



LCSD Approved by Alberta Education for New Dual Credit Opportunity

BONNYVILLE, AB (March 5, 2018) - Lakeland Catholic School District (LCSD) is pleased to announce that it has been approved by Alberta Education for \$50,000 in start-up funding for a new dual credit learning opportunity.

LCSD submitted a proposal for start-up funding for a project that incorporates Heavy



Equipment Technician, Electrical and Robotics courses. Portage College is the post-secondary partner on this initiative. There are five other school districts who are partners including Northern Lights Public Schools, Aspen View Public Schools, St. Paul School Division, East Central Alberta Catholic School

Division and Elk Island Public Schools.

LCSD high schools embrace the philosophy of High School Redesign whereby school and learning are more personalized and this opportunity supports us in meeting this outcome. We plan to make this opportunity available to students for September 2018.

Through this dual credit learning opportunity, students will explore different pathways between trades and technologies and the possibilities that result by connecting them. Pre-Employment Heavy Equipment Technician opens doors for students to apprentice and challenge the AIT (Apprenticeship and Industry Training) Exam - Period 1. We plan to develop electrical and robotics courses whereby students taking the courses will obtain both high school and college credits.

Recently LCSD and Portage College were featured in a Maclean's Magazine article, "[Why Wait? How High School Students are Earning College Credits](#)" (Lewington, December 2017). The article emphasizes that when it comes to dual credit, there is something for everyone. A broad range of dual credit courses have been offered within Lakeland Catholic Schools over the past few years. LCSD was part of the Three-Year Alberta Provincial Dual Credit Strategy in partnership with Lakeland College and Imperial offering an Oil and Exploration pathway (2013-2016).

There is a need for students to develop high levels of competencies including creativity, innovation, problem solving and communication. This opportunity supports our students in further developing these competencies through different trades and technologies and in exploration and reflection about possibilities for post-secondary studies and careers.

References:

Lewington, J. (2017, December 18). Why wait? How high school students are earning college credits. *Maclean's*. Retrieved from <http://www.macleans.ca/education/double-time/>

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