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Dear Parents/Guardians:

In late January, Alberta Education will be sending selected parents a satisfaction survey. The results of the Alberta Education Survey, along with the Schollie Survey you will receive in March from the school are used to help guide programs in the school, address school needs and celebrate the great things we have accomplished. To help you better answer the survey questions, we have put together some highlights of the amazing work our staff, students and parents continue to do. From our annual school's report card, we have identified the following areas of Success and Growth.

Area of Success	Area of Growth
School is Safe for Students - 92.0% Education Quality - 91.5% School Improvement - 87.5%	Preparing Students for the Workplace – 80.3% Parental Involvement – 82.0%

Last year, we received parent feedback that involved parents being unsure of how to respond to some survey questions. In those instances, parents chose "Don't Know." The result of "Don't Know" equates to "Dissatisfied/Very Dissatisfied" which parents shared with us wasn't their desired default for this answer. Moving forward, it is our recommendation that if you are unsure how to answer, please involve your child to gain insight, place a more positive response or as the survey recommends, leave your response blank. (Picture below illustrates this)

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that ...	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dis-satisfied	Very Dis-satisfied	Don't Know
23. High school students demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for learning throughout their lifetime?	O ₁	O ₂	O ₃	O ₄	O ₅

There are two areas of focus that we continue to work toward improving. These areas would include Preparing Students for the Workplace and Parental Involvement. Here is a brief summary of what we are working on in each area.

Parental Involvement

Schools are at their best when parents and the school have a shared vision for education. As we begin year 3 of operation, getting parent feedback is crucial to our continued success. Last year, we received parent feedback in two crucial areas summarized below.

1. Being involved in my child's education: High School Parents shared that they want remain an active part of their child's education. Having heard this, we have asked our teachers to reach out to invite parents to interviews, administration is keeping parents up to date of interactions with their child and we are actively using our Power Announce system to keep parents updated on important Graduation and Post-Secondary information.
2. Parent Surveys: At our November Parent/Teacher interviews, we surveyed parents about the school asking them to share thoughts of items that are working well and areas of growth. Two areas of growth came up; Absence Notification and Information Sharing. We are currently examining ways to reduce the number of absence notifications with our software provider and with respect to sharing of information, we are adding Principal messages to supplement our week at a glance.

Preparing Students for the Workplace

An area of focus for us this year as a result of our survey data is preparing students for life after high school. For

students, this can mean a number of different avenues. For some, students know they are going to university or college, others, it's a gap year and for others, a plan to enter the workforce. Parents have shared that they are looking to schools for guidance in this very important transition time in their child's lives. Our school is blessed with a Career Counselor, Ms. Spafford whose responsibility it is to assist students in this time of transition. Below is a summary of the services available to our students:

- Discuss graduation requirements and tracking
- Career exploration and investigation resources
- Development of quality resume, cover letter, and interview skills
- Part time work search
- Arranging job shadow opportunities
- Post-secondary program information, entrance requirements and competitive averages
- Financing your post-secondary education / scholarship opportunities
- Labour market information and trends

A question we are often asked, is the Career Centre just focused on grade 12 students? The Career Centre is not just for graduating students. The first semester's appointments are primarily dedicated to ensuring grade 12 students are on track to graduate and support students who are applying for post-secondary. Students who are in grade 10 and 11 are strongly encouraged to be proactive in their career planning and access appointments in semester 2. The earlier and more frequent students meet to explore career options, the more opportunities there are to address fears and inform students to make well guided choices.

As well as working with students, Ms. Spafford also coordinates opportunities for our students in grade 11 to visit career connections at Red Deer College and facilitates hosting the Educational Liaison Association of Alberta event which allows students in grade 11 and 12 to meet with universities, colleges, members of the Armed Forces and R.C.M.P.

We welcome parents to connect for information and resources that prepare our students for high school transition. Further information on Career Centre updates can be accessed through <https://www.stjosephhigh.ca/career-centre>.

The data in these surveys is crucial for our school. It is used to ensure that we continue to grow and offer excellent programming. St. Joseph High School continues to trend upward. Thank you for taking the time to respond to each survey in a fair and meaningful manner to help us grow.

God Bless,

Graeme Daniel/Teresa Borchers/Ian Stang
St. Joseph High School Administration Team