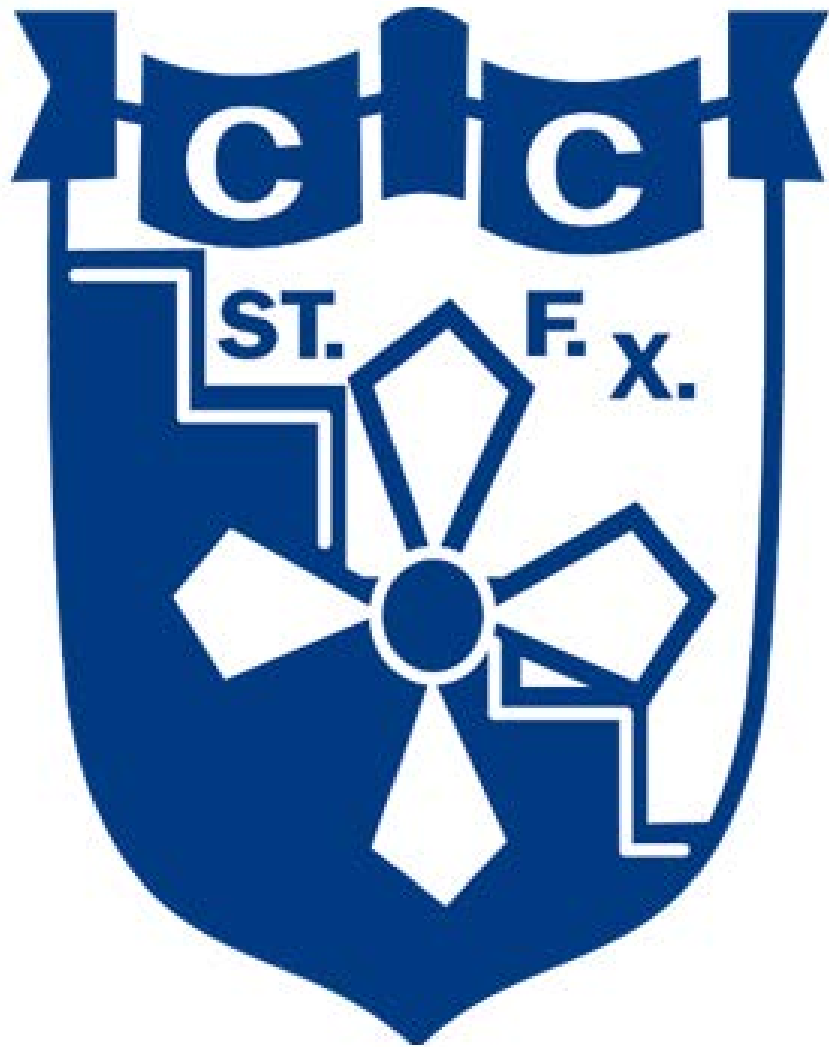




FX SPOTLIGHT

October
Newsletter
2024

Principal Message - Mr. Runco

This month, we come together to celebrate Thanksgiving, a time to reflect on all that we are grateful for. At St. Francis Xavier Catholic High School, we have much to be thankful for, starting with our exceptional students, who consistently demonstrate kindness, happiness, and excellent manners. In the true spirit of Thanksgiving, I am deeply grateful for our dedicated and caring staff, whose commitment makes a profound impact on the lives of our students every day. Our FX Cell Phone Policy continues to be a tremendous success, fostering a more focused and engaged learning environment by reducing distractions. This shift has brought new energy to our school, encouraging greater social interaction and face-to-face connections. We've had a wonderful start to the school year, with highlights including our School Opening Celebrations, Grade Level Assemblies, and the Orange Shirt Day Ceremony, all of which strengthened our sense of community, deepened cultural understanding, and reinforced our shared faith.

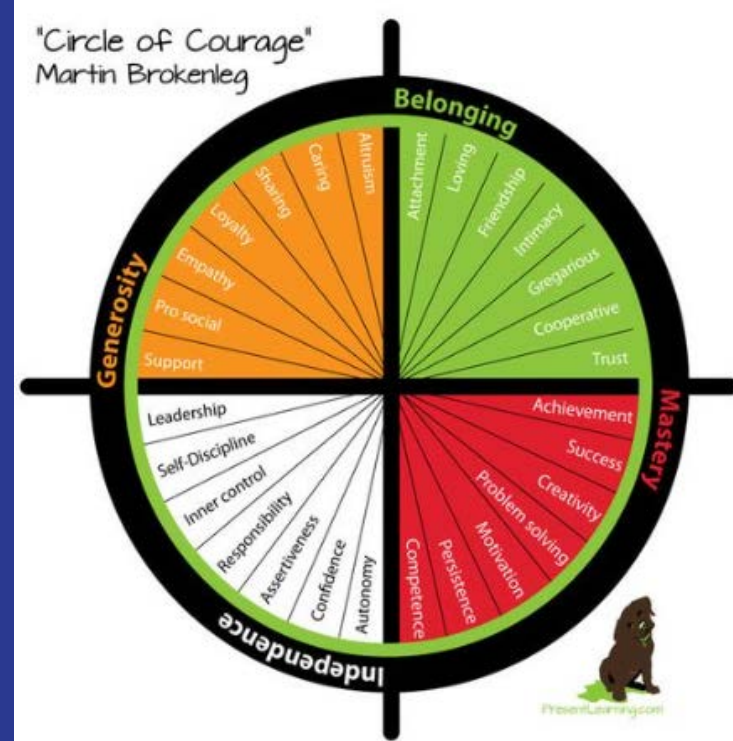
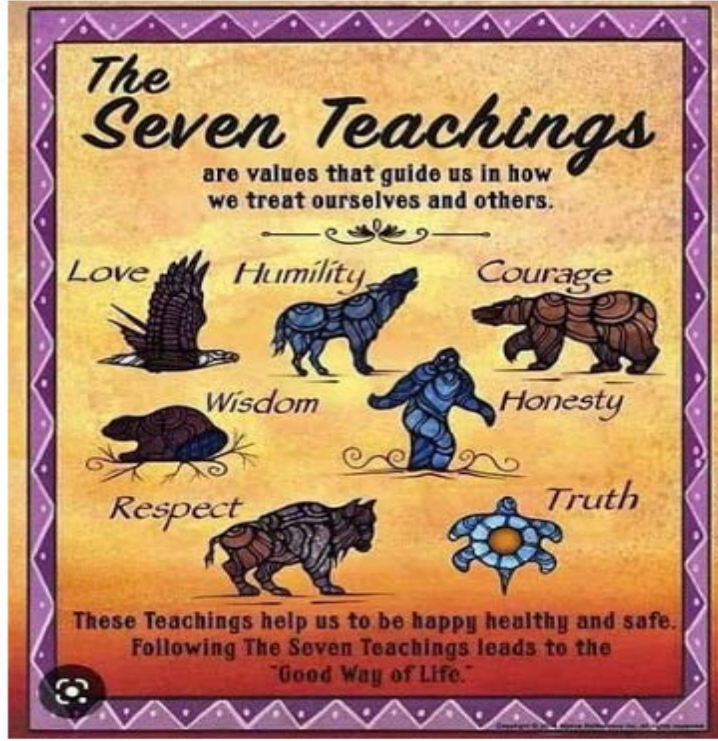
At our recent School Council Annual General Meeting, we were pleased to welcome three newly elected members: Francine Sundby as Chair, Christin Bryant as Vice Chair, and Angie Gulevich as Treasurer. We also extend our thanks to Lisa Savill, Secretary, and Briony Oliver, Casino Chairperson, for continuing their service for the 2024-25 school year. During the meeting, parents approved several exciting initiatives, including the purchase of 36 Chromebooks and a cart, new Junior Girls Basketball jerseys, and financial support for the Mike Dea Western Canada Senior Basketball Tournament. Our next School Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, at 6 pm. We were also thrilled to host our Post-Secondary Parent Engagement Evening on September 17, which saw an incredible turnout of approximately 400 parents. Special thanks go to Ms. Sandy Cordingly, Ms. Megan Thomas, and Mr. Bauer for their hard work in organizing such an informative event.

Principal Message - Mr. Runco

Each of our Sport Academies are thriving, with some exciting news from our Baseball Academy. A former student recently made headlines by achieving his first strikeout in the Majors, which garnered significant media attention across Canada, nearly rivaling the coverage of Alphonso Davies received during the World Cup! This extraordinary recognition not only highlights our Baseball Academy but also brings great visibility to FX and ECSD. Our Athletic Teams are off to a strong start as well, with success in Junior and Senior Boys and Girls Volleyball, Junior and Senior Boys Football, Girls Flag Football, and the High School Cross Country Run Team. Meanwhile, our students are busy preparing for the upcoming production of *Grease*, which promises to be a fantastic performance.

As we approach Custodian Appreciation Day on October 2 and World Teachers' Day on October 5, we have the perfect opportunity to thank our hardworking staff for everything they do to make our school a wonderful place. We also look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving with our staff and students on October 10. On behalf of the entire staff at FX, we wish all our students and their families a joyful and blessed upcoming Thanksgiving holiday!





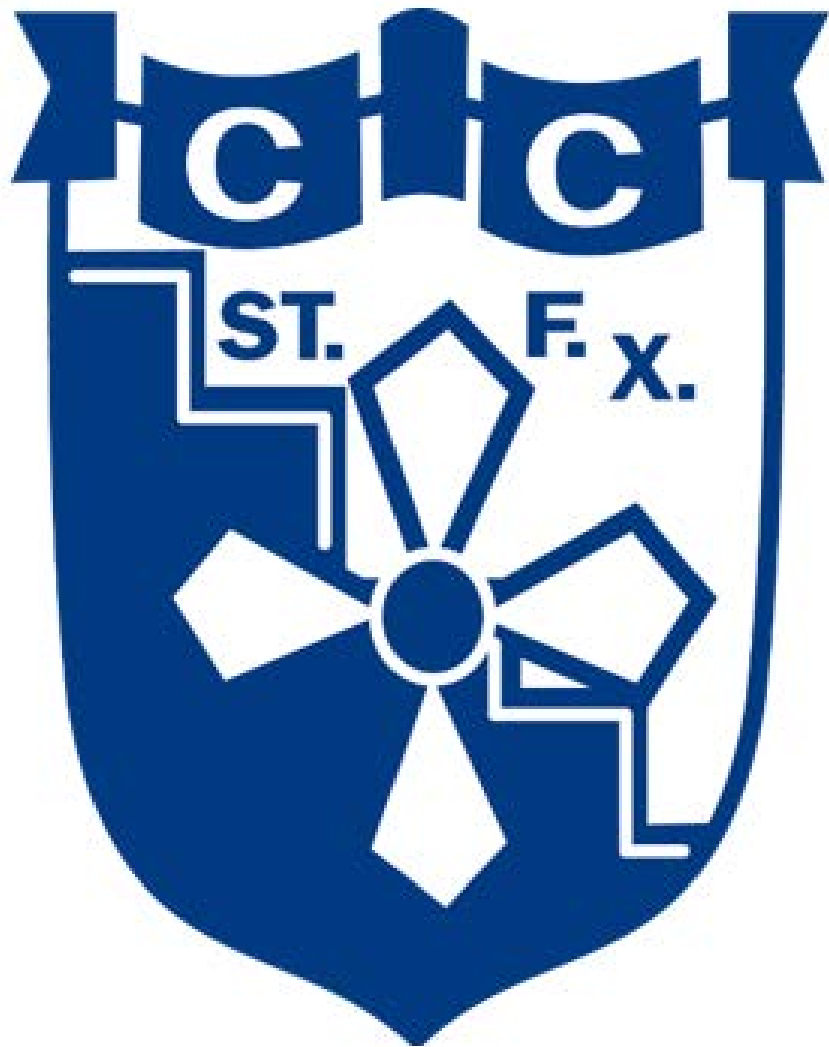
As a FX family that builds great wonders, we are also focusing on the 7 Sacred Teachings and the Circle of Courage to allow us to be mindful and intentional in deepening our understanding of cultural awareness leading to the 'Good Way of Life.' During our Staff Meetings, we gather in our 7 Indigenous Spirit Animal Group, with each animal deepening our spirit and values. The Spirit Animals are: Eagle - teaches us Love; Wolf - teaches us Humility; Bear - teaches us Courage; Sage - teaches us Honesty; Turtle - teaches us Truth; Buffalo - teaches us Respect; and Beaver - teaches us Wisdom. As a Staff, we hope to grow in our Circle of Courage in all that we do!

October Message from Chief Superintendent Anderson

Read the full message
Here.



Chief Superintendent Anderson's October message is posted on the ECSD website and can be found [by clicking here.](#)



School Vision

We are a family
that builds great
wonders!

Opening School Celebration



PEOPLE OF

HOPE





As we gathered for our Opening School Celebration, we spoke about many things, but especially the end of Luke's 7th chapter.



God, through Luke's telling, asks us to avoid apathy. Find what excites us! What excites us may not be the same as what excites someone else, but if we respect everyone's individual choices and get involved ourselves, our high school experience will be much more fulfilling.

Annunciation Parish

[Click here to access their most recent bulletins.](#)

At St. Francis Xavier, we are lucky to be in the Annunciation Parish community.

Fr. Francis Mariappa may be seen visiting our school, interacting with our students and staff. Annunciation Parish will host us for Mass on our Feast Day in November (St. Francis Xavier Day), Easter, and for our Grad Mass in May.



BASEBALL ACADEMY



The Baseball/Softball Academy has been focused on skill development and completing baseline testing. Our baseball players have been competing in Fall Ball games on the weekends, with doubleheaders that were scheduled on Sundays, September 15, 22, and 29. The Baseball Academy is also preparing for our upcoming college tour in British Columbia in early October.

BASEBALL ACADEMY



HOCKEY ACADEMY

Hockey Academy has been doing on-ice skill development such as edge-work and shooting technique. Off-ice, we have focused on fitness testing and alternative activities such as Activate, Golf and Soccer.



HOCKEY ACADEMY



HP HOCKEY



Hockey Academy has been doing on-ice skill development such as edge work and shooting technique. Off-ice, we have been training at Archetype and while working on strength and mobility.

HP HOCKEY



SOCCER ACADEMY



Soccer Academy has been busy training outdoors at JP Bowl working on individual skill development and team tactical strategies.



ACADEMY PROFILE

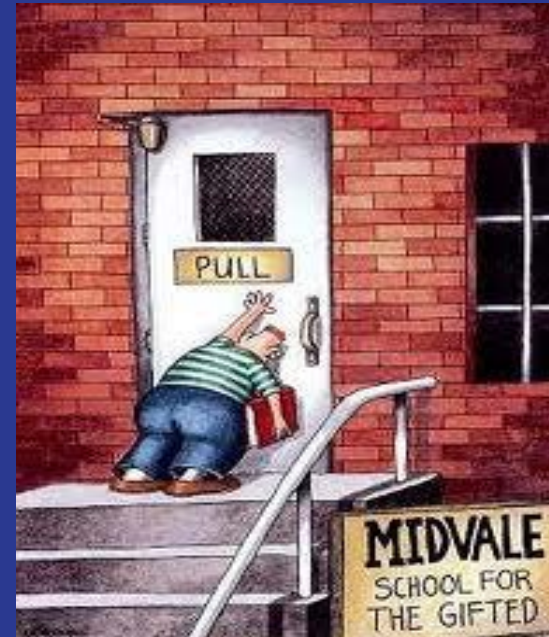
Andrei, a grade 12 student, is a fantastic soccer player in our Soccer Academy. Last spring, Andrei faced the ultimate challenge when diagnosed with cancer. While enduring rigorous treatments, his determination and passion inspired academy peers, teachers, and students at our school. Andrei emerged victorious, cancer-free and stronger than ever. He recently returned to the soccer field, not just as a player but as a symbol of resilience, showing everyone that with hope, perseverance, and great treatment and support, anything is possible.

A fantastic player and wonderful young man. Andrei is a great representation of what is best about FX and our soccer Academy.



The English Department is excited to introduce an exciting new assessment strategy. The goal of the assessment strategy is to allow the student to progress towards mastery of reading and writing. The department will work diligently to provide rich and timely feedback to the students.

The Department is also focusing on literacy. Teachers have been using Lit. Circles, free reading time and reading clubs to encourage students to LOVE READING.



Spotlight on Science

September was 'safety month'
for Science!

Our science students have been able to go into the labs to practice lab safety and practical skills.



Special thank you to our lab technicians:
Mrs. Bertrand & Mrs. Durocher



Our bio 20 students participated in an ecological field study at the John E. Poole wetland!

Math's Spotlight

We would like to introduce you to the St. FX Math Department.

Reminder:

Our dedicated teachers are available during FLEX Mondays - Thursdays from 11:03 - 11:31am should students require some extra help or to work on homework.

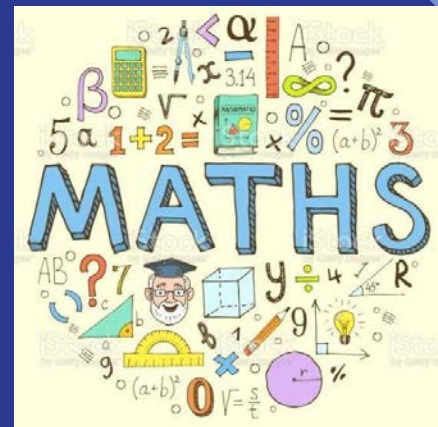


Back Row:

Brad Farish, Jordan Bunch, Stephen Zipp, Seaghda McInnes, Phillip Vandevalk

Front Row:

Sandra King, Heidi McInnes, Breana Olson, Ulana Gnutel





Nick Schwarz



Nancy Pinto



Josh Yen



Alena Pavone



Jessica Therrien



John Lintz



Dylan Johns



Brandise Fehr



Pina Perri-Ezrouli



Fergal Peters



Tina Fiorillo

SOCIAL STUDIES

Meet our department!

Welcome to class.

When you take an AP® course, you tackle topics head-on and go deeper into subjects that interest you. You also get the chance to discuss and debate your perspectives with your AP teacher and classmates.

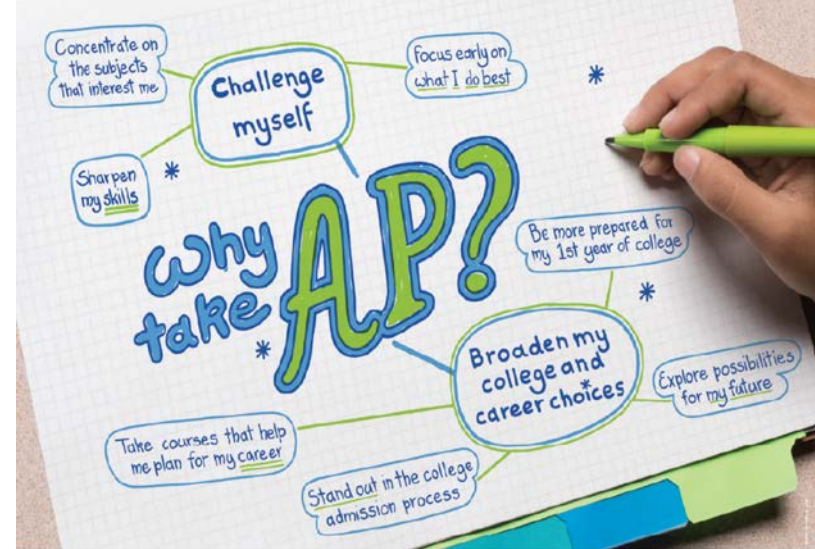


Why AP?

AP enables you to:

- Stand out in college admission
- Earn college credit
- Skip introductory college classes
- Save money on tuition
- Build college skills and confidence
- Explore potential majors based on your interests
- Turn subjects you love into fulfilling career paths

St. Francis Xavier is in full swing with 344 students from grades 10 to 12 enrolled in one or more Advanced Placement courses.



CollegeBoard

Visit exploreap.org
Talk to a counselor or teacher today.



AP Courses: English Literature and Composition, Psychology, Capstone Seminar, Computer Science Principles, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics

FX Fine Arts

This month in Fine Arts we are proud
to introduce the FX Honor Band!



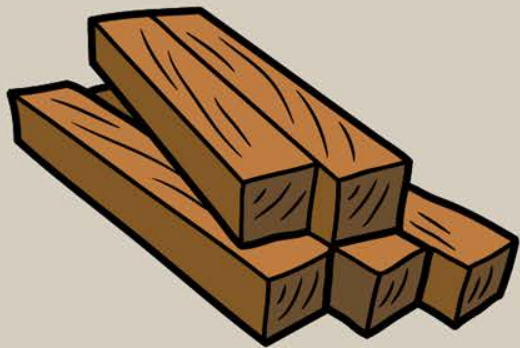
This month our focus
has been on Jazz Music!
Rehearsals every Thursday
after school in the Music room!



FX CTS

This month we would like to highlight our Industrial Arts (IA) 10 and 20 classes!

Both classes have started their wood working modules.



IA 10

Students develop knowledge and skills with both power tools and hand tools by constructing a stool made of solid wood.



IA 20

Students are working on joinery skills with wood by producing a box-type piece of furniture.

Physical Education - Classes have been enjoying the weather - river valley walks, golf range, pitch & putt, tennis, disc golf and many outdoor sports.



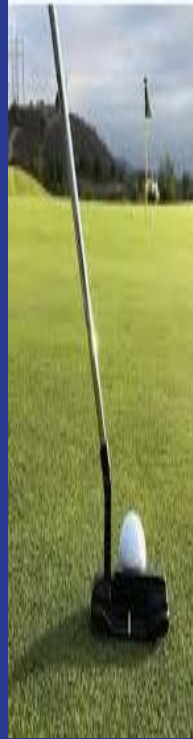


PE 30 Pitch & Putt





Pitch & Putt at Kinsmen



PE 10
River
Valley
Walk



New Gym Floor

We are extremely excited that our new gym floor in our Mike Dea Gymnasium is now complete! Construction was from May-August and it was complete just in time for the start of our 2024-25 school year. BIG THANKS goes out to Brad Farish and Bre Fiege for all their hard work and planning with our ECSD team!





Xavier Union

Members of Xavier Union played a key role in the success of Grade 10 Day!!!

Homecoming was a HUGE Success with Food TRUCKS, Backyard Games, and Friendship Bracelets. The Energy for the FOOTBALL GAME was Electric!!!

Look for Athletes and FINE ARTS person of the Month for September.





RUCKUS RAMS



We have a new club at FX and they are called the Ruckus Rams! This team of students build energy and pump up the crowd at major events throughout the school year such as Homecoming, Boom Tournament, Mike Dea Tournament, Battle at the Bill, Open House, Bike-A-Thon, Year End Teacher vs Student Event, and Feeder School Tournaments.

Athletics: Thank you to all the Fall Coaches & Advisors

Volleyball

Sr Boys - Matt Johnson & Phillip Vandevalk
Sr Girls - Don Darwish & Elise Darwish
Jr Girls - Josh Yen, Pina Perri & Helena Parker
Jr Boys - Eugene Unrau, Taylor Stephens

Football

Sr Boys - Zach Kohn, Ryan Stephens & Various Outside Coaches
Jr Boys - Seagda McInnes, Ben Greschner & Various Outside Coaches

Flag Football - Nathaniel Wojcicki, Francesca Fritz, Jody Coughlan, Adisyn Florian

Swim - Dylan Johns, Michelle Urban

Cross Country - Jeremy Posteraro

Golf - Warren Sanregret



Athletics

FX has been full on with Fall Sports - Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, Swim, Flag Football, & Golf



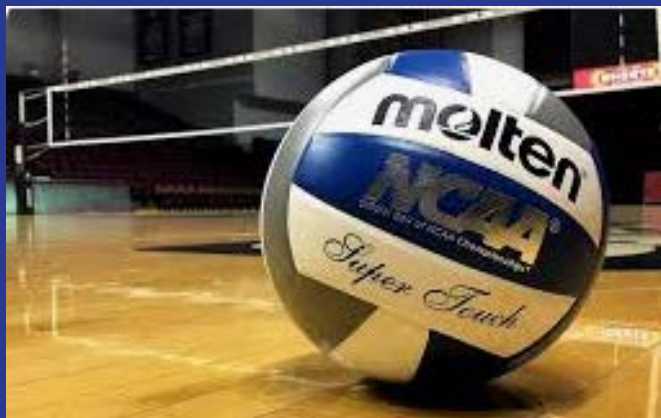


Cross Country





Sr Girls Volleyball won the TriVolley Tournament





Sr Boys Volleyball



Girls Flag Football



FX Rams Sr Football Coaching Staff:

Athletic Trainer and Strength and Conditioning Coach:
Karissa Anderson

Manager:
Nancy Pinto

Quality Control:
Connor Street

Coaches:
Ryan Stephens
Zach Kohn
Jared C.
Jason L.
Jesse D.
Shawn W.
Frank B.
Logan S.
Jason S.
Lucias V.
Chris N.



Jr Football Coaches:

Seaghda McInnes

Ben Greschner

Nahome W.

Ti-Amo R.

Brett V.

Procopios T.

Kieran B.

Josh T.

Trevor E.

Luke S.



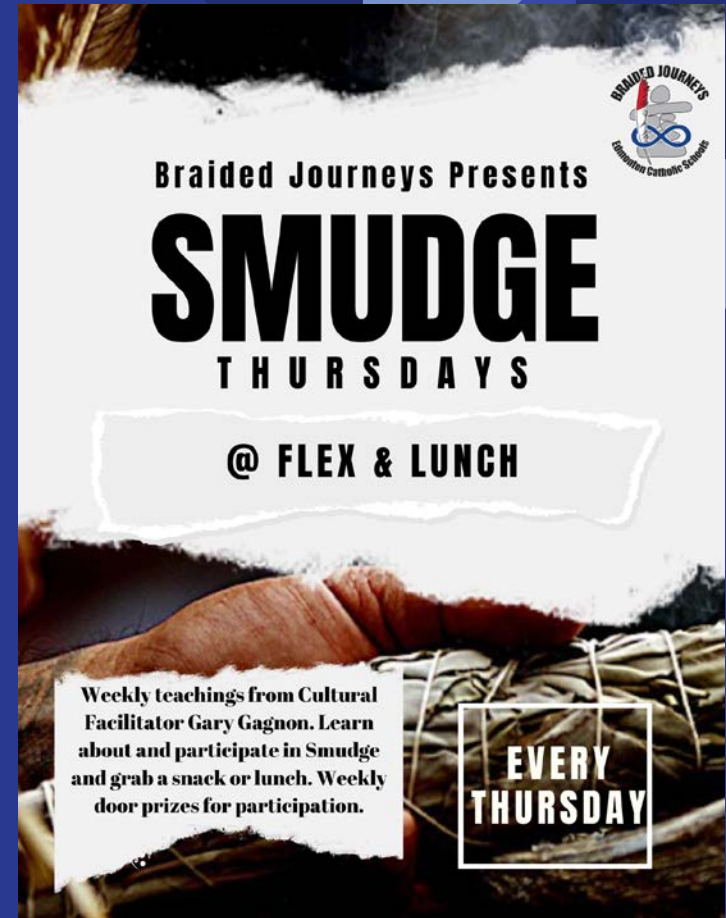




BRAIDED JOURNEYS

Braided Journeys Student Support Centres are committed to assisting student success by cultivating a caring, welcoming, and positive place where Indigenous students see themselves, their contributions, and their culture represented, respected, and celebrated. Each centre offers support, encouragement, and guidance throughout a student's educational

Did you know that Braided Journeys offers weekly programs such as smudging?



EVERY CHILD MATTERS



**ORANGE
SHIRT DAY**

September 27

**NATIONAL DAY FOR
TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION**

September 30 (No Classes)

Orange Shirt Day at FX - September 27

We all live with the legacy of residential schools. Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation reminds us of the legacy and the work of healing and repair that continues to be needed. At FX, we honour this day by stopping our own work, so that we can reflect, remember, and be part of the national movement for reconciliation. We thank Andrea Milne, Alena Pavone, Katherine Merrell-Anderson, and Mr. Runco for their planning this day for our school. We also thank Eric Wilde - ECSD Cultural Facilitator for sharing his story and Kaystin (student) for her words and dance to our school community. Each staff member at FX wore an Orange Jersey as a symbol of hope, reconciliation, and commitment for a better future.





Our FX Staff commits to honouring and restoring the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action and we strongly believe that truth must be acknowledged to move forward to reconciliation.

Truth THEN Reconciliation

Now that we are learning the TRUTH, what does RECONCILIATION look like?

Truth

From 21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act

1. It denied women status
2. Introduced residential schools
3. Created reserves
4. Renamed people with European names *without their consent
5. First Nations people had to receive permission to leave the reserve
6. To attend university, First Nations people had to give up their rights
7. Land that was provided through treaty negotiations could be taken away if the government decided they needed it.
8. It denied First Nations people to a lawyer, and it did not allow any lawyers to help First Nations people.
9. It forbade First Nations people from speaking their native language.
10. It forbade First Nations people from practicing their religion or ceremonies.
11. First Nations needed a permit to sell any products from their farms.



Reconciliation

How do we walk the path forward together?

- Honour the treaties by learning whose land we walk on.
- Acknowledge and let go of negative perceptions and stereotypes
- Acknowledge the past and ensure that history doesn't repeat itself
- Learn about Indigenous culture & history
 - did you know that FX offers an Indigenous Studies class?
- Take part in the cultural offerings at your school
 - smudge in the Braided Journeys room on Thursdays
- When you are unsure about something, look to find authentic knowledge for better understanding



INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES



Barbara MacKnight

Ms. MacKnight is supporting grades 11 and 12, as well as, K&E and WIN. She is available blocks 1-3 in the Learning Centre.



Alecia Stefaniw

Mrs. Stefaniw is supporting grade 10 students. She is available blocks 1 and 2 each day in the Learning Centre.

The Instructional Coaches are here to support students who require some extra support academically. We want all students to feel success in their classes and we help them and their teachers make that happen.

STUDENT SERVICES: Family School Liaison Workers



Danielle Wade



Michelle Urban

Welcome to Student Services! As **Registered Social Workers**, we support students and families of St. FX in many ways, including connection to resources, advocacy outreach, and supportive counselling. We look forward to meeting more of our school community!

Feel free to reach out to us if you think your child may benefit from speaking to one of us for support during their school day, or if you may benefit from additional supports as a parent while facing financial hardship or other challenges. We are here to listen, problem solve, and connect your family to the supports you need: danielle.wade@ecsd.net and michelle.urban@ecsd.net

Resources we support access to include:

Sport and art program funding for youth

Christmas Bureau hamper referrals

Mental health and wellness resources

Food and basic needs support

Snack Program for students through Edmonton's Food Bank

Attire for graduation through Gregor's Grads and Cinderella's Closet

...and MANY other community partners!

Currently, we have Caleb from the YMCA's Youth Transition Program (YTP) working out of Student Services one afternoon a week, who can support youth facing barriers in their life such as with employment, peers, and addictions. Please reach out to us or visit their [website](https://ymcanab.ca/programs/learning-leadership-employment/youth-young-adults/youth-transitions-program) for more information! <https://ymcanab.ca/programs/learning-leadership-employment/youth-young-adults/youth-transitions-program>



Reg. #2270 Cst. Jody Coughlan
Edmonton Police Service
School Resource Officer Unit
St. Francis Xavier High School
Jody.coughlan@edmontonpolice.ca

EDMONTON
POLICE
SERVICE



Hello :)

This is my 4th year in the School Resource Officer Unit and I am happy to be placed at St. FX as the SRO. Kicking off the new school year, I've had a chance to collaborate with the Admin team & teachers and connect with many students through positive youth engagement. I've returned to the FX Girls Flag Football Team as an Assistant Coach and I look forward to another great year of Athletics & Academics.

The main safety issues I have witnessed so far are traffic-related. A high number of students are crossing 95 Ave (at lunch) when the "no walk" signal is lit. Vehicles (including large trucks carrying loads) travel down this main road at a high rate of speed & I have witnessed near misses that make me cringe. I ask that you please speak to your teenager about this.

Also many drivers (during the before & after school rush) are not paying attention to the 163 Street (flashing) crosswalks and not stopping for students who are crossing. Students have approached me to report almost getting hit by a vehicle. I ask that both student & parent drivers please do your part to improve this situation. I am working with EPS traffic section to organize some enforcement.

I look forward to an amazing school year and getting to know students and their families better throughout the year. If there are any questions about my role in the school, please feel free to reach out.

School Council

We held our School Council Annual General Meeting on September 17, 2024 and we voted in new Executive Positions.

CHAIR (NEW) - Francine Sundby

VICE CHAIR (NEW) - Christin Bryant

SECRETARY- Lisa Savill

TREASURER (NEW) - Angie Gulevich

CASINO CHAIRPERSON - Briony Oliver

Our School Advisory Council also supported and approved the purchase of New Chromebooks and Cart, new Jr Girls Basketball Jerseys, and our Western Canada Mike Dea Basketball Tournament. Thank you for your continued support of providing exceptional learning opportunities for our staff and students at FX!

NEXT SAC MEETING is on Wednesday, Oct. 16 - 6pm
in the Learning Center



St. FX Awards Night is coming quick! October 9 at 6:30PM

All students who are receiving an award should have received an email by now with the invitation. Please RSVP to the school at 780-489-2571.



Grad 2025: Save the Date!



Gr 12s!
Join the Google
Classroom

Grade 12 Graduation Fundraisers

Individual Fundraisers - monies can be used towards
Commencement and/or Banquet tickets



Purdy's Chocolates Christmas Fundraiser

- Earn 25% of what you sell
- Orders due Nov 30, 2024
- Pickup Mon Dec 16, 2024
- Contact Mrs Gnutel for more information and to get started
ulana.gnutel@ecsd.net



Widynowski's Sausage Fundraiser

- Earn between \$2 - \$4 per item sold
- Orders due Dec 2, 2024
- Pickup Dec 9, 2024 at school
- Hot Buttons on Powerschool to order



GRAD PHOTOS

FRI DEC 6 – SUN DEC 8



- All grads need to book appointment. Link will be on grad Google Classroom and Instagram when the bookings open
- There is no charge for sitting if you are just getting a yearbook/ hallway composite picture.
- \$35 sitting fee (to be paid at appointment) if you are buying a package. (Cash or debit)

Can't make it
that weekend?
Book a time in
studio. Call

Lifetouch at
780.437.2431



U of A Open House
Saturday October 19
9am- 3 pm

The Butterdome (free
onsite parking)

Check out ualberta.ca for
more details

Open House: Saturday October 19

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Apply for **FREE** at the event

Enter to win a **\$1,000 tuition rebate**



THE
KING'S
UNIVERSITY



Open House: Saturday October 19

10 am-2 pm

Enter to win one of four \$1,000 tuition credits
Waived application fees for domestic students
Free parking in NorQuest lots
Register at norquest.ca



OPEN
HOUSE

Saturday, October 26

9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Main campus

Free Visitor Parking in all zones

Reserve your spot for a chance to
win one of two \$250 Visa gift cards
at nait.ca!



CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY
OF **EDMONTON**

Open House: Saturday, October 26

In-Person 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

7128 Ada Blvd Hold Academic Center Entrance

Free Parking!

- Register at concordia.ab.ca for prizes!!

**Saturday,
November 2**

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



MacEwan
UNIVERSITY

**OPEN
HOUSE**



October 2024



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
September 30 No School – Truth & Reconciliation Day	1 Day 1 Norquest at Flex	2 Day 2	3 Day 1	4 Day 2
7 Day 1	8 Day 2	9 Day 1 Academic Awards	10 Day 2 Alumni Vball game Thanksgiving celebration	11 Day 1 Boom Tournament (Oct 11- 12)
14 No School – Thanksgiving	15 Day 2	16 Day 1	17 Day 2	18 Day 1
21 Day 2	22 Day 1	23 Day 2	24 Day 1	25 Day 1 Retake Photo Lifetouch Jr Feeder VBall Tournament (Oct 25-26)
28 Day 1	29 Day 2	30 Day 1	31 Day 2	



STAY UP TO DATE

@FX.ATHLETICS @STFXHIGHEDM @XAVIER.UNION



JOIN THE FUN

