

Dear Parents,

As you know... Gateway is moving!

We are all excitedly anticipating the move to Riverglen. There are SO many reasons to be grateful! A new beautiful building, renovations to come, our Gateway family being reunited physically as one community, a closer more convenient location to our partner High School - Thurber... it's an exciting time!

We want to thank you for how gracious, affirming, supportive and invested that you've been in sharing this journey. We want to assure you that the building itself isn't the only thing that will be moving. We're dedicated in moving forward in our commitment to a Christ centred program where all students experience success. Our staff continues to work diligently to remain professionally responsible in delivering programming that ranks among the best with academic excellence, ethical citizenship, and engaged learners with an entrepreneurial spirit. Ready to take on the world!

Recently, the Minister of Education addressed parents and said, "The world around us has changed and continues to change quickly. Our children are growing up in an environment of constant innovation, and to best prepare them we must begin down our own path of renewal and adaptation." For Alberta Education, the journey has begun through an initiative you've likely heard 'buzz' about - Inspiring Education. Gateway has been listening, asking questions, exploring, collaborating... we value the voice of our Stakeholders (students, parents, teachers, community members and colleagues). Change and meaningful growth happens one conversation at a time. We've been blessed this year with rich dialogue. Parent nights, Student Engagement Survey, Staff meetings, School Council and Society meetings, Student & Parent Satisfaction Surveys, class discussions, visitation of other thriving schools, and countless hallway conversations with students, staff, parents... thank you for helping us to set direction. We trust that we can continue to rely on your input, questions and voice as we launch new and innovative initiatives - partnered with Alberta Education Redesign and Red Deer Public Schools.

You may have noticed some of the initiatives already underway: a move away from Provincial Achievement Testing at the grade 3 level, Daily 5 and other highly engaging programs, a restructured support of Teaching for Transformation & student centred Chapel, 'flipped classroom lessons', High School Flex time (Flexible block), Staff participation with instructional coaching ... these are among the many examples of our ongoing look at curriculum and it's delivery - 'redesigned'.

It is still early in the process of improving an already strong Alberta curriculum and Gateway program, please stay tuned in the next weeks for more information as we plan our next steps. Until then, talk to your kids...ask questions...explore the efforts we've made!

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