).
- ❸ See information on [exemption from the CALM requirement](#).
- ❹ 30-level English language arts or 30-level social studies courses from a different course sequence may not be used to meet the 30-level course requirement.
- ❺ Students may earn a maximum of 30 credits in Work Experience, but only 15 credits may be used to meet the 100-credit requirement for the Alberta High School Diploma.

Further Notes:

- Courses that are identified using a post-secondary institution (PSI) course code may be used to meet the diploma requirements of “10 credits in any combination from Career and Technology Studies (CTS) courses” and “10 credits in any 30-level course—Advanced level (3000 series) in Career and Technology Studies courses.”
- For 30-level courses that have a diploma examination, the final course mark consists of a blend of the school-awarded mark (70%) and the diploma examination mark (30%).
- For more information, students in Francophone programs should consult the Alberta High School Diploma Requirements (Francophone).
- Mature students should consult the [Mature Students](#) section for applicable requirements.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year. We are looking forward to re-opening Archbishop Jordan and welcoming back our students. As we are gearing up for school to resume, we are deep in detailed planning, not only for learning, but also to protect the health and safety of students and staff. Our school division has posted our detailed relaunch guide on the [Elk Island Catholic website](https://www.eics.ab.ca/coronavirus-information-in-eics) and you can read more about it here: <https://www.eics.ab.ca/coronavirus-information-in-eics> or simply click [here](#).

In addition to the increased cleaning, sanitizing and the many other Alberta Health Services recommendations, we will have new routines specific to our school in order to keep students and staff healthy and safe.

Some of those items specific to our school will include the following:

- Changes to entrances and exits that students will use
- Changes to use of lockers and movement of students around school for class changes and breaks
- Recess and lunch times will be organized to maintain cohort groupings
- Establishing student and teacher cohorts i.e. grade groupings
- New visitor/parent school policies
- Everyone entering the school will need to answer the screening questionnaire and will need to sign in at the office for contact tracing
- Mandatory masks for grades 4 to 12 and optional but highly recommended masks for kindergarten to grade 3
- Extra cleaning of school common areas and regular sanitizing of student spaces during the day
- Social distancing during the school day

I want to remind parents/guardians of one of the changes this year and that involves screening your children for symptoms every day before sending them to school. Students with symptoms should **not** be coming to school. We have a [screening guide](#) and would ask that you use it to ensure that any students with symptoms will stay at home. This is an Alberta Health Services rule and it is critical we all do our part to ensure we are following it. Our staff will be doing the same for themselves and we have a process to follow before students or staff return to school if they do experience any symptoms. I have attached the screening tool with the list of symptoms at the end of this letter.

There are a great many changes to our routines and other processes for this school year. Some of the changes we have made are minor and some are much more significant. All together, they will combine to provide a safe environment for our students and staff and enable students to be able to learn effectively and to run our school safely for everyone. **In order to be able to work through all these new changes, all the schools in EICS are planning a staggered school start this year. For the first four days of school, about a quarter of the students will attend each day. The first full day for all students will be Sept. 8th. This staggered start will help us make all of the adjustments to our daily routine, discuss PPE with a smaller number of students in our classrooms and building. We will send out more information on this staggered school start next week.**

I appreciate the support of each of our families as we navigate during this difficult time. I want to thank you in advance for making the daily screening part of your morning routines. We all will be doing our part to keep our school safe. I want to encourage you to contact me with any questions or concerns at josephd@eics.ab.ca

This year the faith theme we have chosen, as a Division, is "Choose Joy". Our intent, even in the midst of much uncertainty, is to model Christ's Joy to our community. We will be providing you with more information as it becomes available. In the meantime, as we still have a couple of weeks before school starts, please enjoy the rest of summer! Have fun and stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Joseph Dumont, Principal

COVID-19 INFORMATION

Screening Questionnaire

PARENTS/GUARDIANS/STUDENTS MUST USE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE DAILY TO DECIDE IF THE STUDENT SHOULD ATTEND SCHOOL

Risk Assessment: Initial Screening Questions

1.	Do you, or your child attending the program, have any of the below symptoms:	CIRCLE ONE	
	• Fever	YES	NO
	• Cough	YES	NO
	• Shortness of Breath / Difficulty Breathing	YES	NO
	• Sore throat	YES	NO
	• Chills	YES	NO
	• Painful swallowing	YES	NO
	• Runny Nose / Nasal Congestion	YES	NO
	• Feeling unwell / Fatigued	YES	NO
	• Nausea / Vomiting / Diarrhea	YES	NO
	• Unexplained loss of appetite	YES	NO
	• Loss of sense of taste or smell	YES	NO
	• Muscle/ Joint aches	YES	NO
	• Headache	YES	NO
	• Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)	YES	NO
2.	Has the person attending the activity/facility travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days?	YES	NO
3.	Have you/your child had close <u>unprotected*</u> contact (face-to-face contact within 2 meters/6 feet) with someone who has travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days and who is ill**?	YES	NO
4.	Have you/your child attending the program or activity had close <u>unprotected*</u> contact (face-to-face contact within 2 meters/6 feet) in the last 14 days with someone who is ill**?	YES	NO
5.	Have you/your child or anyone in your household been in close <u>unprotected*</u> contact in the last 14 days with someone who is being investigated or confirmed to be a case of COVID-19?	YES	NO

* "unprotected" means close contact without appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

** "ill" means someone with COVID-19 symptoms on the list above

If you have answered "Yes" to any of the above questions, please **DO NOT** enter the school at this time. You should stay home and use the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine whether you need to be tested for COVID-19.

If you have answered "No" to all the above questions, you may attend school.

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