

SPACE FOR STUDENTS ENGAGEMENT

MONSIGNOR
FEE
Catholic Elementary/Junior High School



PERSON

November 20, 2023

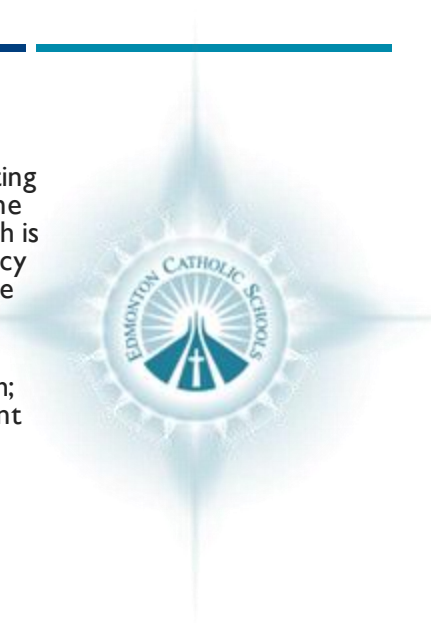
GOSPEL READING

“As Jesus approached Jericho, a man who was blind was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” Then he shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The man said, “Lord, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.”

Luke 18.35-43

STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS ENGAGEMENT

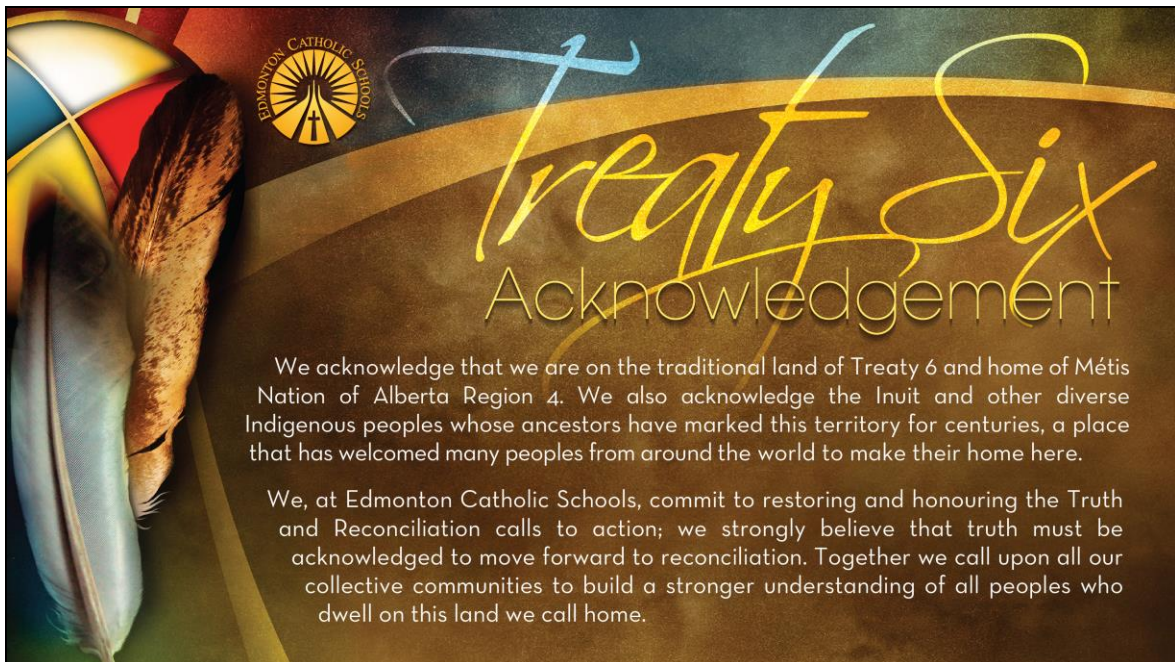


A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke:

“As Jesus approached Jericho, a man who was blind was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” Then he shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

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The Gospel of the Lord.



As we start our evening together, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of Treaty 6 and home of Métis Nation of Alberta Region 4. We also acknowledge the Inuit and other diverse Indigenous peoples whose ancestors have marked this territory for centuries, a place that has welcomed many peoples from around the world to make their home here. We, at Edmonton Catholic Schools, commit to restoring and Honouring the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action; we strongly believe that truth must be acknowledged to move forward to reconciliation. Together we call upon all our collective communities to build a stronger understanding of all peoples who dwell on this land we call home.



Board of Trustees
Vice Chair
**LISA
TURCHANSKY**

Good evening, everyone. On behalf of your Board of Trustees, I am pleased to welcome you to the Spaces for Students engagement session this evening at Monsignor Fee Otterson Elementary/Junior High School. I would like to thank Superintendent John Fiacco, Principal Maria-Julieta Zelada, Assistant Principals Julie Francois, and Rob Madunicky and the other Edmonton Catholic staff for their support with the important presentation you will see here today.

We are here tonight because we recognize that Monsignor Fee Otterson is dealing with exceptional enrolment and the current number of students is greater than what the school was built for.

We are committed to gathering feedback and engaging with the MFO families to understand the student accommodation needs and to ensure the effective use of space and resources at Monsignor Fee Otterson School.

An ever-increasing number of families are entrusting us with the sacred responsibility of educating their children and helping them to grow to their fullest potential. This year alone, our Division has grown by 5.5%, which is 2.0% higher than we had projected. Please know that our Board has advocated for a new school for this area since 2017 as we knew that space would be needed to accommodate the growing

neighbourhoods in this community.

The new K-9 Catholic school in Cavanagh is number one on our year 1 priorities of our Capital Plan. It is important to know that even though we will be exploring options here tonight, no decisions have been made, and that any provided solutions are temporary and will bridge the time between when the new school is approved for full construction and built.

Thank you so much for joining us tonight. Our evening is so important, and we are so thankful that you are providing your input into this engagement process.

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

1. Balance between funding/fiscal restraints, Stakeholder input and Division strategic plans
2. Not all viewpoints can be included
3. Final decision rests with Educational Planning and school administration



It is important to note that the final recommendations will not include each viewpoint expressed, and decisions must uphold the Division's fiduciary responsibility. Educational Planning and school administration will take a number of factors into consideration when they make their final decision.

It is important to know that even though we are exploring these options, no decisions have been made and that any of these provided solutions are temporary until the new school in Cavanagh is approved, built and open.

This evening's goal is to get all the information presented and use it to inform your feedback that you provide to us through the survey.

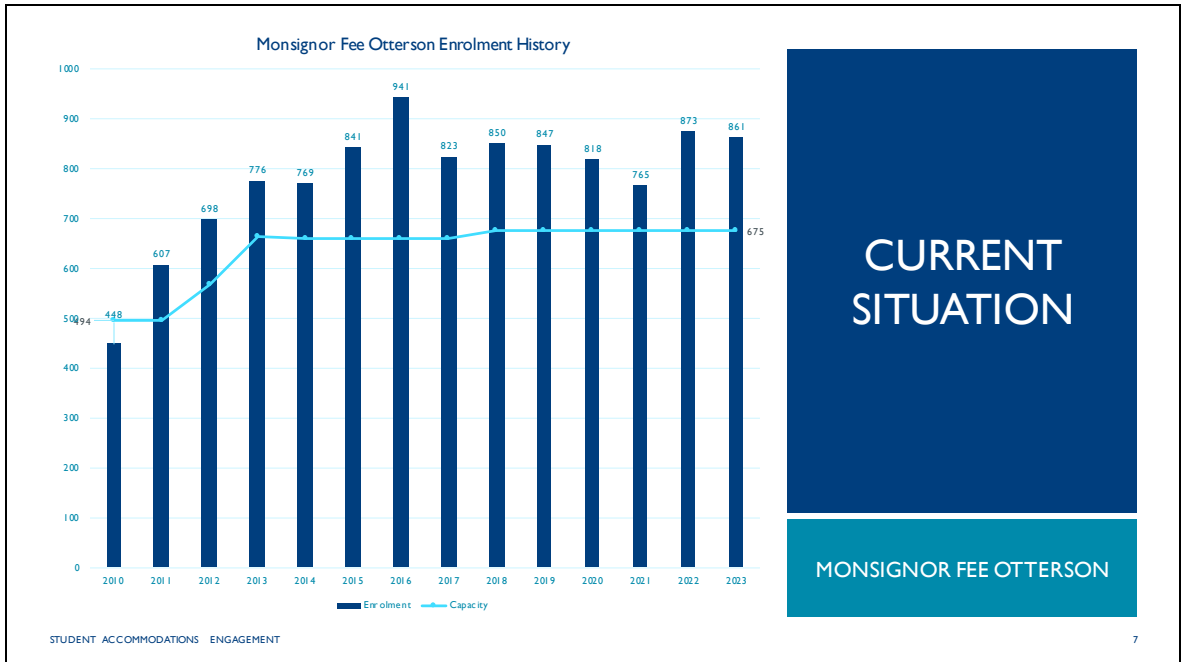
BACKGROUND

- No decisions have been made
- All scenarios will take effect in September 2024
- Must create safe accommodations for the number of children in the attendance area
- Capacity issue is two pronged as the neighbouring communities continue to grow and students move in throughout the year
- Looking for the best solution with the least disruptions to learning, and focuses on the consistency of programming

JOHN FIACCO
SUPERINTENDENT

EDUCATIONAL PLANNING

The decision that is made from the scenarios shared on November 20, 2023, will take effect September 2024. We need to create the conditions at the school to accommodate the number of children that are in the attendance area, and we need to keep in mind the future growth in the area. The capacity issue is two pronged as the neighbouring communities continue to grow and students move in throughout the year. Finally, we need to find a solution that focuses on the consistency of programming for the students and minimizes disruptions to their learning. If we do not do anything to alleviate the space constraints the school is facing, MFO is projected to have 900 students enrolled in it by September 2026- 225 students above the current capacity



Here's the enrollment history of Monsignor Fee Otterson since it first opened its doors in 2010. When the school opened, it had a capacity for 449 students. As we added modular classrooms over the years, you'll notice the school's capacity expanded, indicated by the upward trend of the bright blue line. With each capacity expansion, the growth in enrollment significantly outpaced the additional space.

ADAPTATIONS TO LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS TO ADDRESS ENROLMENT PRESSURES:

- Learning Commons is now a Kindergarten class with two Kindergarten homerooms in one space
- Library books are down the hallways
- Staff room is used 80% of the day for JH instruction
- The gym is divided with a partition curtain to allow two groups to use the gym at once
- Atrium tables are used for small group instruction and JH Flex
- Recess staggered to minimize number of students in playground

STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS ENGAGEMENT

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To adapt to the enrolment pressures that MFO is facing, the school has adjusted the learning environment to make use of all available space. They have made the following changes within the school:

- Learning commons is now a kindergarten class with 2 kindergarten homerooms in one space.
- The library books are down the hallways as there is no space to house them.
- The staffroom is a classroom 80% of the day for junior high students.
- The Gym is always divided with the partition curtain to allow access for Phys. Ed to all and as such 2 groups are in the gym simultaneously.
- The Atrium tables are used for small group instruction and for junior high flex.

In addition to these instructional space changes, recesses are staggered all day long (morning, lunch, afternoon) to minimize the number of students on the playground /equipment that require supervision. MFO's class sizes are large with most homerooms having close to or over 30 students. Finally, MFO has started looking to the outdoors to maximize more space and is looking at building an outdoor classroom to support with different learning environments.

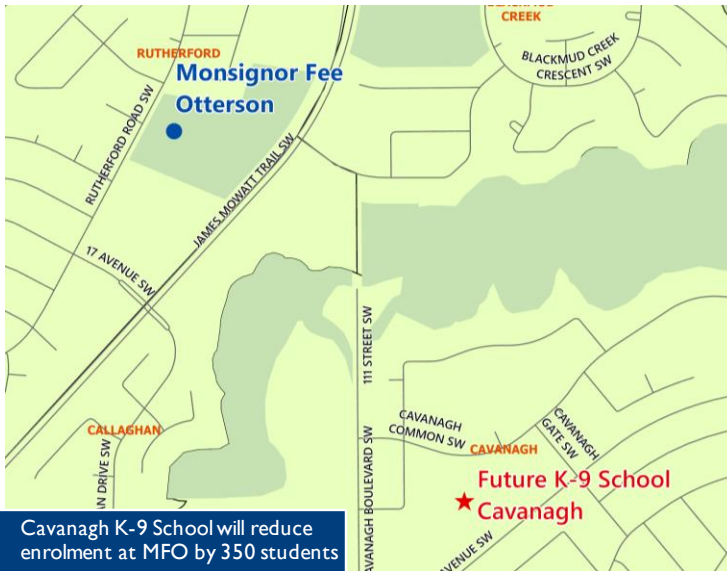


MAP OF MONSIGNOR FEE OTTERSON



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The school is fully built out and even exceeds the P3 contract limit by 6 modulares, also called portables. There are 20 modulares on this site and there is no room for additional modulares. The capacity cannot be increased.



STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS ENGAGEMENT

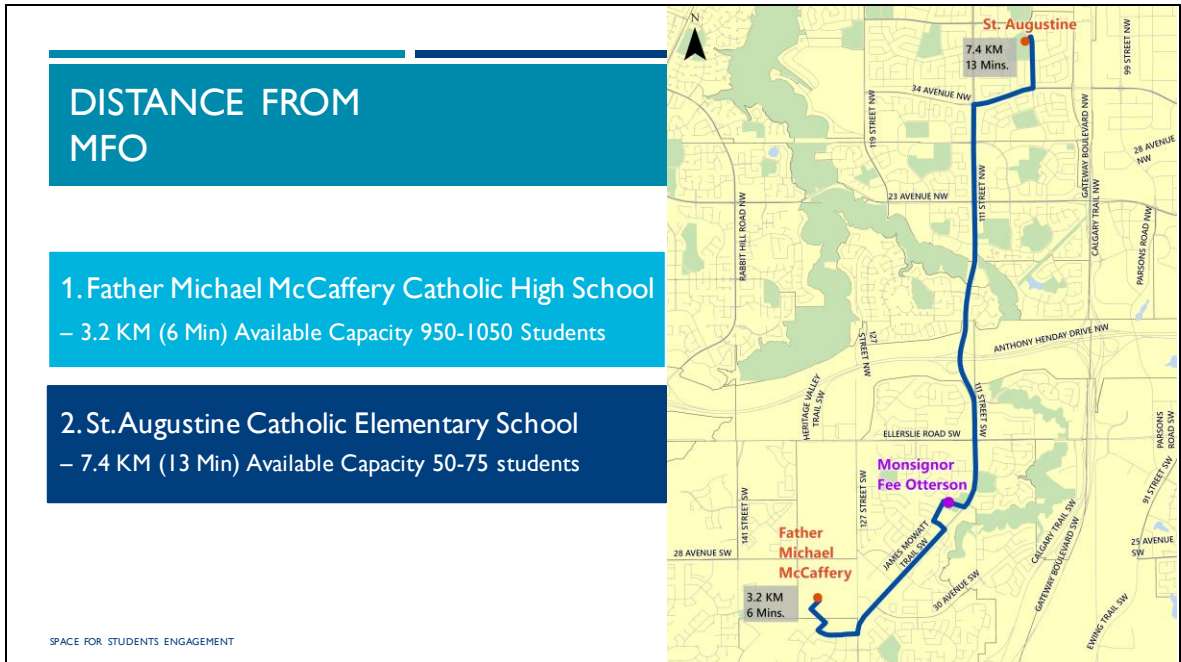
FUTURE K-9 SCHOOL CAVANAGH

- Priority 1 on the 2024-2027 Capital Plan
- The project received Planning approval in March 2023
- ECSD continues to prioritize until full funding is received
- Site is ready for construction
- If fully approved for construction in March 2024 Alberta Budget, school can be built and open by Sept. 2027

We know that the schools in this area of the city are full. ECSD will be looking at additional measures, other than the options presented tonight, to reduce enrolment pressures. Advocating with the province to build a new school in Cavanagh.

- The Future K-9 School in Cavanagh is priority 1 on the 2024-2027 ECSD Capital Plan.
- The project received Planning approval from the Alberta Government in March 2023.
- ECSD continues to prioritize this project until full construction funding is received from the Alberta Government.
- The site is currently ready for construction.
- If fully approved for construction funding in the March 2024 Alberta Government Budget, the school can be built and opened by September 2027.

Opening a K-9 Catholic School in Cavanagh will reduce the enrolment at MFO by 350 students.

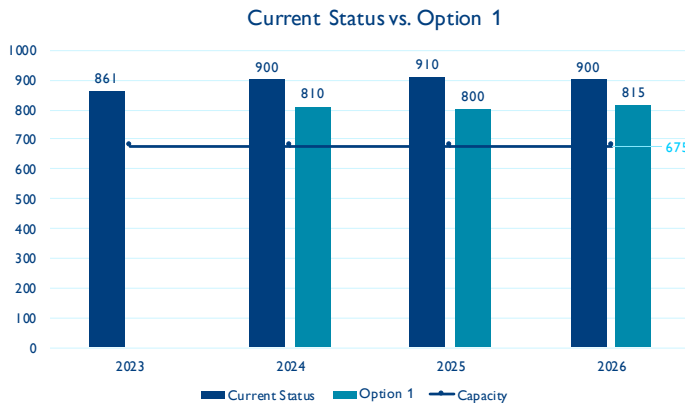


I will walk you through three options we are considering as temporary space for students options to reduce enrolment pressures at MFO. These options involve two schools, Father Michael McCaffery Catholic School and St. Augustine Catholic School. Here are the distances between MFO and those schools.

- St. Augustine is 7.4 km and 13 minutes for transportation.
- Father Michael McCaffery is 3.2 KM, and is 6 min away by car.

Again, These options are all temporary measures until a new school in Cavanagh is approved, built and opened. Our preferred option would be to get the new school in the area built as soon as possible but for now all we can look at are mitigation factors that we can control.

OPTION 1



- MFO becomes Kindergarten to Grade 8
- Grade 9 students to be re-designated to Father Michael McCaffery Catholic High School

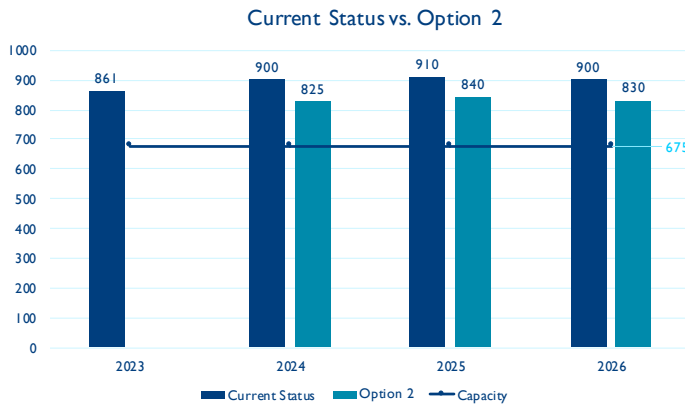
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OPTION 1

- This option is projected to impact 90 Grade 9 students, which will decrease enrolment pressures. We will still need to consider the additional strategy of advocating for the new K-9 school in Cavanagh if we go with option 1.
- This option will see MFO become a Kindergarten to Grade 8 school. Father Michael McCaffery Catholic School, a brand-new school, is scheduled to open for September 2024.
- Father Michael McCaffery Catholic High School is projected to open in 2024 at 30% utilization, with only Grades 10 and 11 students.
- While McCaffery is projected to be full 4-5 years after opening, we have some space there now that will accommodate MFO students until Cavanagh is approved and built.
- Additionally, Father Michael McCaffery School is the designated feeder high school for MFO, so this option to have the grade nines attend Father Michael McCaffery makes sense, as they could have one transition and stay there for Grades 10-12.
- Finally, the distance from MFO to Father Michael McCaffery School is 3.2 KM. Students would ETS School Specials to Father Michael McCaffery with a projected ride time of 20 minutes one-way. ETS School Specials in the area serve Dr. Anne Anderson as well and the ETS School Specials would serve Father Michael McCaffery first, and then Dr. Anne Anderson.

OPTION 2



- MFO becomes Grade 1 to Grade 9
- Kindergarten students to be re-designated to St. Augustine

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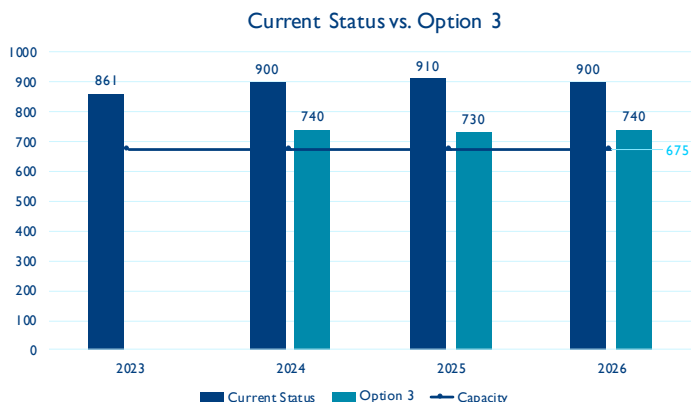
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OPTION 2

- Similar to option one, option 2 reduces students by 70.
- This option will see Monsignor Fee Otterson become a Grade 1 to Grade 9 school. Kindergarten students will be designated to St. Augustine Catholic School, and they will be back at MFO the following year for Grade 1.
- Kindergarten students would be transported to St. Augustine by yellow bus with a projected ride time of 35 minutes one-way.

OPTION 3

- MFO becomes Grade 1 to Grade 8
- Kindergarten students are re-designated to St. Augustine Catholic Elementary School
- Grade 9 students to be re-designated to Father Michael McCaffery Catholic High School



OPTION 3

- This option is a combination of Options 1 and 2 and is projected to impact about 180 students, which out of all the options will have the most impact on easing enrolment pressures at MFO until the new school in Cavanagh is built and opened.
- This option will see MFO become a Grade 1 to Grade 8 school.
- Kindergarten will be bussed to St. Augustine School and the Grade 9s will be designated to McCaffery High school.
- Kindergarten students would be transported to St. Augustine by yellow bus with a projected ride time of 35 minutes one-way.
- Grade 9 students would use ETS School Specials to Father Michael McCaffery with a projected ride time of 20 minutes one-way.

SUMMARY – options would be effective September 2024

Option 1 – MFO becomes a Kindergarten to Grade 8 school with Grade 9 students designated to Fr. Michael McCaffery.

Option 2 – MFO remains a Grade 1 to Grade 9 school and Kindergarten are designated to St. Augustine.

Option 3 – Combination of Option 1 & 2. MFO becomes a Grade 1 to Grade 8 school. Kindergarten students are designated to St. Augustine and Grade 9 students are designated to Father Michael McCaffery.

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These options are all temporary measures until a new school in Cavanaugh is approved, built and opened.

NEXT STEPS

- Survey closes November 30
- What We Heard Report shared in December
- Final decision shared in January
- Email questions/comments about the engagement to engagement@ecsd.net



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An Engagement Survey requesting feedback on the November 20, 2023, presentation can be found on our school website. The survey is open for responses until the end of day on November 30, 2023.

It is important to know that even though we are exploring these options, no decisions have been made.

Your feedback on the MFO Space for Students Engagement will be used by ECSD and school administration to inform their final decision and decisions to address the space constraints will be shared in January. Our priority is our families and the education of our students. All decisions will be made with this in mind.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

- ECSD is in urgent need of new schools
- We need your help in providing information on how the lack of schools in the area is impacting your family.
- Collaborate with your school council to help make your voice heard in a factual and respectful manner to:
 - MLA Rhiannon Hoyle
Edmonton.South@assembly.ab.ca
 - Education Minister Demetrios Nicolaides
education.minister@gov.ab.ca

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Lastly, we need your help! Our Division is in urgent need of new schools. You can collaborate with your school council to make your voice heard and email your MLA and Alberta's Education Minister to share your concerns about the impact of enrolment pressures on your family.



Mary, the Mother of God

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (+). Amen.

Let us pray: Loving Father, you sent your Son into the world to redeem us by his Cross and Resurrection. Send your Spirit upon us today to make us stewards of your gifts and witnesses of your Son, Jesus Christ, in our schools and in our world.

We were created in your image and likeness; each of us a precious gift. Through the intercession of our Most Blessed Mother, Mary, the Mother of God, we ask you to protect and guide our students and staff; caring and watching over us at all times.

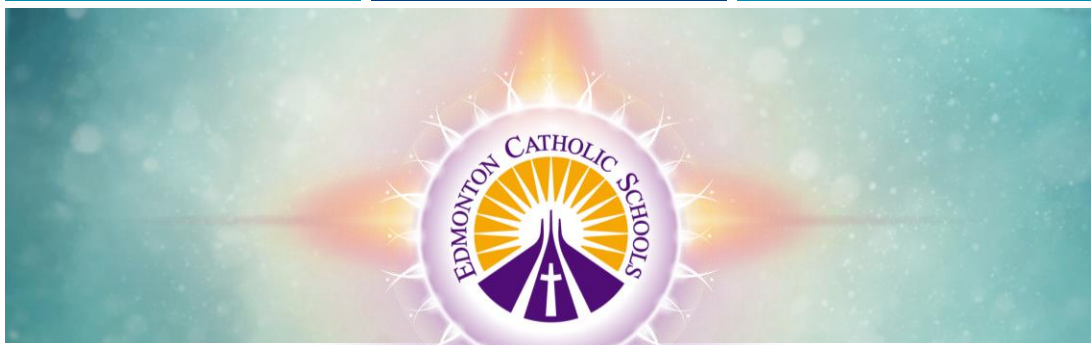
Come live in our hearts and strengthen us to love and serve you. Let us glorify your name, being kind and generous to everyone we meet. With Christ as our model and our teacher, we celebrate and witness our faith, learning together, working together, and praying together in answering the call to a faith-filled life of service.

We pray this through your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (+).

Amen

Edmonton Catholic School Division Prayers



THANK YOU!

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, SO THAT THEY MAY SEE
YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GIVE GLORY TO YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN. (Matthew 5:16)