



3921- 39 Street  
Red Deer, Alberta T4N 0Y6  
Phone: 403-346-8951  
Fax: 403-346-2125  
www.staschool.ca

August 29, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Greetings parents and students of St. Thomas Aquinas Middle School (STA). I hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. As we start the 2022-2023 school year, I would like to welcome everyone back for another exciting year and would like to offer a special welcome to all of the families that are new to our community. My name is Ian Stang and as the Principal of the school, I look forward to working with you all again this year in an effort to learn from you and alongside you so that together we can continue to proudly proclaim our Catholic Christian faith and continue to achieve academic excellence.

Myself, Mr. Mike Kelly and Mrs. Kristie McCullough will make up our school administration team for the 2022-2023 school year. Mike is excited to be returning to the hallways and classrooms of STA. He will be entering his 7th year as Vice Principal of STA and his 12th year as an administrator with Red Deer Catholic. Kristie will be joining us for her third year at STA, and will be entering her 8th year as a Vice Principal with Red Deer Catholic. I have no doubt that the wealth of experience and the energy that our Administration team brings to the halls of STA will continue to serve our community well as we work to ensure that your child has a positive middle school experience.

Please take a moment to read over the information provided below so that together we can ensure that our school year get's off to a great start. We look forward to meeting you all throughout the school year, and we wish you all continued safety and rejuvenation as the first day of school approaches.

God Bless,

Ian Stang  
Principal

<p>What day is the first day of school?</p>	<p>Students will receive communication from their teachers on Thursday, Sept 1st which will outline the academic plan for the first week of school.</p>
<p>Will my child have multiple teachers?</p>	<p>Our online program currently consists of three full time teachers. These teachers are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mrs. Snyder (Grade 6/7 Humanities)</li> <li>- Mr. Charlong (Grade 8/9 Humanities)</li> <li>- Mr. Simsek (Grade 6-9 Math/Science)</li> </ul>
<p>What courses does my child attend this year?</p>	<p>All online students will be registered in the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-English Language Arts</li> <li>-Social Studies</li> <li>-Mathematics</li> <li>-Science</li> <li>-Religion</li> <li>-Physical Education</li> <li>-Option A - Term 1</li> <li>-Option B - Term 2</li> <li>-Option C - Term 3</li> </ul>
<p>Can my child meet with their online teachers in person as required?</p>	<p>Yes, STA has created an Online Learning Lab (See picture below) that is located in the south side of the St.Benedict building. This space is equipped with student work stations and chromebooks. If a student is needing to meet with their teacher in person, an agreed upon meeting time will need to be established with the online teacher. At the time of the meeting, the student must enter the front doors of St.Thomas and report to the main office. The child will sign in and the online teacher with whom the child is meeting will be contacted. When this meeting is complete, the child must report back to the main office to be signed out by our front office staff.</p>
<p>Can my child participate in extra-curricular activities at STA?</p>	<p>Yes, all extra-curricular activities are scheduled to take place this year. STA offers junior and senior Volleyball and Basketball teams as well as Badminton, Track and Field, Ski Club, Cross Country Running, Team Handball. Of note, all junior and</p>

	<p>senior Volleyball, Basketball and Team Handball teams were sporting brand new uniforms last year - be sure to get involved and try out for all of our Saints teams!</p>
<p>Can my child participate in field trips this year?</p>	<p>Yes, field trips are scheduled to take place this year.</p>
<p>Can you provide School Fee Information?</p>	<p>Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools will be accepting online payments starting September 19, 2022 through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Additionally, STA office staff will continue to accept cash or cheque for payment of fees as required beginning September 1. School fees remain unchanged:</p> <p>\$15 - School Council</p>
<p>If I want more information about the school, where can I locate it?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School website: <a href="https://www.staschool.ca/">https://www.staschool.ca/</a></li> <li>- Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram @StThomasRD</li> <li>- Ensure that you are receiving our week at a glance via email every Friday afternoon at 4:30pm. If you are not receiving this communication, please contact the main office at 403-346-8951 to ensure that we have your up to date email address.</li> <li>- Attend our parent council meetings every other month.</li> </ul>
<p>2022-2023 School Division Faith Theme:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>“Inspired by Christ on a Journey to Encounter, Nurture and Serve”</b></p>	

