



*Medicine Hat
Catholic Board of Education*

1251 – 1st Avenue SW., Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 8B4

Fax (403) 529-0917

www.mhcbce.ab.ca

Telephone (403) 527-2292

October 23, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians of St. Mary's School French Immersion Students - Pre-School to Grade 7:

I am writing to invite you to a very important information meeting which will be held @ **St. Louis School, 861 – 4th Street SE** on **Monday, November 02, 2009** beginning at **7:00 p.m.** The meeting is being called to discuss the **Regional Facility Plan** and **Grade Re-Configuration Proposal** as recommended to the Board by Senior Administration.

This proposal; if it is approved will have major implications for the *French Immersion Program*. The proposal calls for the transfer of the *French Immersion Program* to St. Louis School. St. Louis School will become a K-6 French Immersion single track school; the (*Turning Points Program* may remain at St. Louis).

The current K-5 St. Louis students will be transferred to St. Mary's School; St. Mary's will become a Kindergarten to Grade Nine School; with a *French Immersion Program* in grades 7-9.

The reason this proposal is being put forward is that almost all of our schools are crowded. With no immediate prospects for a new school, grade reconfiguration needs to be ***considered***.

Copies of the **Regional Facility Plan** and the **Facility/Grade Reconfiguration Proposal** can be accessed in the document library on the division website @ www.mhcbce.ab.ca under **Documents and Publications/Plans and Reports/**. **Attached is the one-page grade-reconfiguration proposal** for your quick reference.

The Board of Trustees has asked Senior Administration to hold these meetings in order to:

- **Present the results of the latest Regional Facility Plan**
- **Share our response to the Regional Facility Plan**
- **Get input from you on the Regional Facility Plan and Grade Re-Configuration Proposal, as recommended to the Board, by Senior Administration**

The Board of Trustees will be making a decision in December 2009. If you unable to attend the meeting on November 02, 2009: please plan to attend one of the other special meetings listed below:

- **Thursday, October 29, 7:00 p.m. at St. Louis School**
(this meeting is primarily for current St. Louis staff and parents/guardians)
- **Monday, November 16, 7:00 p.m. - St. Patrick's School – Everyone is welcome**
- **Tuesday, November 17, 7:00 p.m. St. Francis School – Everyone is welcome**

I encourage you to come to **St. Louis School** on **November 02, 2009** to hear about the plan and to provide your input. Should you be unable to attend and your wish to express your comments please email me at david.leahy@mhcbce.ab.ca or contact my office at (403) 527-2292.

Thank you. Mr. David Leahy, Superintendent of Schools (403) 527-2292

Medicine Hat Catholic Separate Regional Division #20

- Reconfigure grades in 2010 to improve utilization and programming at all levels.
 - i. St. Francis K-6
 - ii. St. Michael's M. H. K-6
 - iii. McCoy 10-12
 - iv. St. Louis K-6 French Immersion, Turning Points.
 - v. St. Mary's K-9 (K-9 English, 7-9 Dual Track F. I., rezone boundary to include K-6 students from sector 2 and sector 3)
 - vi. Mother Teresa K-6 (LAP will transfer from St. Louis to Mother Teresa)
 - vii. St. Patrick's K-5
 - viii. Notre Dame 6-9
- Add one new 250 seat core Elementary School in Sector 5
- Provide Modular Classrooms until new school can be opened and to relieve pressure in other sectors
- Sell St Thomas to Greater Southern Public Francophone board.
- Continue to lease original St. Louis School to CAPE.
- Modernize McCoy at a later date.
- Modernize St. Francis at a later date

Sector	School	Proposed Grades	2009 Emergent Needs	2010 Emergent Needs	2011 Emergent Needs
1	St Francis St Michaels McCoy	K-6 K-6 10-12	Add 2 modulars	Add 2 modulars Relocate grade 9's to St Mary's and Notre Dame	Add 2 modulars
2	St Mary's	K-9		Add 2 modulars Reconfigure to K-9 with 7-9 dual track F. I. Rezone boundary to include all K-6 students in sectors 2 and 3. Move K-6 F.I. to St. Louis	
3	St Louis	K-6		Transfer current K-5 students to St. Mary's. LAP Program move to Mother Teresa K-6 F.I. program relocated to St. Louis	
4	Mother Teresa St Thomas	K-6		Replace 4 old modulars with 4 new modulars Sell property to Francophone Board	
5	St Patrick's Notre Dame New Elementary	K-6 7-9 K-6	Add 2 modulars	Move Grade 5's to St. Patrick's Become 6-9 school	Remove 2 modulars Grade Six moved to St. Patrick's and new school Open new school
	Total Modulars		4	8	0