**Principal/Vice Principal Report**

**September 13, 2023**

**School Start up information:**

* Currently we have 440 students registered. This is a few students down from last year, but we have a number of students new to the area who will be joining us late September and October.
* We have a few new staff members this year. We welcome Mrs. Pierson our new secretary who is joining us from SMB. Felicity took a transfer to St. Pat’s Harrowsmith to be closer to home. Mrs. Collings is a new gr. 7/8 teacher (covering Maternity leave for Mrs. Corcoran), Mr. Compeau-Halladay (away on leave and Mr. Doyle is back until he returns). Katrina Bracken is our gr. 6/7 teacher. Sydney Benjamin is our 5/6 teacher. Kim McFarlane our new 0.5 SERT (afternoons), Rhonda Belanger and Selena Benevides (FSL teachers). Chris Beneteau CYW. Jessica Hitchcock, ECE with Mrs. Muise’s class. Jessica O’Brien EA. Rest of the teaching and support staff remains the same as last year.
* We have 18 classes, which is up one from last year. This is great for class sizes! One class will be housed in the learning commons for the remainder of the year.
* As we have returned, we are prioritizing mental health and well being for all staff and students. Positive mental health is the foundational condition for our community members to flourish, emotionally, academically and spiritually. Our goal is to ensure that each member of our school community feels precious, loved, safe and experiences a true sense of belonging as we return to being in-community with one another. Our students and staff are really enjoying being together again! Please click to view the Mentally Healthy Back to School Support Package from School Mental Health Ontario below. It is available on our Board Webpage.

<https://alcdsb.sharepoint.com/sites/ALCDSB_CentralFiles/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2FALCDSB%5FCentralFiles%2FShared%20Documents%2FUnderstanding%20Our%20Learners%20ALCDSB%5FA%20Soft%20Start%20to%20September%2Epdf&parent=%2Fsites%2FALCDSB%5FCentralFiles%2FShared%20Documents>

* **Blessed Beyond Belief:** The fourth of five pastoral themes, “Blessed Beyond Belief”, calls us to open our eyes and our hearts to see all of God’s goodness that surrounds us. Recognizing that faith is a gift from God, we are thankful for all of the gifts and blessings that we receive, which all come from God. This theme will permeate our school prayer services, activities and discussions in class.
* PA day on **Monday September 25th, 2023:**
	+ Focus on literacy and Mathematics.
	+ All Kindergarten to Grade 3 teachers must receive professional learning on early reading instruction, universal design for learning, and screening **as early as possible** in the school year to ensure educators are prepared to support their students in a manner consistent with the recommendations in the [Ontario Human Rights Commission’s](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ohrc.on.ca%2Fen%2Fright-to-read-inquiry-report&data=05%7C01%7Cfaught%40alcdsb.on.ca%7C2b7c63c1e2bc4345462008db36dffd31%7C04e36a796c9a424eaef567a4321604c1%7C1%7C0%7C638164107907921987%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IsKvo4zmVQObS6a54f3qpSq73vxOdy3HPGNKRPyoVXo%3D&reserved=0) *Right to Read* report for the full school year.
	+ Other professional learning in literacy should include:
	+ Implementation of the new Language/Français, Grades 1-8 curriculum and the new de-streamed Grade 9 English/Français course
	+ Literacy across the curriculum
* Open house and Welcome Back BBQ is scheduled for September 27th 5:30-7:00. Knights of Columbus will be providing the BBQ (Hotdogs and Drinks) during that time and then there will be classroom ‘meet n’ greets’ from 6:00-7:00. This is not a formal interview, but rather a chance for students to show their class and parents to meet their child’s teacher. Interviews will be scheduled following progress reports. Early Progress Reports go home