

## SCHOOL COUNCIL INFORMATION ITEMS - September 2020

*Submitted By - Dorraine Lonsdale, Trustee*

- I have spoken to a number of staff at St. Matthew and St. Dominic schools regarding the staggered entry this year. They all felt it helped to ease the students back while learning new protocols. Both offices and classrooms were said to be pleasantly calm. Thank you to all staff, students and parents for your continued support, commitment and patience to roll with this new normal of uncharted times during the pandemic. This year is a moving target and we are seeing new directives daily. Genuine kudos to staff, parents and students for their flexibility last spring while our schools moved to at home learning. **\*\*NOTE: Parent feedback is always welcome.**
- At Home Learning (AHL) - Families in need are directed to contact schools for support. Families are encouraged to utilize devices they own; but if they don't have access, their catchment school will provide. Some parents have purchased Chromebooks as part of their school supplies, but this was not expected.
- With the new funding formula directed by Alberta Education, RDCRS had to cut 5.2M from the 2020-21 budget. Difficult decisions had to be made in order to approve a balanced budget for this year.
- Federal Covid Funding was 3.45M for RDCRS. This new funding is allocated for all covid-related expenses. The school division is required to provide tracking information to the provincial government for all these funds.
- The Superintendent Survey is requesting input from all staff and parents/guardians. Please take the time to complete this survey. It should not take more than 10 minutes of time. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

(This survey should have been emailed directly to parents, and the staff survey was in the 'Division' mail.)