

MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD BULLETIN

Face of Christ Award winner: Brenda McDowell

At the Public Board Meeting on June 8, the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education formally recognized our 2021 Face of Christ Award recipient, **Brenda McDowell**.

The Face of Christ Award was created to acknowledge a support staff member who deserves to be

recognized for providing outstanding support to their school communities.

Brenda has been in our school division for many years and is currently a Learning Assistant at St. Mary's School. Vice Principal **Brad van Middelkoop** described her as dedicated



Brenda McDowell

and an incredible influence to everyone she comes across.

"I want to thank the board and everyone, I'm very humbled and very fortunate every day to go to work where I can live my faith, see the face of Christ in every staff member, every student,"

said McDowell. "I'm so blessed to be a part of (St. Mary's)."

Congratulations Brenda!

We would also like to recognize our award nominees, who go beyond their job descriptions to make a difference in our schools and we are blessed to have them in our MHCBE

family!

• **Cathy Bachmier** – Secretary, St. Michael's School

• **Jaime Franco** – Custodian, St. Francis Xavier School

• **Jennifer Rocheleau** – Learning Assistant, St. Michael's School

Honouring residential school victims

The division joined in recognizing the news of bodies found buried at a former residential school in Kamloops, B.C. in May.

Flags at all division buildings were lowered for 215 hours; one hour for each indigenous child found at the site. A division-wide prayer was shared and orange shirts worn June 1.

Most importantly, communication continues with

staff and students regarding how to acknowledge, learn and grow out of this tragedy and others likely to be discovered.



[Read about Indigenous Support Teacher Raevon Gehring's response](#)

[Read about the division's response as well](#)

Homestay families needed

Have an incredible experience and host an international student! More than 40 such students are coming to our schools this fall.

Call 403-527-2292 and talk to either **Wanda** or **Sasha**, or visit the [International Education](#) website for more information.



THEY'RE FAMOUS

Famous, by Grade 12 Monsignor McCoy student **Jade Bleau**, was among the winners in the Esplanade's School Art Takeover Contest.

Other winners included: **Lola Babcock** (Grade 2, St. Patrick's), **Eden Jacober** (Grade 5, École St. John Paul II), **Emma MacNutt** (Grade 8, St. Mary's), **Mia Habus** (Esplanade Invitation Award; Grade 9, St. Mary's), **Regine Simbulan** (Dean Smale Award; Grade 9, St. Mary's), **Sarah Tieman** (Mathew James Morgan Armstrong Art Award; Grade 7, St. Mary's), **Kaitlyn Petersen** (Mathew James Morgan Armstrong Art Award; Grade 12, Monsignor McCoy), and **Marty Nunweiler** (Esplanade Archives Award; Grade 2, St. Patrick's School).

Planning well underway for 2021-2025

Catholicity, health and wellness, and quality teaching and learning are the cornerstones of the division's Four-Year Education Plan as approved May 26 at a board meeting.

The strategies were developed based on feedback from students, staff and parents/guardians.

[To read the full plan visit our website](#)

Retirees will be missed dearly

For 12 division employees, the 2020-21 school year was their last in our hallways.

Representing a wide range of experience and occupations, each will be missed.

We wish them well in whatever lies ahead and pray that God guides them with happiness and health.

- **SANDRA RICHARD** (34 years)
- **JAKE BRAATEN** (34 years)

- **SHAUNA PAHL** (33 years)
- **MARIA SEHN** (32 years)
- **SEAN KELLY** (26 years)
- **LORE LUCA** (22 years)
- **JUDY CHRUSCH** (21 years)
- **PAT LAWRENCE** (20 years)
- **GRAINNE CONCAGH** (18 years)
- **GARNET UNDERSHUTE** (8 years)
- **WAYNE REINHELLER** (7 years)
- **EUGENE ERICK** (2 years)

Budget for 2021-22 gets approved

The 2021-22 budget was approved by the board of trustees during a meeting May 26, including increased revenue from the International Educa-

tion program, the end of COVID-19 funding from the federal government and an overall deficit of \$355,565.

Spending on numerous fronts is expected to return to pre-COVID levels.

[Visit the website to see full details](#)

Raffle winner announced

With its annual charity golf tournament cancelled for the second year in a row due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Medicine Hat Catholic Schools' Education Foundation held a 50/50 raffle instead this year.



Thanks to everyone who participated. Congratulations to **Tracy Weinberger** who won the June 11 draw for \$4,055!