



**Parent Quick Facts Sheet**  
**Knowledge and Employability Program**  
**Grades 8 and 9**



Updated June 2017

This quick fact sheet has been created to help parents and students understand the Knowledge and Employability homeroom programs that we offer at St. Francis Junior High School.

Information regarding these courses and registration is available by contacting the following personnel at the school:

Administration:      Mr. Kevin Kinahan – Principal  
                              Mrs. Crystal Lothian – Assoc. Principal  
                              Mr. Gordon Vatcher – Assoc. Principal

(403) 327-3402 – phone    WEBSITE: [www.holyspirit.ab.ca/st.francis](http://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/st.francis)

Additional information regarding Knowledge and Employability courses can be found in the “Information Manual for Knowledge and Employability Courses” on the Alberta Education website: <http://www.education.alberta.ca/teachers/program/know.aspx>. Links are also on our website under ‘Resources and Publications.

#### Grade 8 Program Highlights at St. Francis Jr. High

- students have a low teacher to student ratio (1:16-20)
- educational assistant presence through most the day (another support for the students)
- curricula in core areas are modified version of full grade 8 program, but still involves challenge and topics of interest to the students
- parents are involved for at-home support and guidance as to students’ interests/skills
- diagnostic assessments are done early to determine student learning levels; programs are created to meet students where they are and see them advance at an appropriate pace while still engaging them in the skills they will need for grade 9 or 10
- higher emphasis on having kids learn in ways that match their individual learning styles
- greater emphasis on social skill development, working in groups, and gaining student independence
- students participate in option programs of their choosing (wide range of options)

#### Grade 9 Program Highlights at St. Francis Jr. High

- all of the aspects of the grade 8 program (above) are maintained
- curricula in core areas are modified version of full grade 9 program
- students write Grade 9 K&E Provincial Achievement Tests in May and June
- community service experiences are offered to the students