
February 28, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On Tuesday, February 27, 2024, the Red Deer Catholic Regional School Board of Trustees met for their monthly Board meeting where they reviewed the [Blackfalds Student Relocation Report](#). The report included feedback data from the stakeholder feedback form that was shared with all parents and was open for responses the week of February 12 - 16, 2024. Thank you to the 167 parents who provided feedback! The summary of the feedback can be viewed [here](#).

The Blackfalds Student Relocation Report included a recommendation from the Senior Administration Team:

The Senior Administration team recommends that the Board of Trustees approve a temporary move of St. Gregory the Great Catholic School students enrolled in grades 7, 8, and 9 in September 2024, to St. Lorenzo Ruiz Middle School beginning September 2024, citing the following reasons:

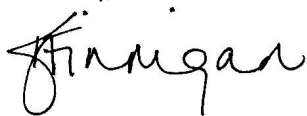
- *This option received the highest approval rating from the parent feedback process.*
- *St. Gregory the Great Catholic School middle school students will have access to a wide range of CTF options at St. Lorenzo Ruiz Middle School.*
- *This option provides sufficient space for St. Gregory the Great Catholic School as we prepare for the new Blackfalds school.*

After careful consideration, Trustees approved a motion to proceed based on the recommendation made by Senior Administration. This means that beginning in September 2024, all grade 7, 8, and 9 students will be relocated to St. Lorenzo Ruiz Middle School. The relocation will impact all St. Gregory the Great Catholic School students entering into grade 7, 8, and 9 until the new school opens in Blackfalds (projected opening is the fall of 2027).

In the upcoming months, the St. Gregory the Great school administration team will be sharing additional information regarding the transportation and programming that will be made available for all students impacted by this move. As well, the administration team will send out their annual intention forms which will help in the planning for this transition. When the new school opens in Blackfalds, grade 7 and 8 students will be able to return to Blackfalds for their grade 8 and 9 years or they can choose to remain at St. Lorenzo Middle School to complete their middle school years. Transportation will remain available for two years for those choosing to remain at St. Lorenzo Ruiz.

We thank you for your patience, understanding and feedback as we have worked collaboratively to find space solutions and maintain the highest level of programming for our students. We hope to be able to continue to serve your children with a quality faith-based education until they graduate from Red Deer Catholic in grade 12.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kathleen Finnigan
Superintendent of Schools