

# Affirm Refine Aspire - Update

Holy Spirit Catholic Schools Learning Services 03/27/20

## When Change is Upon Us ~ We Shift Gears ~ We Always have...

Dear Holy Spirit Family,

Since the last edition of our Learning Services newsletter was shared out on March 6th, so much has changed -- it seems like a lifetime ago. None of us could have ever imagined our 'new normal', nor that we would be dropped into providing online/distance learning for all of our students so suddenly. As teachers I know we worry -- about our youngest learners in Kindergarten just figuring 'school' out, all the way through to our high school students on the verge of graduation -- and so much more.

In this time of constant change, adversity, challenge & opportunity, Learning Services will be sending out weekly newsletters to continue to help share resources, Ministry & Division updates, as well as supports for the wellness of educators as we navigate this new world.

Amid the challenges of our current situation, it's important for all of us to [prioritize wellness](#); focusing on physical and mental health, accepting that our plans have changed significantly, and [grounding](#) ourselves through [prayer and gratitude](#) will see us through this uncertain time. Thank you for all you do for your students and their families and for our Holy Spirit community.

Take care of yourselves & your family -- you're needed!

Carmen Larsen  
Director of Learning



## Digital Learning

In [A Beginner's Guide to Shifting Toward Online and Distance Learning](#), the authors share 7 big ideas for digital learning:

1. Students should be creating original content.
2. Leverage the power of online collaboration.
3. Empower students to take ownership of their learning.
4. Blend vintage and digital strategies.
5. Be intentional in your class design.
6. Take a "show and tell" approach.
7. Be present and available as a teacher.

Resources that support these ideas can be found [here](#).

In addition to these big ideas, it is important to consider access to technology, adult support and time for learning. Students who accessed in-class supports and accommodations will continue to need them for digital learning. Flexibility, clarity and compassion are as important for distance learning as they are for classroom instruction.

This comprehensive [webinar](#) from Edmonton Catholic Schools offers considerations for and information about digital classrooms, screen casting, and online practice tools.

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Learn how to access ADLC Online Resources [here](#).

## Navigating 1-2-3

All teachers have access to a new, (work in progress) shared google drive called **Curriculum Resources**. In the drive you will find:  
-Tools for Teachers  
-Tools for Students  
-Tools for Parents  
The drive is organized as per grade level, subject area, online delivery, google help, library and professional learning resources. Teachers have started to add resources - all are welcome and encouraged to continue to contribute to this collection.

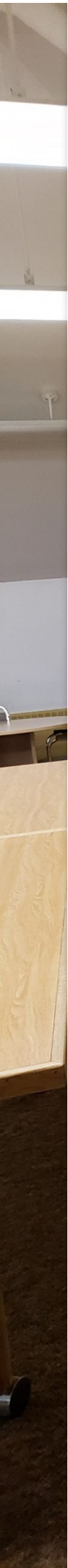
**Learning Services has a designated email - a "Help-Desk" for learning & teaching: [learningservices@holyspirit.ab.ca](mailto:learningservices@holyspirit.ab.ca)**  
**Ask Us!**

Access all curriculum documents-NEW Learn Alberta here!

Online Learner Resources, which are linked to specific learning outcomes.

## ARPDC Facebook Groups - Virtual Staff Rooms

~Groups for teachers of K-6, Jr. High: Math, Science, Humanities ~ Plus, weekly Zoom Meetings and message posting!





## Staying Connected

### Copyright and Digital Citizenship:

The topics of Copyright and Digital Citizenship raises many questions these days. Please refer to [Teachers and Copyright Fair Dealing Decision Tool](#) and the resources currently, (and those that will be added), in the Curriculum Resources shared google drive.

### Alberta Distance Learning Resources:

ADLC online resources are available to all teachers - check your email for login information. You will have access to learning materials for your students (which may be shared in Google Classroom). Check out the ADLC resources [here](#).

### Looking for Professional Learning Ideas?

Check the [folder](#) in the Curriculum Resources shared google drive for courses (free or low-cost) and webinars. Topics include literacy, numeracy and math, concept-based instruction, First Nations, Metis and Inuit ways of knowing, brain development, G Suite tools and more! Contact Learning Services if you're looking for



## What's Happening?

### HS CAL

The District HS Google Calendar is continually being updated. Please feel free to view this resource to help keep you informed. If you don't have access to view, please contact [us](#).

### New sessions being offered next week through ERLC and ADLC Information Webinars:

#### [Accessing ADLC Online Resources \(Beginner\)](#) -

March 30 (1-2 pm)  
Register by March 29

#### [I Have an ADLC Resource...Now What?](#) -

April 1 (1-2 pm)  
Register by March 31

Click: [Remote Learning](#) offering **Digital Tools and Content Support**

**Ed Tech Webinars and Resources** [here](#). This is a link to an orientation video to Ed Tech Team Canada and their online Virtual Learning Series: Teaching Online.

### **This ALL may be overwhelming.**

It is a normal reaction to the 'abnormal'. Please know that as many things have



## Google +

Other collections of information you may wish to access are the **Google+** Communities for the 8 Student Competencies. You can also access (and add to) the Holy Spirit Collaborative Learning Community, which includes a large selection of categorized and searchable resources.

You may wish to share this [Parents' Guide to Google Classroom](#) slide deck or this [YouTube Video](#) to support the caregivers who are new to this platform.

### **Teach from Home:**

A temporary collection of information and Google tools for teachers can be found [here](#). The site includes ideas and support for teaching remotely with and without video calls, making lessons accessible for all students, keeping students engaged, and staying in touch with colleagues. Everything you need for digital teaching and lesson sharing is here, all in one place!

[Google Meet / Hangout - Etiquette Guide](#), from

other professional learning options.

[Curio.ca](http://Curio.ca) offers free digital streaming at this time. Content-area reading materials and activities are available in English and French.

changed, the one thing still remains: we are a team and we are in this together.

To use the words of [Dr. Jody Carrington](#),

**"We are built for connection".  
Between  
home, faith, school and  
each other  
- WE got this!!**

<http://www.evolveducators.com/>

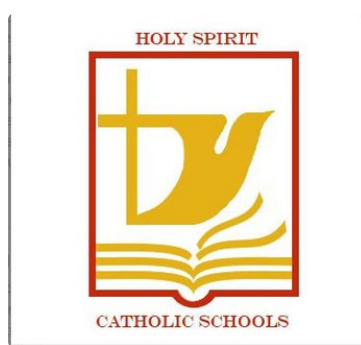
As we venture into connecting via technology, please keep in mind various ways to **protect privacy** - consider blocking your phone number while using your cell phone or using the 'BCC' option when sending emails to a class group.

## The St. Basil Professional Development Centre is here!

Any resources you request will be sent to your school via inter-school mail.

## Check out the Learning Opportunities from SAPDC!

New online opportunities are being added to the Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortium Website.



## About Us

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