

**March 17, 2022**

**For Immediate Release**

## **Elk Island Catholic Schools 2022-2026 Division Education Assurance Plan Approved**

*Sherwood Park, Alberta.* The Elk Island Catholic Schools Board (EICS) of Trustees has approved the 2022-2026 and the 2022-2023 Division Education Assurance Plan which was the culmination of an extensive community engagement.

In Alberta, school boards are responsible for providing assurance to their stakeholders that they are fulfilling their responsibilities, meeting the needs of students, and enabling their success. The key to building public assurance is engaging with our education partners in the Division's planning and reporting cycle. The parent, student, and EICS community voice is integral to building this plan and helps create a culture of continuous improvement.

Surveys were conducted with all parents, students in Grades 4-12, and all staff over a number of weeks in December of 2021. Beginning January 2022, EICS analyzed the feedback in the context of best serving the needs of our students as we keep working towards improving where we can and holding steady where we excel.

Highlights of the 2022-2026 EICS Division Education Assurance Plan include the four strategic priorities:

**Faith Integration:** As a Catholic School Division, we are called to share our Catholic faith with our staff and students. Meeting our staff and students where they are at on their faith journey, we invite them into a closer relationship with Christ.

**Learners and Learning:** Student success depends on quality instruction in an environment that respects learners' independent spirit, and promotes the development of innovation and creativity. Teaching and learning correspond with meaningful assessment and reporting practices.

**Systemic Wellness:** Elk Island Catholic Schools is committed to supporting the well-being of all. Wellness issues are linked to decreased learning and productivity, interpersonal conflict, and increased absenteeism, as well as short and long-term disability claims. The Division recognizes that wellness is a collective responsibility.

**Community Engagement:**

Elk Island Catholic Schools is committed to enhanced engagement with educational partners to improve communication, decision-making and system assurance.

To read the entire EICS 2022-2026 Education Assurance Plan, please visit the EICS Assurance site located at: <https://www.eics.ab.ca/eics-assurance2/division-priorities>

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