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*For Immediate Release*

## **EICS announces *One to One Technology Initiative***

*Sherwood Park, AB* – As part of Elk Island Catholic School Division’s (EICS) priority of creating Quality Learning Environments in all of its classrooms, EICS is announcing our *One to One Technology Initiative* for the 2016-17 school year. As part of the initiative, students from Grades 4-12 will be invited to bring their own technology for use in their learning experience. EICS is championing this initiative with the ultimate goal of supporting and engaging all students to achieve success in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environment.

EICS believes that this initiative will provide the following advantages to students:

- Students know their own device and can customize it to best support their own learning.
- Learning can happen both in school and out of school.
- Students will have the opportunity to create and share their learning with increasing choice.
- Students will grow in their appropriate use of technology.
- Students will develop skills to effectively use technology as a tool to collaborate, problem solve and communicate.
- Stronger transition beyond high school with the ability to use technology in an educational setting.

To ensure that all students will have access to this important initiative, EICS will provide a device to students who do not have a device of their own for a minimal fee or with no charge for students who qualify for the fee waiver program. As well, with this initiative in mind, EICS is reviewing fees within the division to ensure fairness and accessibility for all students and their families.

“EICS has been on the technology journey for years and has invested heavily in supporting our teachers in the classroom as well as a robust wireless infrastructure,” explains Superintendent Michael Hauptman. “This initiative, along with others currently underway that enhance our quality learning environments, is how we continuously improve in providing our students with the best educational experience possible.”

Parents are invited to visit the Learning Technologies page on the EICS website which is located by clicking on [EICS Learning Technologies](#) or by visiting [www.eics.ab/programs](http://www.eics.ab/programs). This section has a number of fact sheets, presentations and resources on the *One to One Initiative*.

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EICS, part of Alberta’s publicly funded education system, is committed to developing educational opportunities in the context of Gospel values. EICS is dedicated to providing quality, faith-based learning environments to students of any background and faith, where their skills are nurtured and celebrated by dedicated, caring staff.

For more information or to request an interview, please contact:

Susan Johnson  
Communications  
Elk Island Catholic Schools  
(780) 449-7487  
[susan.johnson@eics.ab.ca](mailto:susan.johnson@eics.ab.ca)