



# Newsletter

BISHOP DAVID MOTIUK CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
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# Administrators' Message

As we reflect on this past school year, we are filled with gratitude for the many smiles, joyful moments, and cherished memories we have shared as a school community.

From our opening celebrations in September, which so beautifully set the tone for the year, our students embraced opportunities to reconnect with old friends, form new friendships, and grow together in faith and learning. Events such as Meet the Staff and Curriculum Night reminded us of the strength of our Bishop David Motiuk family and the importance of coming together in partnership.

We are truly blessed to have Bishop David as our namesake and to welcome him into our school for many of our celebrations and activities. His presence continues to be a special gift that enriches our community.

# Administrators' Message

Throughout the year, our students have consistently demonstrated what it means to be compassionate, principled, and faith-filled individuals. Whether through their generous support of initiatives such as the ECSD Foundation and other charitable causes, or in the simple, everyday ways they care for and support one another, they have been a source of pride and inspiration. It is a privilege to work alongside such kind and caring children, young people, and families.

As the school year comes to a close, we also take a moment to extend our heartfelt best wishes to those who will be leaving our school community. To our Grade 9 students, thank you for sharing your many gifts and talents with us. You have been outstanding leaders and wonderful role models for our younger students. We wish you every blessing and success as you begin your journey into high school.

# Administrators' Message

As we look ahead, we are excited to welcome many new families to our school community next year, including those joining us from the Big Lakes neighbourhoods, and families moving into Lewis Estates. We look forward to getting to know you and to the many ways you will enrich and strengthen our Bishop David Motiuk family.

We hope that all of our students and families enjoy a restful and renewing summer holiday. May it be a time of joy, relaxation, and connection with loved ones. We eagerly look forward to welcoming both our returning and new families in September.

Terry Volk  
Principal

John Edwards  
Assistant Principal

Joe Estephan  
Assistant Principal



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## Chief Superintendent's Message

- With the end of the school year fast approaching, we are blessed to have many wondrous things happening at Edmonton Catholic Schools. Join Chief Superintendent Lynnette Anderson as she reflects on the 2025-2026 school year and offers summer wishes in [her June Message](#).

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# IB Coordinators' Message

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Our IB Coordinators invite you to follow our school on social media to stay updated on all the exciting happenings in our PYP and MYP classrooms and school community. This is a great way to learn about events, achievements, and to gain insight into how the IB programs are implemented at Bishop David Motiuk.

Join us online to stay connected!

Instagram: [bishopdavidmotiukecsd](#)

Facebook: [Bishop David Motiuk School ECSD](#)

As always, we welcome questions about the IB programmes in our school. Andrea Olivieri is the coordinator for the Primary Years Programme (PYP) and Lyndsy Panizzon is the coordinator for the Middle Years Programme (MYP). They can be reached at [Andrea.Olivieri@ecsd.net](mailto:Andrea.Olivieri@ecsd.net) and [Lyndsy.Panizzon@ecsd.net](mailto:Lyndsy.Panizzon@ecsd.net)

# Thank You Volunteers

As the school year draws to a close, we would like to truly thank our parent volunteers. So many of you volunteer in our classrooms and help with field trips and school events and we are sincerely grateful. We would not be able to manage without you!

We would especially like to thank the volunteers who help with hot lunches each week and the members of our School Council and the LF Fundraising Association for their commitment to our school and for their willingness to come to meetings and share their views and expertise with us!

WE LOVE  
OUR VOLUNTEERS

## School Council

Chairperson: Dwayne Vodden

Vice Chairperson: Larissa Chenier

Past Chairperson: Aman Rana

Secretary: Jessica Gordon

Volunteer Coordinator: Jen Gallant

## LF Fundraising Association

Chairperson: Jenn Krawchuk

Vice Chairperson: April Bernath

Secretary: Jessica Gordon

Treasurer: Richard Carr

## Hot Lunch Volunteers

Jen Gallant, Jessica Gordon,

Cassandra Hendrix, Jenn Pino-Willock

Anina Fraser, and the others who helped throughout the year!

Thank  
YOU

Thank You



# Say & Play Boards

- Did you know there are more than 40 Say and Play Boards in ECSD-operated playgrounds, including at our school's park? These boards are a bridge between students, helping them communicate, play, and build friendships. They are designed to offer accessible communication for children who are non-speaking, learning to speak, or learning English. All you have to do is POINT – SAY – and PLAY!
- Learn more by visiting [ecsd.net/sayandplay](https://ecsd.net/sayandplay).



# Welcome Ed Stelmach



- On Monday, June 1st, we will be welcoming former Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach to speak with our Grade 9 students to support their learning in Social Studies. Grade 9 Social Studies explores the structure and function of Canada's federal system, including the roles and responsibilities of government, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the different ways political decisions impact citizens.
- Although the curriculum mainly focuses on the federal government, we believe it will be valuable for students to hear directly from someone who has served in provincial leadership. Mr. Stelmach's experiences as Premier of Alberta will help students better understand how provincial and federal governments interact, collaborate, and navigate challenges together. His perspective will provide students with a meaningful real-world connection to the concepts they are studying in class.
- As a Catholic school, we also aim to help students recognize how faith and leadership can coexist in public life. Mr. Stelmach's experience as a practicing Catholic serving in public office will give students an example of how personal values and public responsibility can intersect.

# BDM Feast & Fun Day

The end of the school year is approaching, and we would like to mark our school Feast Day (and the anniversary of Bishop David's consecration as a Bishop) with a liturgy and a hamburger lunch, catered by M&M Meat Shop, for students. Our Feast Day will be celebrated on Friday, June 12.



# Grade 9 Farewell

The Grade Nine Farewell at Bishop David Motiuk is in keeping with Archdiocesan guidelines for graduations and is designed to ensure that each of our grade nine students is able to participate. The mass and Farewell Exercises are on different days from celebrations, which is in keeping with Archdiocesan policy (514) on graduation masses, which states:

*The Mass for graduates is to be clearly distinct from other graduation events (convocation, prom, etc.) A distinct day for the Mass would help to highlight its unique significance.*

The date for the Farewell Mass is **Thursday, June 11 at 6:30 PM at St. Charles Parish**. The Farewell Mass will be concelebrated by Bishop David and Fr. Marc Cramer. Following the mass, there will be a short program in the church hall and grade nine students will be presented with their grade nine diplomas and IB certificates. At the conclusion of the Farewell Exercises, students and families will be invited to gather for a stand-up dessert reception. At this time, there will also be opportunities for pictures. In order to accommodate everyone, we ask that guests be limited to parents and siblings of grade nine students. We expect that the formal part of the evening will conclude at approximately 8:30 pm.

Student dress for this occasion should be semi-formal. Students may dress in their Sunday best. It is not necessary for parents to spend a great deal of money on new clothes for this occasion.



# Staffing Updates

We extend our sincere congratulations to Mrs. Kordyban and Mr. Thibaudeau, who received their continuing contracts this year.

The division staffing cycle is not yet finished, but we would like to advise you of the staffing changes that are known to us as of today.

Ms. Rebkowich, Mrs. Manji and Ms. Boyd will be on leave next year. We are pleased to welcome back Mrs. Loeppky and Ms. Benko Saah from their leaves.

We say farewell to Ms. Abraham and to Mrs. Bilotta, who will be resigning from the division and exploring new opportunities.

Congratulations to Ms. Perri, who will be moving to Austen O'Brien High School, and to Mrs. Figiel, who will be joining the staff at St. Francis Xavier High School.

The contracts for Ms. Heidt, Ms. Murray and Ms. Machacek are ending. These fine teachers will be missed very much, but we are happy that they have secured dream positions or positions closer to home.

We will also be saying farewell to Mrs. Hussain, in our Learning Commons. She will be greatly missed and we wish her the very best as she moves to other schools.

With regard to positions we are aware of to date, we are pleased to welcome Mrs. Nicole Filice-Gazzola to our grade two team and to welcome back Mr. Josh Tejada to our MYP team.



# Staffing Updates

Some grade changes are necessary due to enrolment changes.  
Current assignments are:

- Kindergarten – Mrs. Loeppky, Mrs. Palomino
- Grade 1 – Ms. Halliday, Mrs. McCormack, Mrs. Snihur, TBA
- Grade 2 – TBA, Mrs. Filice-Gazzola, Mrs. Carignan
- Grade 3 – Mrs. Kluthe, Mrs. Baehr, Mrs. Eugenio, TBA
- Grade 4 – Mrs. McCurdy, Mrs. Benko Saah, TBA
- Grade 5 – Mrs. Carr, Mrs. Melnyk, TBA, TBA

Music – Mrs. de Wee, Mrs. Sharrock-Wiggins, Ms. Barnett

Instructional Coaches – Ms. Antonakis, Mrs. Winter

IB Coordinators – Mrs. Olivieri, Mrs. Panizzon

EAL Designate – Mrs. Sharrock-Wiggins

Chaplain – Mr. Wasik

Staffing in grades 6-9 is still underway. We will report staffing assignments once we are farther along in the staffing cycle.



# Keep Your Bus Pass/Fee Changes

- **Keep Your Bus Pass!** Families are reminded that they must retain their yellow bus pass if their child continues to utilize yellow bus services in the 2026-2027 school year. If students no longer require transportation services in the 2026-2027 school year, they can return the bus pass to their school. **The replacement fee for a lost bus pass is \$5.00.**
- Please note that bus pass fees for the 2026-2027 school year have changed. Please see the [Transportation Fee Schedule](#) for information.



# Entering Attendance in PowerSchool

- Parents whose child(ren) will be away are able to enter attendance for their child(ren) through PowerSchool. Simply open PowerSchool, click on School Messenger on the left, then click the calendar at the top and click Report an Absence.
- This is a quick and easy way to let the school know that your child will be away.



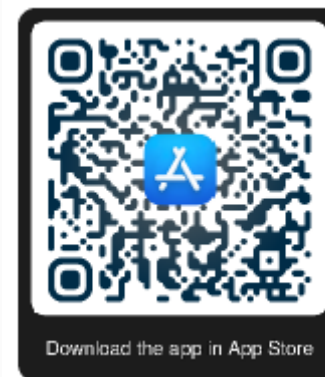
# School Central App

The **School Central App** is an easy way to access school-related information and keep you updated on your child's academic journey. Use the app to

- ✓ Stay informed about your child's progress by viewing grades and upcoming assignments.
- ✓ View attendance records so you're always aware of their presence at school.
- ✓ Track your child's bus schedule, with details on bus routes and history.
- ✓ Set notifications to get alerts about arrival and departure times.

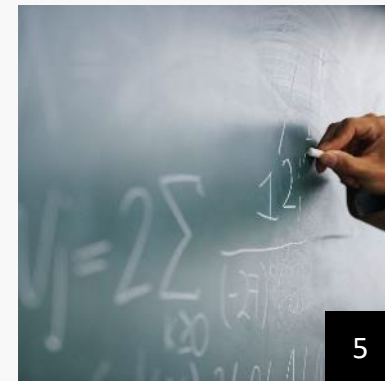
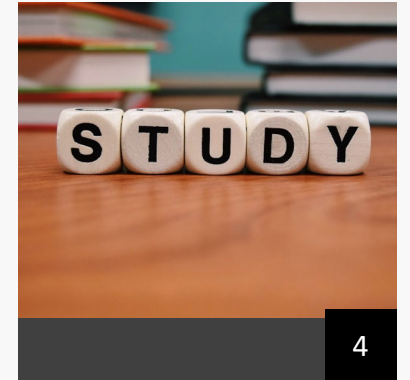
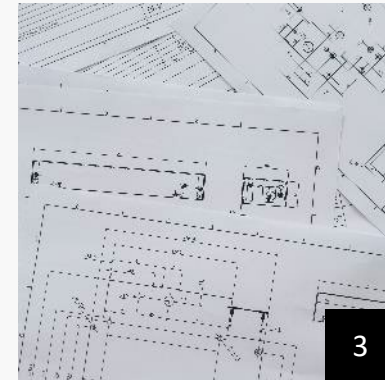
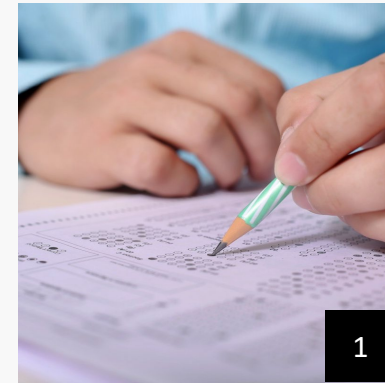
The app is constantly evolving, with more features to come, ensuring you are always informed and in control, providing a seamless way to stay engaged in your child's education.

Please see the [School Central App Guide](#) for more information.



# Preparing for Final Exams/PATs

- Parents of students who will be leaving for vacation before the end of the school year are asked to contact [Mr. Estephan](#). Exams are secure, so students will not be able to write final exams/PATs before scheduled exam dates.
- JH students who are ill and miss a final exam may have an opportunity to take the exam. Parents of students who are ill must contact [Mr. Estephan](#) to make arrangements for exam re-writes. Please note: grade nine PATs run right until June 23, the last day of school. We will not be able to schedule re-writes for students who miss exams on June 22 or 23.
- The division has determined that final exams for junior high students count for 15% of the final grade in each subject. It is important that students begin reviewing, organizing, and preparing for exams in an organized fashion. Start today!!!!



# Gr 6 – 9 Final Exam/PAT Schedules

Please see the schedule below for exam dates and times. All exams begin at 9:00 AM.

Grade 6		Grade 7 - 9	
Part A		Part A	
Fri, May 22	Grade 6 English Language Arts PAT Part A (written)	Thurs, May 21	Grade 9 English Language Arts PAT Part A (written)
Mon, June 15	Gr 6 Mathematics PAT Part A (no calculator)	Tues June 16	Gr 9 Mathematics PAT Part A (no calculator)
Part B		Part B	
Thurs June 4	Gr 6 English Language Arts and Literature Part B	Tues June 9	Gr 9 English Language Arts Part B Gr 7 & 8 English Language Arts Final Exams
Thurs June 11	Gr 6 Social Studies	Fri June 19	Gr 9 Mathematics Part(ie) B Gr 7 & 8 Mathematics Final Exams
Fri June 12	Gr 6 Science	Mon June 22	Gr 9 Social Studies Gr 7 & 8 Social Studies Final Exams
Thurs June 18	Gr 6 Mathematics Part B	Tues June 23	Gr 9 Science Gr 7 & 8 Science Final Exams

# Moving? Please Let Us Know

- Spring really seems to be a time when families move to new homes. If you are moving out of our school community, please let us know so that we can have an accurate registration count for the fall and can staff our classes accordingly.
- As well, it is important that we have up-to-date contact information in the school office, so if you have a change of address or telephone number, please let us know. Thank you!





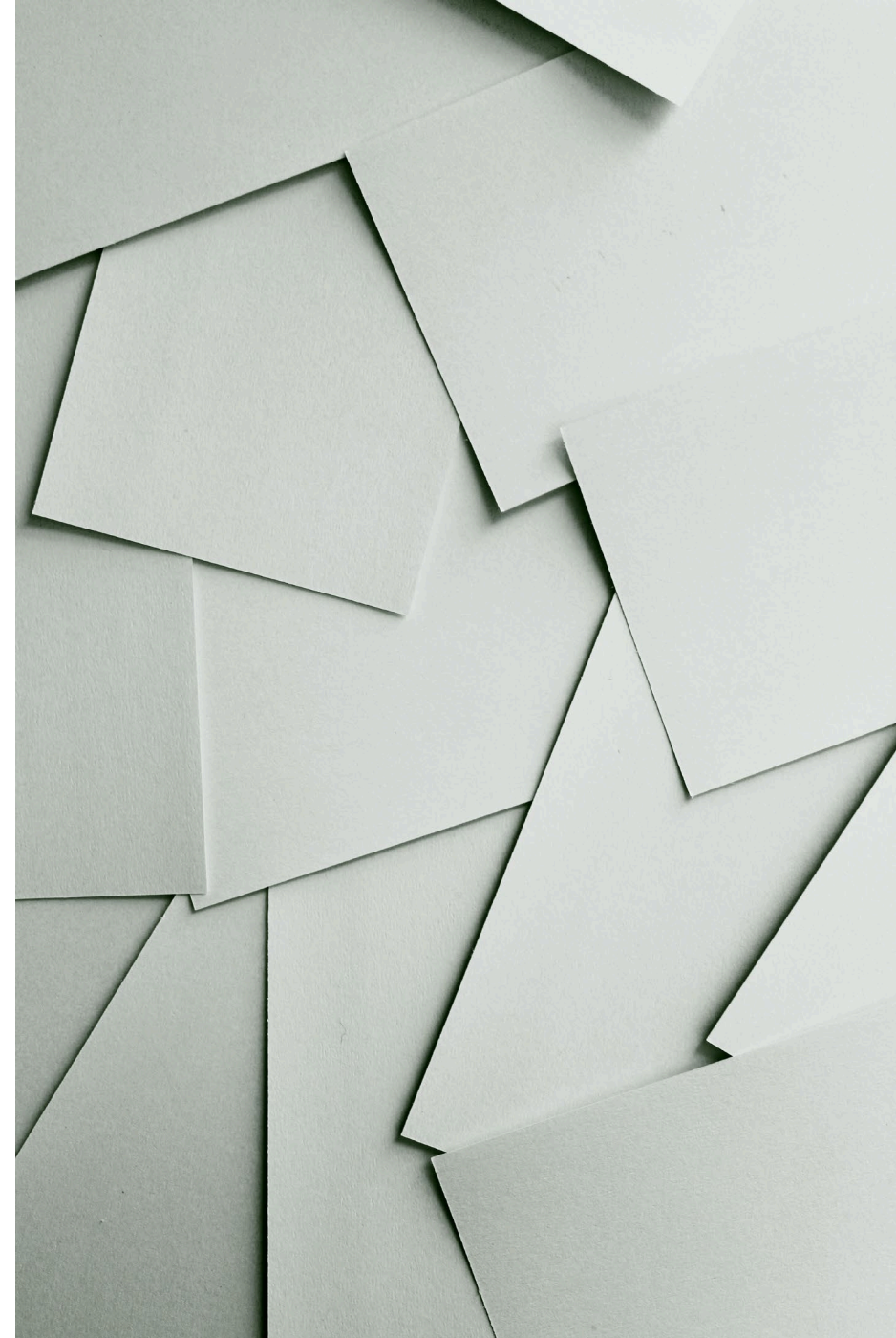
# Report Cards

Final report cards for students in all grades will be posted to PowerSchool on Tuesday, June 23 at 4:00 PM. Report cards will not be available prior to this time. Please note that report cards are only available for two weeks once they have been posted. School administration will check email periodically over the summer months if there are questions or concerns. Please use [1967web@ecsd.net](mailto:1967web@ecsd.net) if you need to contact school administration over the summer.

# Class Lists for Next Year

Staff have been hard at work making up class lists for next year. We appreciate your support in allowing our teachers to establish class lists and placements. We wish to create an environment that will result in your child's ultimate success and happiness. Many factors are taken into consideration in designing class lists. For example, we strive for a balance of gender, learning styles and needs, work ethic, academic achievement, social relationships and the overall makeup of the group. A great deal of time and consideration is given to the placement process and these important educational decisions. The well being of each individual student is at the heart of all decisions and the needs of the classroom as a whole take precedence over requests for classroom placement - particularly placements with friends.

An email regarding class placements will be sent prior to the start of the new school year in September. Information regarding school entry procedures will also be sent home at the end of August. Thank you for your support!



# Class Size News

- We are pleased to let you know that the Provincial Government has provided K-9 schools with additional funding to reduce class sizes. Our site received funding for **two** additional teachers. In determining which grades/classes to reduce, we looked at both complexity and class size. We will be adding classes in grade six and nine.

# Enrolment Projections

PYP	Projected Enrolment	Projected Classes	MYP	Projected Enrolment	Projected Classes
Kindergarten	80*	4	Grade 6	99	4
Grade 1	88	4	Grade 7	126	4
Grade 2	65	3	Grade 8	95	3
Grade 3	88	4	Grade 9	103	4
Grade 4	93	3	<b>Total MYP:</b>	<b>423</b>	
Grade 5	107	4			
<b>Total PYP:</b>	<b>521</b>		<b>Total Enrolment:</b>	<b>944</b>	

- \*Still processing new registrations
- We expect some fluctuation in numbers as some students move away and others move into the neighbourhood over the summer.

# Hours of Operation 2026-2027

## Kindergarten (No instruction on Thursdays)

Half Day AM	8:38 AM – 11:41 AM
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Half Day PM	12:17 – 3:20 PM
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### **KINDERGARTEN ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTION**

In order to ensure that kindergarten students receive the required 475 instructional hours over the course of the year, they will have full day field trips or full days at school on designated days throughout the school year:

October 2, 2026

June 4, 2027

March 5, 2026

June 18, 2027

April 9, 2027

June 25, 2027

May 7, 2027

Unfortunately, noon hour transportation is not available on field trip/full days, so morning students will have to be picked up at the end of the school day and afternoon students will have to be dropped off in the morning.

# Hours of Operation 2026 - 2027

## Grades 1 – 5 Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri

Registration	8:43 AM
Instruction	8:43 – 10:15 AM
Recess	10:15 – 10:28 AM
Instruction	10:28 AM – 12:00 PM
Lunch Recess	12:00 – 12:20 PM
Lunch	12:20 – 12:40 PM
Instruction	12:40 – 3:20 PM

Note: PM instruction includes a 5 minute health break

## Grades 1 – 5 Thursday

Registration	8:43 AM
Instruction	8:43 – 10:15 AM
Recess	10:15 – 10:28 AM
Instruction	10:28 AM – 12:12 PM

# Hours of Operation 2026 - 2027

## Grades 6 – 9 Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri

Registration	8:43 AM
Instruction	8:43 – 10:29 AM
Locker Break	10:29 – 10:32 AM
Instruction	10:32 AM – 12:12 PM
Lunch	12:12 – 12:32 PM
Lunch Recess	12:32 – 12:52 PM
Instruction	12:52 – 3:20 PM

## Grades 6-9 Thursday

Registration	8:43 AM
Instruction	8:43 – 10:32 AM
Locker Break	10:32 – 10:29 AM
Instruction	10:29 AM – 12:12 PM



## Early Dismissal Days

Dismissal on Thursdays is at 12:12 PM for elementary and junior high students. As well, in order to provide for early dismissal before major holidays, the Thursday before Christmas Holidays and Spring Break will be a full day of instruction for students. The Friday before the holiday will be a short day with dismissal at 12:12 PM.

# Supply Lists for 2026 -2027



- Supply lists for next year have been posted to our website. Since most work for students in grades four - nine is done with Chromebooks and through the Google classroom, we make an effort to limit what we ask students to supply. It is not necessary to purchase additional supplies if you already have items at home.
- Parents will once again have the option of either purchasing supplies at local stores or ordering supply packages online through SchoolStart.ca. Online ordering of supplies is convenient, so we are happy to offer this service to our parents. Orders placed through School Start are delivered directly to your home and are clearly labeled with your child's name. Information about School Start, including a short video, is available online at <http://www.schoolstart.ca>.
- Please note: Kindergarten teachers will be ordering supplies to be used by all students this year. The cost for these supplies will be approximately \$25 per student and includes items such as glue, paint, crayons, etc. The cost of buying kindergarten supplies individually would be over \$75, so this is a significant saving for parents.

# School Fees for 2026 – 2027



School Fees for the 2026-2027 school year have been submitted to our division office and will be posted to our website once they are approved.

We have made every effort to keep fees the same whenever possible. Costs for consumable items used in complementary courses may increase due to rising purchasing costs.

Fees for field trips reflect the maximum for all field trips in a given grade for the year. Actual costs for field trips will likely be less.

Team fees include the cost of additional tournaments.

School fees will be posted in PowerSchool in late September and will be due at that time.

# School Opening 2026

As this school year draws to a close, we are looking forward and planning for the start of our next school year.

The first day of school is Wednesday, September 2.

## Meet the Staff and Curriculum Evenings

Please mark your calendars for our Meet the Staff and Curriculum Evening:

Thursday, September 10

Meet the Staff events will begin at 6:30 PM

## Information for the Start of the School Year

Information regarding class assignments for all students and complementary courses for junior high will be available in PowerSchool in the last week of August. This information will be emailed to families on August 31.



# School Opening 2026

## First Day of School

The first day of school for students next year is Wednesday, Sept 2. This will be a full day of instruction for students in grades 1-9. We will be treating students to a hamburger lunch on the first day of school and we will need parent volunteers to assist.

Students in kindergarten will have staggered entry on September 2 and September 4, with regular classes starting on Tuesday, September 8. (There is no school for kindergarten students on Thursdays).

Again, class assignments will be available in PowerSchool at the end of August and will be emailed on August 31. Entry procedures will be emailed at that time as well.

School will start at 8:43 AM on the first day of school.



# School Opening 2026

## Office Opens

The school office will be open for inquiries on August 27 and 28.

We have staff only days on August 31 and September 1. We will be in meetings on these days and regrettably, will be unable to meet with parents.

## Fee Payments

Fee payments may be made through PowerSchool in late September to mid-October. School fees for the 2026-2027 school year will be posted to our website shortly.



# Chromebook Purchase Program

Students in grade three are eagerly looking forward to moving to grade four and having the opportunity to purchase their own Chromebooks for next year. Chromebooks may be purchased through the division Chromebook Purchase Program or at local stores. The Chromebook offered through the Chromebook Purchase Program includes accidental damage coverage, which will cover replacement costs for Chromebooks damaged by impacts, spills or other misfortunes.

Families may also choose to purchase Chromebooks or similar devices at local stores. Information about the Chromebook Purchase Program is on our website: [Chromebook Purchase Program](#).





## Upcoming Events

### June 2026

June 11	Grade 9 Farewell
June 12	BDM Feast Day & Barbecue
June 23	Last Day of School
June 23	School Closing Celebration

Note: Many field trips are planned in June. Information about field trips is sent home in separate communications.



**BISHOP DAVID MOTIUK**  
CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

**Bishop David Motiuk Catholic Elementary and Junior High School**

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