

BOARD BULLETIN

May 2017 – MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION @ mhcbe.ab.ca



Happy 150th Birthday Canada – We're celebrating all year long! - Medicine Hat Catholic Schools proudly acknowledge Canada's 150th birthday in our year-long celebration. On May 11th, Mother Teresa students, representing MHCBE, *realized the beauty of the blooming tulips at Robertson Park* as part of the **City of Medicine Hat's Celebration Garden commemorating Canada's Sesquicentennial Blooming Ceremony**. The students helped plant the 1,000 tulips in the park in Oct. 2016!

RETIREES FOR 2016-2017 – Congratulations to each employee retiring from the Division. A **Retiree Dinner** will be held on **Monday, June 12th** to honour and acknowledge the service of our Retirees and to say Thank You to each of them for their dedication and commitment to Catholic education. **Congratulations!** - Wanda Simmons, Joan Kaupp, Greg Martin, Ray Hoger, Catherine Brown, Lois Gagley, Brian Stonehouse, Kym Porter, Annette Fraser, Angela Turner, Ljiljana Kalember & Doug Grimm.

BECOME A SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE – School Board Elections will take place in October as part of the Municipal General Election in Alberta. The election occurs once every 4 years. **Nomination Day is Sept 18, 2017. Election Day is Oct 16, 2017.** Are you passionate about Catholic Education? Do you have ideas for positive change in education? **Think about putting your name forward as a School Board Trustee.** Election packages will be available soon at the School Board Office. Information is now posted at www.mhcbe.ab.ca under Latest News. It is the Board's intention to have a **5th Trustee in place** for the upcoming Election, pending **Ministerial Approval**.

NEW OUTDOOR FITNESS CENTRE – We are very excited to **announce the Outdoor Fitness Park** located adjacent to Notre Dame Academy **is almost done!** This development is a dream come true for Notre Dame Academy and Dr. Roy Wilson Learning Centre. This shared outdoor fitness facility **will benefit approximately 1100 students from both schools** and creates an additional learning space. **Partnerships Matter!** [Media Release](#)

MODERNIZATION + CONSTRUCTION - St. John Paul II construction is progressing well. Monsignor McCoy Modernization continues including demolition of the *Central Gathering Space, Auxillary Gymnasium and Exercise Facility* as soon as possible. Anticipated completion is set for Sept. 2017.

MHCBE Celebrates Canada!

Our Motto:

"Showing the face of Christ to all."



RE-APPOINTMENT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

– The Board of Trustees passed a motion to **seek Ministerial Approval** to re-appoint **Mr. Joe Colistro, Superintendent of Schools** from August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2020, conditional on mutual agreement of the contract of employment. Mr. Colistro's current term as Superintendent of Schools with MHCBE expires July 31, 2018.

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING – The Board re-scheduled the Special Board Meeting from Monday, May 15, 2017 to **Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.** for the purpose of approving the 2017-2018 Budget.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES – The Board approved its Strategic Priorities for 2017-2018 following a strategic planning session held on March 28th with members of Administration, Teachers, Support Staff, and Parents & Trustees. The groups collaborated and shared multiple perspectives in setting the five **Strategic Priorities for 2017-2018:**

1. **To enhance our Catholic Identity;**
2. **To enhance student learning through actions that reflect the values of inclusive education;**
3. **To develop a Literacy and Numeracy Initiative to ensure every student is successful;**
4. **To develop a vision for the use of technology to support student learning;**
5. **To provide a continuum of support for the mental health and well-being of parents, students and staff.**

These Priorities will form the basis of the upcoming Annual Education Report & School Education Plans.

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM GOES PROVINCE-WIDE

– Our School Division will be implementing a **Nutrition Program** as part of Alberta's province-wide School Nutrition Program with funding in the amount of **\$141,000**. Funds are provided to **establish or enhance existing nutrition programs** and will be **targeted for the provision of nutritional meals**, including costs associated with ordering, preparation and delivery. The program must be **universal to all students in the selected K-6 school** and must be **one full meal, per day (breakfast or lunch)** which aligns with AB Nutrition Guidelines. We plan to engage and potentially involve our **High School Culinary Arts Program**; implement the use of **Grow Towers** for producing vegetables and **Develop Partnerships** with *local providers of goods & services & other educational and health institutions* in delivering the nutrition program. We will submit our proposal to Alberta Education by May 26, 2017.

**Monsignor McCoy High School
Modernization Fundraising, Thank-you Donors!
You've helped us raise \$231,525!**

Donations to Date

*Your donation supports the Chapel Space, Ancillary Classroom, Fitness Space, Drama Space, Technology and Furniture & Equipment. Donation [Forms](#) online at www.mccoymodernization.ca or call us at 403.527.2292.

Watch for a backpack circulation in June 2017!

Upcoming Catholic School Board Meetings, all are welcome.

- June 13, 2017 at 6pm Regular Meeting
- June 27, 2017 at 6 pm Special Meeting

For information www.mhcbe.ab.ca or call us at 403.527.2292