



St. Bernadette Elementary School

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Dear Parents,

Next year all public and independent school will be required to teach a redesigned curriculum from Kindergarten to Grade 9. To assist in the transition, the Ministry of Education has been making efforts to prepare teachers and administrators in a variety of way. Recently, more resources were made available to all school in the province. As a result, all of the Catholic Independent Schools of the Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA) have been mandated to take 2 more days of professional development this school year to be dedicated to training staff in the redesigned curriculum. Please see below from CISVA:

"For the first time in BC's history all curriculum in all subject areas has been revised at the same time. As you are aware, we are in the first year of a three-year plan to implement the Kindergarten to Grade 12 Redesigned Curriculum throughout the province. This year is the beginning of the transition with full transition to the K-9 curriculum to take place in September 2016, and Grades 10 - 12 the following year.

As part of our CISVA Plan to support the implementation of the new curriculum, schools will add 10 hours of non-instructional time this school year. This additional time will be used for the purpose of enabling teachers to participate in professional development related to the implementation of the new BC curriculum. Local school communities will determine the optimal times to schedule this non-instructional time. " – CISVA November 19th, 2015

St. Bernadette School has selected **Monday, January 18th, 2016** and **Monday, February 15th, 2016** as our professional days. We understand that this may cause you undo hardship and we value the extra effort and commitment it may take to have your children home on these days. We wanted you to have these dates as soon as possible so that you have enough time to plan for childcare, if needed.

Please ensure that you are subscribed to our newsletter through our school website at www.stbernadetteschool.ca so that you can stay up-to-date with current news.

If you have any questions please contact me through the school office.

Yours in Christ,

Michael van der Pauw