



## May 4, 2021

## STAR Catholic School Division will not pilot new draft curriculum

**Leduc** — Over the course of last month, STAR Catholic School Division conducted an in-depth analysis of the Government of Alberta's draft K-6 curriculum. This included a comprehensive review of the curriculum by committees of teachers from each grade level, as well as surveys of both teachers and families.

Of the K-6 teachers surveyed, 98% said they would not be interested in piloting the draft curriculum, with most respondents indicating that a lack of energy due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as concerns with the draft curriculum, were contributing factors in their decision. Of the parents surveyed, 93% indicated they would not be in support of the Division participating in the pilot program.

Based on the feedback received, the STAR Catholic Board of Trustees has accepted Administration's recommendation that the Division should not participate in piloting the draft curriculum for the 2021-2022 school year.

"This decision is one our Board takes very seriously. We are grateful for the thought and consideration that was put into the curriculum review and survey process to ensure our stakeholders were consulted and their voices were heard," says Board Chair Michelle Lamer.

"Given the feedback received, we feel that this choice best represents the needs of our students, staff, families, and school communities. We thank all those who took the time to review the draft curriculum and share their thoughts on such an important matter."

STAR Catholic School Division encourages the Government of Alberta to pause the pilot process and conduct a thorough review involving more in-depth teacher participation and analysis. Whatever the decision made by the province, our teachers will take advantage of any opportunities available in order to provide feedback on the curriculum.

All stakeholders are encouraged to review the <u>Government of Alberta's draft curriculum</u> and provide feedback to Alberta Education through its <u>Public Feedback Survey</u>.

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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For more information, contact: Caitlin Kehoe Manager of Communications STAR Catholic Schools (780) 986-2500 caitlin.kehoe@starcatholic.ab.ca