



October 27, 2021

STAR Catholic Schools to adopt proof of vaccination or negative test result procedure for all staff

Leduc — STAR Catholic School Division will join others across the province in adopting a mandatory proof of vaccination or negative COVID-19 test result procedure for all staff.

The decision comes in response to a recent joint letter from the Ministers of Education and Health to all school divisions in Alberta, which encouraged the adoption of such a procedure as part of the efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19.

“Administration underwent an extensive review and consultation process in making this decision, and we adopted this procedure with the health and safety of our school communities at the top of mind,” says Superintendent Charlie Bouchard.

“It’s important that the Division take any steps necessary and use the tools available to us to protect our staff, students, and families to the best of our abilities.”

Under the new procedure, as of January 3, 2022, all Division staff, including substitute teachers, casual, and support staff, must be either fully vaccinated or present proof of a negative COVID-19 test result every 72 hours.

The procedure does not apply to students or parents, except for parents who are volunteering in the school, who are considered workers under provincial legislation. The Division has committed to reviewing the procedure in a timely manner as the pandemic evolves.

“This has been an unprecedented and difficult time for divisions across the province,” says Superintendent Bouchard. “As always, we are grateful for continued support and understanding from our partners as we navigate these challenging decisions.”

Based in central Alberta, Saint Thomas Aquinas Roman (STAR) Catholic School Division represents 12 schools that serve the communities of Beaumont, Drayton Valley, Lacombe, Leduc, Ponoka, and Wetaskiwin. The STAR Catholic Schools team of teachers and support staff are committed to giving more than 4000 students across our division every opportunity to achieve their potential in a caring, safe and Christ-centred environment.

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