



EDMONTON  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

**Fresh Start Westmount Academic Center**

Plan for Continuous Growth 2018-2021

# FRESH START WESTMOUNT GOALS 2018 – 2021

## Goal #1: Catholic Education

### Edmonton Catholic Schools

#### District Plan for Continuous Growth 2018-2021

#### Edmonton Catholic School District Goal: Live and enhance the distinctiveness of Catholic education

*Objective:* This goal is central to our mission and fundamental to our being. We are called to live the Word of God through worship, witness, and service.

- 1.1 Demonstrate the distinctiveness and advantages of Catholic education.
  - a) Cultivate and support a Catholic ethos/environment within each site.
  - b) Demonstrate a way of life rooted in the Catholic Christian call to discipleship and service.
  - c) Ensure that permeation of faith remains central in all our day to day practices.
- 1.2 Promote and foster the presence of Edmonton Catholic Schools in the education, Church, civic, business and government communities.
  - a) Continue collaboration with the Archdiocese of Edmonton and the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton.
  - b) Support and promote the work of the Edmonton Catholic Schools Foundation.
  - c) Create opportunities to engage the Catholic community in discussion on Catholic education.
  - d) Provide opportunities for relevant and authentic student engagement.
- 1.3 Demonstrate commitment to and excellence in Catholic education.
  - a) Deliver and support our Religious Education programs to all students as a spirit-filled lived experience.
  - b) Continue a focus on faith formation learning opportunities for all staff.
  - c) Expect the same practice of excellence, professional preparation and quality of resource materials for Religious Education instruction as for other academic instruction.
  - d) Continue to develop the role of the school-based chaplain to support the faith formation of students and staff and support sacred-space environments.
  - e) Review our District Foundation Statement and its implications at each site at least twice annually.
  - f) Identify, honour and protect our history and traditions of Catholic education through maintenance and enhancement of our archival collections for each site.
  - g) Continue to enhance and strengthen our Catholic identity through revisioning the Five Marks of Catholic School Identity Implementation Plan (2015-2018) ([Five Marks of Catholic Education](#)) and continue teacher faith formation through the Five Marks of Catholic School Identity and the Excellent Catholic Teacher ([The Excellent Catholic Teacher](#)).

**Staff Member(s):** Gino, Milena, Jacqueline, Larry, Marcus,  
Jerilyn, Sharon, Tiffany, Wanda, Kama, Cindy, Kelly

**School or Department:** Fresh Start Westmount

<p><b>Year: 2018-2019</b></p>	<p><b>Review dates:</b> <i>At FSWM this site goal will be reviewed at each weekly staff meeting and will be a standing item on the weekly agenda and progress is recorded in the minutes. Site staff believe that this keeps the goal relevant and allows each person to see progress made towards the overall objective.</i></p>	
<p><b>SMART GOAL:</b> <i>1) Our data shows that our students felt that perhaps the importance of prayer could be enhanced in our school. So, our goal: We will engage students in prayer/spiritual reflection ceremonial/cultural practices on a biweekly basis.</i></p>		
<p><b>PROCESS GOALS:</b> What will we do? Who is involved?</p>	<p><b>TIMELINE:</b> When will I do it?</p>	<p><b>EVIDENCE:</b> How will I know?</p>
<p>We will have biweekly pause to smudge, pray, reflect with students</p>	<p>October-June</p>	<p>Attendance Through observation</p>
<p>Work with Braided Journeys. Examples: Talking Circles, Liaising with FNMI Fresh Start Liaisons to plan monthly ceremonies, Social Justice Initiatives and cultural opportunities, Tuesday &amp; Thursday smudge and game hour.</p>	<p>October-June</p>	<p>Participation, engagement and observation</p>
<p>Continue prayers at advisee meetings, Thanksgiving, etc.</p>		<p>We will continue to pray at all communal gatherings.</p>
<p>Celebrate advent weekly.</p>	<p>November-December</p>	<p>Wreath with candles and prayer</p>
<p>Set up a prayer bulletin board</p>	<p>October-June</p>	<p>Thanksgiving and staff meeting spiritual/prayer activity.</p>

<p>Students will be invited on an ongoing basis to place intentions into an intentions box. Intentions will be read prior to weekly prayer.</p>	<p>October-June</p>	<p>Prayer opportunities compared to previous year will increase by 80%-90%. In this year's student survey, 90% of students will feel that prayer is important here on site.</p>
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**ECSD Goal One:** ECSD students are successful

**Objective:** To develop students to their fullest potential, through multiple pathways, so that they can nurture their gifts and talents in service to others and pursue their passions and interests as contributing members of community... academically, spiritually, physically, mentally and socially.

**Edmonton Catholic School District Key Strategies:**

1. Focus on strategies to support seamless transitions from K to 1, grades 6 to 7, grades 9 to 10, and 12 and beyond.
2. Identify and implement best practices that align with excellent early learning pedagogy and learning environments while developing a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy. A strong start to learning necessitates a focus upon developing competencies, i.e. communication, growth and well-being, creativity and innovation, critical thinking, problem solving and management of information.
3. Ensure that flexible and responsive programming meets the diverse needs of all learners.
4. Continue to further develop career pathways for students.

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**SMART GOAL: 2) Critical thinking and effective communication skills cannot be transmitted through module completion alone. These experiences of higher learning are acquired through deeper human interface and interaction through discussion and other means of expression. So, our goal: We will engage our students in more frequent individual and group discussions and alternate means of expression (including Revelation Online) to explore curricular concepts in the context of society and daily living.**

<b>PROCESS GOALS: What will we do? Who is involved?</b>	<b>TIMELINE: When will I do it?</b>	<b>EVIDENCE: How will I know?</b>
Provide students with several alternative methods of displaying knowledge, skills, and abilities. Eg.) orally, through art, poster, mind map, music, poetry, media (technology), Revelation Online, etc.		
October-June      Students will hand in work in a manner that is different from module completion 5% of the time.		
Students will be evaluated in manners other than module completion and written tests. Exploring further speech to text, group readings, diploma prep, recreational reading month, oral evaluation, in-class essays, etc.		
Students will generate more discussion surrounding questions in modules/assignments.		Teachers will visibly be involved
in discussions with students on a more regular basis. We will pursue more group discussions and alternative supplements.		
Make use of text-to-speech software.	October-June	Course completions will increase by 5 % or more (as students have

<p><b>Goal #2: Professional Teaching / Learning</b>  <b>District Goal Alignment: ECSD is an inclusive school district</b>  <b>Key strategies:</b></p> <p><b>3.2</b> Identify and implement best practices that align with excellent early learning pedagogy and learning environments.....  focus upon developing competencies and, in particular, the foundational competencies of literacy and numeracy, content and procedural knowledge.</p> <p><b>3.7</b> Continue to provide and develop services and model initiatives that promote student health, using the Mental Health Strategic Plan.</p>		
<p><b>Staff Member(s):</b> Gino, Milena, Jacqueline, Larry, Marcus, Jerilyn, Sharon, Tiffany, Wanda, Kama, Cindy, Kelly</p>	<p><b>School or Department:</b> Fresh Start Westmount</p>	
<p><b>Year:</b> 2018-2019</p>	<p><b>Review dates:</b> <i>At FSWM this site goal will be reviewed at each weekly staff meeting and will be a standing item on the weekly agenda and progress is recorded in the minutes. Site staff believe that this keeps the goal relevant and allows each person to see progress made towards the overall objective.</i></p>	
<p><b>SMART GOAL:</b> <i>3) In looking at our TTFM survey, we have a deficit in the areas of sense of belonging and positive self-esteem in our students, and higher levels of depression and anxiety among our students. Our goal: We will engage students in activities and opportunities that will positively influence their sense of belonging, community, and positive affect, resulting in enhanced overall well-being.</i></p>		
<p><b>PROCESS GOALS:</b> What will we do? Who is involved?</p>	<p><b>TIMELINE:</b> When will I do it?</p>	<p><b>EVIDENCE:</b> How will I know?</p>
<p>-hold more communal/team building exercises. ie. ice breakers, island game, biweekly games hour.</p>	<p>October-June</p>	<p>Students will increase interaction with staff and students by 10-20 %. Anecdotal discussion at mid-point and final review.</p>

-facilitate student introductions in a fun manner.	October-June	Anecdotal discussion at mid-point and final review.
-hold staff reading sessions, where students can read to others as well. Use and develop our site library to engage students in group reading activities.	October-June	Students will take on reading more than 50 % of time during group reading sessions.
-monthly post-advisee meeting, student-driven activities like basketball or street hockey. Have a suggestion box for student input.	November-June	Students will increase team-type participation from nil to once per month.
-use the site gym facilities on Thursday pm to engage a group of students.	November-June	Thursday afternoon student group will have enough participants every week.
-Bring in student alumni to come in and talk to our current students about their experience and how school has contributed to their lives. Each advisor to bring 2 previous student success stories for advisee meeting guest speeches, etc.	October-June	Alumni will visit and speak every two months on average. Sense of belonging and self-esteem will more approach district average (70%)
<b>REQUIRED RESOURCES (Time, Money, Books, Staff, etc.):</b> -team-building ideas book -books and periodicals for library -book regular gym time with St. Mark -suggestion box		

**ECSD Goal Three:** ECSD respects diversity and promotes inclusion

**Objective:** Establishing inclusive learning environments where diversity is embraced, so that all students and staff within ECSD are respected, supported, and celebrated.

**Key Strategies:**

1. Implement the Inclusive Education Policy Framework by ensuring that schools focus on the creation of welcoming, inclusive, caring, respectful and safe learning environments for all students and staff.
2. Continue to support the provincial Inclusive Education Policy Framework.
3. Continue to develop partnerships supporting and advancing inclusive communities.
4. Provide equitable opportunities for children and students to participate in learning from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12.
5. Continue to provide and develop services and model initiatives that promote student health, using the Mental Health Strategic Plan.
6. Ensure that learner centered decisions are based on the 6 Principles of Inclusive Education (<https://education.alberta.ca/inclusive-education/what-is-inclusion/>).
7. Further develop a Collaborative Response Model with school multi-disciplinary teams.
8. Ensure that assistive technology is available to students identified with needs.

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<b>NEW SMART Goal: 4) Our data tells us that some students are experiencing bullying both at school and in their out-of-school lives. We will instill knowledge and skills so that students can build and maintain healthy relationships inside and outside of school.</b>		
<b>PROCESS GOALS:</b> What will we do? Who is involved?	<b>TIMELINE:</b> When will I do it?	<b>EVIDENCE:</b> How will I know?



All staff	October through June	A decrease by half in the experience of bullying in this year's Our SCHOOL survey.
Deliver a healthy relationships education and activity program 3 or more times during year.	November through June	Good student attendance for activities. Survey students for value of presentation.
Educate the topic of healthy relationships with the involvement of an anti-bullying component.	November through June	Good student attendance for activities. Survey students for value of presentation.
Bring in a guest speaker to discuss the topic of consent.	November and April	Good student attendance for activities. Survey students for value of presentation.
Bring in an Indigenous speaker/role model to discuss a cultural component of healthy relationships and community	December and March	Good student attendance for activities. Survey students for value of presentation.
STAY Advisor to present on bullying.	November	Good student attendance for activities. Survey students for value of presentation.
Start advisee meeting with a relationships/ice breaker/video—TED talk, worry wall component to support a monthly theme. Solicit student suggestions for topics to address together at future advisee meetings.	November through May	Good student attendance for activities. Survey students for value of presentation.
<b>REQUIRED RESOURCES (Time, Money, Books, Staff, etc.):</b> Guest speakers, TED Talks videos, Kama's research		