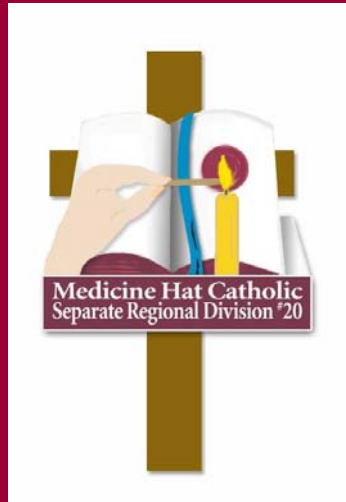


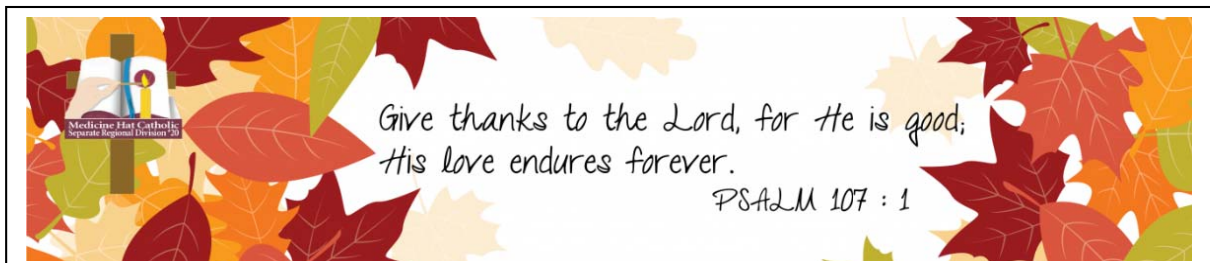
Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education



PUBLIC AGENDA

Tuesday, November 8, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m.

Catholic School Board Office
1251 – 1st Avenue SW Medicine Hat, AB



Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education

ACTION AGENDA

DATE: November 8, 2016

Place: Catholic Education Centre

Time: 6:00 p.m.

	<p>WE ARE CALLED Always and Everywhere to: Model Christ, Pray and Serve, Build a Faith Community</p> <p>Theme for 2016-2017: BLESSINGS FROM GOD</p>		
1.	<p><i>Opening Prayer – Blessing before a Meeting</i> <i>Lord, bless us as we gather today in your name. Send us the guidance of your Spirit to bring us wisdom and understanding. Help us to open our minds and our hearts so that we may listen respectfully to the viewpoints of others and make decisions in accordance with your will. Help us to grow in faith so that we may serve you and others in all that we do. We ask this grace through Christ our Lord. Amen.</i></p>	Robert Risling	
2.0	<p><i>Approval of the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of the Regular Board Meeting</i> <i>♦ Recommendation:</i> THAT the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting October 11, 2016 be approved as circulated.</p>	Dick Mastel	
2.1	<p><i>Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting</i> <i>♦ Recommendation:</i> THAT the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting October 11, 2016 be approved as circulated.</p>	Dick Mastel	
3.	<p><i>Approval of the Action Agenda</i> <i>♦ Recommendation:</i> THAT the Action Agenda dated November 8, 2016 be approved as circulated.</p>	DM	<i>Encl. 1-4</i>
4.	<p><i>Approval of the Non-Action Agenda</i> <i>♦ Recommendation:</i> THAT the Non-Action Agenda dated November 8, 2016 be approved as circulated.</p>	DM	<i>Encl. 5</i>
5.	<p><i>Presentations</i> -School Education Plan Presentations <i>5.1 St. Michael's School – School Education Plan</i> <i>5.2 Notre Dame Academy- School Education Plan & Outdoor Fitness Centre (Item #12.2)</i></p>	DM/JC	<i>Handout</i>
6.	<p><i>Corporate Communications</i> <i>6.1 Remembrance Day Celebrations Medicine Hat Catholic Schools</i> St. Patrick's, Nov 10 at 11 am and 1 pm St. Michael's, Nov 10 at 10:30 Ecole St. Thomas d'Aquin, Nov 10 at 1 pm St. Francis Xavier School, Nov 10 at 10:50 St. Mary's School, Nov 10 at 11 am St. Louis School, Nov 10 at 1 pm Notre Dame Academy, Nov 10 at 10:40 – 11 Mother Teresa School, Nov 10 at 2 pm</p>	DM	<i>Encl. 6</i>

	<u>12.4</u> Letter from Dentons Canada LLP, Mr. Kevin Feehan		62
13.	<i>Associate Superintendent Learning Services – Mr. Hugh Lehr</i> <u>13.1</u> Vision Screening Lions Club Medicine Hat <u>13.2</u> Fentanyl – Information shared with Staff & Parents (Item 6.2) <u>13.2</u> Mental Health Summit	HL	(Report) 63 – 64 67
14.	<i>Director of Early Childhood Services – Mrs. Kym Porter</i> <u>14.1</u> No Items	KP	
15.	<i>Religious Education Coordinator Report – Mrs. Jill Wilkinson</i> <u>15.1</u> Faith Formation Donation Drive - November 1 to November 14, 2016 <u>15.2</u> Excellence in Catholic Education <u>15.3</u> Mission Mexico <u>15.4</u> Keeping Christ in Christmas <u>15.5</u> Brown Bag Lunch Delivery	JW	(Report) 68 – 69 70 - 71
16.	COMMITTEE REPORTS (presented by appointed Trustees)	DM	
	16.1 Medicine Hat Catholic Schools' Education Foundation – Mrs. Regina Durst		
	16.2 Representative to ACSTA– Mr. Dick Mastel		
	16.3 Representative Teacher Board Advisory Committee – Reverend Mr. Robert Risling		
	16.4 Representative to ASBA Zone 6 – Mr. Peter Grad		
	16.5 Representative to Support Staff Board Advisory Committee– Mrs. Regina Durst		
	16.6 Representative to Parent Association– Mr. Peter Grad		
	16.7 Salary Negotiations <u>16.7.1</u> ATA– Mr. Peter Grad <u>16.7.2</u> CUPE– Mr. Dick Mastel		
	16.8 CUPE Staff Board Advisory Committee – Reverend Mr. Robert Risling		
	16.9 Spiritual Leadership Scholarship Board Representative – Mrs. Regina Durst		
	16.10 Student Board Advisory Committee – Mr. Dick Mastel		
	16.11 C2 (Adhoc) Committee – Reverend Mr. Robert Risling		
	16.12 Monsignor McCoy Modernization (Adhoc) Committee – Mrs. Regina Durst		
	16.13 School Parish Relations Committee (Adhoc) Committee – Mr. Robert Risling		
17.	<i>Closing Prayer</i> <i>Lord, we come to you today to seek the peace that you alone can give.</i> <i>Strengthen us in our work as we seek to build a peaceful community.</i> <i>Amen</i>	Robert Risling	
18.	<i>Adjournment</i>	Dick Mastel	

NON – ACTION AGENDA

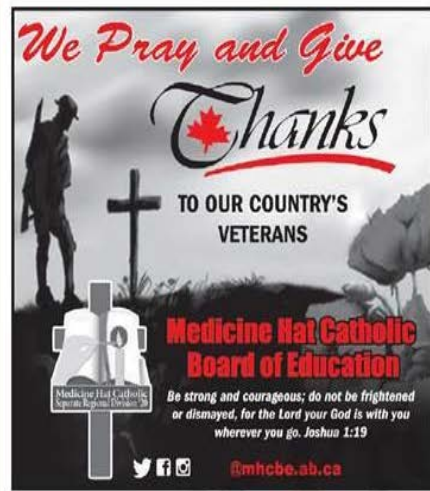
DATE: Tuesday, November 8, 2016 Place: Catholic Education Centre Time: 6:00 P.M.

No.	INFORMATION ITEMS	PAGE
1.1	<p><u>REGISTRATION 2016 - 2017</u></p> <p>* REGISTRATION in all Catholic schools in Medicine Hat for the 2016 – 2017 school year all grades is ongoing</p> <p><u>ALL ARE WELCOME–</u> <i>Are you a new resident to this country or new to our community or have a new learner getting ready to start school? Did you know that Catholic Schools in Alberta are publicly funded? That means, while we have school fees, there is no tuition. Our Schools offer a faith filled education. We nourish the whole child, spiritually, socially and academically and all are welcome! Call us for information or to register in one of our nine Schools in the City of Medicine Hat. MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION – 403.527.2292 or www.mhcbe.ab.ca. Come, Experience Catholic Schools - “Showing the Face of Christ to All”.</i></p>	
1.2	<p><u>TAXES – DECLARE YOUR SUPPORT for CATHOLIC SCHOOLS</u> – <i>The Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education reminds our community of the importance of declaring your PROPERTY TAXES in support of Catholic Education How do you declare your support? - To ensure your property taxes are supporting Catholic Schools, you must declare your Catholic school support as “Separate” on your annual property assessment notice. Contact the Taxation Office at the City of Medicine Hat, or the Town or Municipal Office in your area. Changes made on or before Dec 31 will be in effect for the next taxation year. Thank you for your supporting Catholic Schools.</i></p>	

Notice of Public Board Meetings

- All regularly scheduled Public Board Meetings are the **2nd Tuesday** of each month held at the Catholic Education Centre located at 1251 – 1st Avenue SW (unless otherwise advertised).
- Public Board Meetings for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education will begin at **6:00 pm** with presentations at **6:00 pm** (unless otherwise advertised).
- **General Public welcome to attend - Information @ www.mhcbe.ab.ca**

Remembrance Day



We Pray and Give Thanks to our Country's Veterans

"Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" Joshua 1:19

This year, MHCBE would like to acknowledge Miss Quirina Thompson, a St. Mary's School student in our division. Quirina was entered in the National poetry competition for the Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Poem contest; she won 1st place in Intermediate Category for her poem. Congratulations Quirina!

During the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Trustees acknowledged Quirina as an Ambassador for Catholic Education for her efforts to acknowledge the recognition from The Royal Canadian Legion at a Public Board Meeting.

Quirina will be reading her poem aloud at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Legislature Building in Edmonton the first week of November. She will also be reading her award winning poem at the Esplanade in Medicine Hat on November 11th prior to the Remembrance Day Ceremony in Veterans Park.

[Click here](#) for the 2016 Poster and Literary Contest Winners. *Quirina's poem is on page 6*

Remembrance Day Services at MH Catholic Schools

St. Patrick's, Nov 10 at 11 am & 1 pm

St. Michael's, Nov 10 at 10:30 am

Ecole St. Thomas d'Aquin, Nov 10 at 1 pm

St. Francis Xavier School, Nov 10 at 10:50 am

St. Mary's School, Nov 10 at 11 am

St. Louis School, Nov 10 at 1 pm

Notre Dame Academy, Nov 10 at 10:40 – 11am

Mother Teresa School, Nov 10 at 2 pm

Monsignor McCoy High School Nov 10 (classroom ceremonies only), gymnasium not available due to construction

INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION:

Cut Albertans' risk
for influenza in
half last season

Influenza is serious.

Prevention is your only protection.

Get Immunized.

Influenza Immunization available as of October 24th.

Free of charge to all Albertans six months of age and older.

For more info, including local clinic schedules, visit ahs.ca/influenza.

ahs.ca/influenza | Call 811



Community / Location	Date	Time
MEDICINE HAT STAMPEDE GROUNDS 2055 – 21 Ave SE, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 7N1 ► CYPRESS CENTRE AUDITORIUM: - ADULT RESOURCE FAIR - FLU-LAPALOOZA (Resource Fair for families with young children – everyone welcome) ► HIGDON HALL	Tues, Oct 25 Thurs, Nov 10 Thurs, Oct 27 Tues, Nov 1 Sat, Nov 5 Mon, Nov 14 Fri, Nov 18 Mon, Nov 21 Tues, Nov 29 Wed, Dec 14	9 am – 3 pm 1 pm – 6 pm 1 pm – 7 pm 1 pm – 7 pm 10 am – 2 pm 1 pm – 6 pm 1 pm – 6 pm 1 pm – 6 pm 2 pm – 6 pm 2 pm – 6 pm
MILK RIVER ► HERITAGE HALL 213 Main Street, Milk River, AB T0K 1M0 ► MILK RIVER COMMUNITY HEALTH 517 Centre Ave, Milk River, AB T0K 1M0	Wed, Nov 2 Tues, Nov 8 Wed, Dec 7	10 am – 2 pm 2 pm – 6 pm 9 am – 12 noon
OYEN OYEN COMMUNITY HEALTH 315 – 3 Avenue East, Oyen, AB T0J 2J0	Mon, Oct 24 Wed, Nov 16 Mon, Dec 12	9 am – 3 pm 12 noon – 6 pm 1 pm – 5 pm
PICTURE BUTTE ► COMMUNITY SENIOR CENTRE 607 Highway Avenue North Picture Butte, AB T0K 1V0 ► PIYAMI HEALTH CENTRE (Office) 300- A Rogers Avenue Picture Butte, AB T0K 1V0	Wed, Nov 2 Fri, Dec 9	2 pm – 6 pm 1 pm – 3 pm

Community / Location	Date	Time
PINCHER CREEK TOWN HALL 962 St. John Ave, Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0	Wed, Oct 26 Thurs, Nov 3 Wed, Dec 7	10 am – 3 pm 2 pm – 6 pm 2 pm – 6 pm
RALSTON C.F.B. Suffield Recreation Centre Dugway Drive and Larkhill Lane Ralston, AB T0J 2N0	Thurs, Nov 3	2 pm – 6 pm
RAYMOND ► SENIOR CENTRE 55 E and 100 N Raymond, AB T0K 2S0 ► RAYMOND HEALTH CENTRE 150 N and 4 St E, Raymond, AB T0K 2S0	Fri, Oct 28 Tues, Nov 8 Thurs, Dec 15	12 noon – 6 pm 12 noon – 6 pm 1 pm – 4 pm
REDCLIFF SENIOR'S DROP-IN CENTRE 26 Main Street South, Redcliff, AB T0J 2P0	Fri, Oct 28	2 pm – 7 pm
TABER ► HERITAGE INN 4830 – 46 Ave, Highway #3 T1G 2A4 ► TABER HEALTH CENTRE 4326 – 50 Ave, Taber, AB T1G 1N9	Thurs, Oct 27 Tues, Nov 8 Wed, Nov 23 Tues, Dec 13	9 am – 3 pm 12 noon – 6 pm 2 pm – 6 pm 1 pm – 4 pm
VAUXHALL ► COMMUNITY HALL 417 – 4 Street N, Vauxhall, AB T0K 2K0 ► VAUXHALL COMMUNITY HEALTH 406 – 1 Ave N, Vauxhall, AB T0K 2K0	Fri, Oct 28 Mon, Nov 7 Thurs, Dec 15	10 am – 3 pm 2 pm – 6 pm 1 pm – 4 pm
WARNER WARNER SENIOR'S CENTRE 103 – 3 Avenue, Warner, AB T0K 2L0	Thurs, Nov 3	10 am – 2 pm
YOUNGSTOWN YOUNGSTOWN VILLAGE OFFICE 218 – Main Street, Youngstown, AB T0J 3P0	Wed, Oct 26	10 am – 1 pm

Important: Please bring your Alberta personal health care card

Dates and times are subject to change. For up-to-date clinic information, please check the website: www.albertahealthservices.ca

Visit MHCBE website www.mhcbe.ab.ca for ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES (AHS)-Notices for Schools; posted throughout the year.

Now posted:

- *Influenza*
- *Fentanyl*

Re: Fentanyl

To: Superintendents of Public, Separate, Francophone and Charter School Boards & First Nations Education Directors

As you may know there is a growing health crisis across Canada related to rising numbers of deaths associated with illicit Fentanyl. I have been told that many school authorities shared materials last year to help students and their families understand the risk of Fentanyl. However, despite our best efforts there continues to be a devastating impact on many Alberta families. Our government is committed to slowing the fatal progression of this drug and reducing the tragic loss of life through accidental overdose.

Fentanyl is a pain reliever that is more potent than morphine. Illicit Fentanyl may be mixed with, or substituted for, heroin, prescription opiates or other street drugs to strengthen their potency. Substance users are at risk of overdosing when they unknowingly ingest drugs mixed with Fentanyl.

The Government of Alberta knows the importance of informing students and parents of ways to avoid harm caused by the use of illicit drugs, in particular Fentanyl. I am asking for your support by sharing the attached Fentanyl Fact Sheet with junior high and high school students, parents and educators. The Fact Sheet provides information on the potential dangers of illicit Fentanyl and offers reliable information. The [fact sheet](#) is posted on the Alberta Health website.

Please consider:

1. Posting on your school board's website as a resource for students, parents and/or teachers; and
2. Providing to teachers as a tool when developing Career and Life Management (CALM) curriculum and other health classes/units.

If you have questions, please email AlbertaValuingMentalHealth@gov.ab.ca

Thank you for your commitment to addressing this issue.

Sincerely,

Curtis Clarke, PhD
Deputy Minister of Education

Fentanyl: Information for Teachers and Parents

What you need to know

You may have heard recently about a dangerous drug called fentanyl that is causing a lot of harm in Alberta and across Canada.

Fentanyl is an opioid (painkiller) that can be used safely when it is prescribed by a health professional and taken as directed. But it is also being made and sold illegally.

Fentanyl is very toxic. Just a small amount of fentanyl, the size of two grains of salt, can be deadly. Fentanyl is made and sold in many different forms and can be hiding in other drugs.

Talk to the kids in your life

Kids and young adults are especially vulnerable to substances since their brains are still developing. It is not always easy, but talking to your kids about fentanyl and other dangerous drugs is one of the best things you can do to keep them safe.

- You can start a conversation by telling your kids you care about them and you want them to be safe.
- Ask them what they know about fentanyl and encourage open and honest communication.
- Tell them what you know about fentanyl:
 - ♦ It's a very dangerous drug that is being seen more and more in Alberta;
 - ♦ 272 Albertans died from fentanyl in 2015;
 - ♦ If you take fentanyl, it can stop your breathing;
 - ♦ It can be hiding in any street drug and may even look like prescription medication; ♦Drug dealers may not know if the product they are selling contains fentanyl.
- Ask your kids to tell you if they are ever around drugs and let them know it is ok to say no if they are ever offered drugs.

What parents and caregivers can do?

As parents, you are an important influence in your kids' lives. Although there is no guaranteed way to prevent drug use, there are some things you can do that we know are helpful:

- Spend quality time with your kids, be involved in their lives.
- Encourage and support your kids to help them do well in school. Support and help your kids be involved in activities that build on their interest, hobbies (sports, learning, community activities, and leadership development).
- Help kids and youth understand the risks and consequences of drug use and have clear expectations.
- Support your kids to make healthy decisions and what to do if someone is pressuring them or their friends to use drugs.

If you think your child might be using fentanyl or other drugs, there is help. Call Health Link at 811 and their trained staff will help you with what to do next.

What teachers can do?

As teachers, you contribute to healthy and supportive school environments and help students make positive choices. Talk to your students about drugs, and promote drug-use prevention initiatives in your school. Prevention initiatives that have been shown to be helpful in the school setting include:

- student led programs;
- programs that connect students with positive role models (mentoring);
- encouraging meaningful participation (student council, peer tutoring); • programs that focus on life skills (social skills, managing conflict, etc.).

Research shows that the most effective drug prevention programs focus on positive social and behavioural development and put the students at the centre of the design, taking their needs and realities into account.

Signs of an overdose

If you are using drugs, or are with someone who has used drugs, and you or they have any of these symptoms call 911:

- breathing is slow or not breathing at all
- nails and/or lips are blue
- choking or throwing up
- making gurgling sounds
- skin is cold and clammy
- can't wake them up

Learn more about overdose prevention and what you can do to keep yourself and others safe at drugsfool.ca.

When someone overdoses on fentanyl, they may stop breathing. If you come across someone who you think may be overdosing and is not breathing:

1. Call 911 immediately.
2. Follow the SAVE ME steps:
 - a. **Stimulate** (to see if a person is responsive)
 - b. **Airway** (check and clear)
 - c. **Ventilate** (1 breath every 5 seconds)
 - d. **Evaluate**
 - e. **Muscular Injection** (1ml of naloxone if available)
 - f. **Evaluate** (consider second dose of naloxone if needed)
3. Stay with the person until help arrives.

Rescue breathing is best performed with a barrier mask to prevent the potential transfer of disease.

Naloxone is a drug that may help someone start breathing again after an opioid overdose if given right away. However, its effect is only temporary.

More information and resources

Fentanyl and Naloxone

- www.drugsfool.ca

SAVE ME

- Overdose Awareness: http://towardtheheart.com/assets/naloxone/od-awareness--opioids_178.pdf
- Rescue Breathing: <http://www.redcross.ca/crc/documents/What-We-Do/First-Aid-andCPR/Workplace/Online->

[Tools/fa onlinetools skills summaries rescue breathing and suctioning.pdf](#)

- Training: <http://www.sja.ca/English/courses-and-training/Pages/default.aspx>
- SAVE ME Poster: http://towardtheheart.com/assets/naloxone/save-me-poster-centered-20120829_121.pdf

Resources for parents and caregivers

- <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/amh/Page2716.aspx>
- Parent Information series: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/amh/Page2434.aspx>
- Alcohol and Drug Use in Young People:
<https://myhealth.alberta.ca/health/pages/conditions.aspx?hwId=tp17749#tp17750>
- How do I know if my teen is using drugs:
<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/AddictionsSubstanceAbuse/if-parparent-info-series-3-4.pdf> • Help Prevent Drug Use in Kids – ♦ Blog Post:
<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/Blogs/PFH/Posting358.aspx#.VyOqKelrJaR>
- ♦ Parent's Guide to Prevention: <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/docas-ssdco/guide-kid-enf/kidsenfants-enf-kid-eng.pdf>
- How can I teach my young child to deal with peer pressure:
<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/AddictionsSubstanceAbuse/if-parparent-info-series-2-1.pdf>
- How to talk to my teen about drug use –
♦ <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/AddictionsSubstanceAbuse/if-parparent-info-series-3-5.pdf>
♦ <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/Blogs/PFH/Posting305.aspx#.VyOqkOlrJaR>
- Understanding Addiction and Brain Development –
♦ <http://www.albertafamilywellness.org/families-individuals>
♦ <http://www.ccsa.ca/Resource%20Library/CCSA-Evaluating-Drug-Prevention-ProgramsNeuroscience-Summary-2016-en.pdf>
- Parenting:
♦ <http://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/family-community/14873.html>
♦ <http://www.uvic.ca/research/centres/carbc/assets/docs/hs-parents-list.pdf>
♦ Parent toolkit: <http://www.drugfree.org/the-parent-toolkit/>

Resources for teachers, schools and community members

- <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/amh/Page2674.aspx>
- http://www.camh.ca/en/education/teachers_school_programs/resources_for_teachers_and_schools/Pages/resources_for_teachers_and_schools.aspx
- Community action on drug abuse prevention
♦ <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/AddictionsSubstanceAbuse/ifcom-community-action-manual.pdf>
♦ <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/page13663.aspx>



Parks and Recreation
88 Kipling Street SE
Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 1Y3
Phone: 403.529.8333
E-mail: parks@medicinehat.ca
www.medicinehat.ca

October 18, 2016

Joe Colistro
Superintendent of Schools
Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education

Dear: Mr. Colistro,

**RE: 150TH CELEBRATION GARDENS COMMEMORATING
CANADA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL CEREMONY**

On Wednesday October 5, 2016, the City of Medicine Hat, with your assistance became one of 150 Canadian municipalities to plant 1000 red and white tulip bulbs in celebration of the upcoming 150th Sesquicentennial Confederation of Canada.

The City of Medicine Hat's Parks and Recreation department would like to sincerely thank you for your commitment and participation in the 150th Celebration Garden. The event would not have been such a great success without all of those involved. Your students were attentive, involved and added so much to the event. Thank you for agreeing/arranging to have them there.

Your efforts have and will continue to contribute and provide connection between our community and parks.

I look forward to seeing you all again at the "Blooming Celebration" in Spring 2017.

Sincerely,

Doug Knowles
Parks Technician,
Parks and Recreation
403-525-8833

Copy: Todd Sharpe, General Manager – Parks and Recreation
Randy Taves, Manager of Parks – Parks and Recreation

October 18, 2016

Memorandum to: ACSTA Board of Directors
Catholic School District Chairs
Catholic School District Superintendents

From: Adriana LaGrange
President ACSTA
John Tomkinson
Vice President ACSTA

Re: **ACSTA looks forward to working with
Alberta Education on new “Future Ready” initiatives**

The Alberta Catholic School Trustees’ Association (ACSTA) is looking forward to working with Alberta Education on their new Future Ready initiatives, the first of which was announced today by Premier Rachel Notley.

The Future Ready initiatives as they are known will be a new series of programs that look to improve the education of Alberta students through new skills training, with the overall goal being to better prepare them for a changing and more diversified Alberta economy. In general, the idea is to construct an education system that builds the skills Alberta students need to succeed. A large part of Future Ready is a top down curriculum overhaul, which will be made in stages over the course of the next 7 to 8 years.

The ACSTA sees many positives in this new announcement by the Alberta government, especially in their willingness to let people speak their minds through an online survey. The online survey is the first initiative to be launched under Future Ready, and its goal is to ensure parents and other concerned Albertans have their say during a comprehensive review of the province’s K-12 curriculum. We are cautiously optimistic that our voice for Catholic education will be heard very strongly during the initial planning stages of curriculum review. The ACSTA stresses the importance of all Catholic stakeholders to do whatever they can to make sure we are involved as much as possible during the curriculum overhaul process.

The online survey will run from run from October 18 until November 18, and the ACSTA encourages all member boards and each school community including school staff, parents, and those in local parishes to get the word out to all stakeholders involved in Catholic education to make sure their voices are heard. You can find the survey at the following link: <http://curriculumsurvey.alberta.ca>. The online survey is a great opportunity for us to make our collective voices heard and we strongly stress for all of you to promote this within your school boards. Of note is that the survey responses will be confidential.

We also hope that there will be many more opportunities to have our collective Catholic voices heard in the Future Ready initiatives that have yet to be announced, and we look forward to working with Alberta education in an open, timely and honest manner to ensure that Catholic schools in Alberta will be able to continue to offer to its student population a Christ centered faith enriched education.

Yours in Christ,

Adriana LaGrange
ACSTA President

John Tomkinson
ACSTA Vice President

Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association

#205, 9940 - 106 Street

Edmonton AB T5K 2N2

Phone: 780/484-6209 Fax: 780/484-6248

admin@acsta.ab.ca



ALBERTA
EDUCATION

Office of the Minister

OCT 11 2016

AR95990

OCT 05 2016

Ms. Adriana LaGrange
President
Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association
Suite 205, 9940 - 106 Street
Edmonton AB T5K 2N2

Dear Ms. LaGrange:

Thank you for your September 30, 2016 letter expressing support for the development of new provincial curriculum. I agree with you – this is indeed an exciting time for education in Alberta.

I appreciate you sharing your concerns about the role of Catholic education in the curriculum development process. I want to assure you that the Catholic educational community is a valued education partner with much to contribute to this important undertaking.

We recognize that it is vital that we involve our education stakeholders in decision-making related to curriculum development and that, given the large number of interacting and interdependent stakeholders involved, communication and collaboration are essential.

In your letter, you suggest that the Catholic educational community is not represented on the Expert Working Groups. I am pleased to inform you that all school authorities in Alberta were invited to nominate teachers for membership on the Expert Working Groups, and approximately 80 per cent of Catholic school authorities chose to participate in this process. As a result, a number of Catholic school teachers are members of the various Expert Working Groups.

It is important to note that opportunities for engagements extend beyond the Expert Working Groups. Keeping in mind that Education leads the development of the new Kindergarten to Grade 12 programs of study for all students in the province, all Albertans – including members of the Catholic education community – will have the opportunity to participate in an online survey, which will be posted on the Curriculum Development section of the Education website at education.alberta.ca/curriculum-development. Once available, I encourage you to take the time to fill out the survey, and also encourage your members to do so.

.../2

This survey is one of many pieces that will help inform our future curriculum. Alberta Education will also be looking at research on student learning and at what other jurisdictions from around the world are doing, and will hold face-to-face discussions with a cross-section of Albertans. This, as well as face-to-face meetings with education partners across the province, will allow Albertans to have their say. The face-to-face opportunities will be posted on the Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia's website at arpdc.ab.ca once details are determined.

The information gathered through these stakeholder engagement opportunities, along with the results of the research reviews and curriculum analysis, will be used by the Expert Working Groups to help inform the development of new draft curriculum.

In the spirit of ongoing collaboration and communication, I would appreciate having the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association share information about these upcoming engagement opportunities with Catholic educators, parents, students, teachers, and with the broader Catholic community.

Regarding your concern about *The Guiding Framework*, I want to acknowledge that the framework did not specifically list school boards as part of the intended audience of the document. This was an oversight on the part of my staff, as the template listing targeted audiences is a carry-over practice from past curriculum documents. The framework is for all Albertans who choose to read it. We are considering removing the reference list. If we do keep it, rest assured that a general reference to school boards will be included.

Regarding your concern about representatives of the Catholic community not being referenced in the Overview-Engagement Strategy, you will note that the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) is listed. The ASBA exists in legislation – the *Alberta School Boards Association Act* – and is the one organization that represents all publicly funded and elected boards.

I was pleased to acknowledge the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association in my opening remarks at the Expert Working Groups at the University of Alberta this week.

While Alberta Education continues to develop provincial curriculum for all students, Catholic school authorities will continue to have the flexibility to provide learning materials and programming through such things as enrichment activities, mentorship and locally developed courses in order to continue meeting the needs of their students and community.

I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts, and I thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,


David Eggen
Minister



Office of the Minister

OCT 11 2016

AR95867

OCT 06 2016

Ms. Adriana LaGrange
President
Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association
Suite 205, 9940 - 106 Street
Edmonton AB T5K 2N2

Dear Ms. LaGrange:

It was my pleasure to meet with the executive of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA) on September 8, 2016, and I thank you for your September 15, 2016 letter.

I recognize the good work being done by all Alberta school boards, including Catholic school jurisdictions, to make our Alberta education system one that is highly regarded by all.

Our government supports Catholic education. Minority faith education rights are guaranteed under the *Constitution of Canada* and ensured through provincial legislation. The Government of Alberta and the *School Act* recognize one publicly funded education system that provides choice of education programs to students through public, separate, Francophone, charter and private schools and home education.

I value the voice of Catholic school trustees and the valuable role your association serves in highlighting issues that are of particular importance to Catholic school boards.

I appreciate the efforts of the ACSTA and its members to promote welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments for all students and staff, and I look forward to continued collaboration with your organization.

Sincerely,

David Eggen
Minister

Have Your Say, Take the Survey!

Alberta Education is looking for curriculum feedback from you.

The provincial government is looking for feedback from Students, Parents & Guardians, Teachers, Administrators and the General Public on its K – 12 Curriculum Redesign. The survey is open from October 18 to November 18, 2016. [Click Here](#) for the survey.

Have Your Say, Take the Survey!



Alberta Education is reviewing curriculum in the Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Wellness and Language Arts. ***“We want to hear directly from parents as we take on this important work”.*** David Eggen, Minister of Education

ABOUT THE SURVEY...

We want to give all students the best possible start in life so that they can meet the demands of living in the 21st century.

Alberta Education is moving forward in the development of new Kindergarten to Grade 12 provincial curriculum in all grades across the subject areas of Language Arts (English, Français, French), Math, Social Studies, Sciences, Arts and Wellness education.

These are exciting times and **we want to hear from education system leaders** about what children should be learning in the future. We also ask you to help promote awareness and encourage participation of school and school authority staff as well as parents, students and broader community members in this survey.

During the course of this work, we are exploring opportunities to gather valued and meaningful feedback from Albertans in every corner of the province. The broad based engagement is an opportunity for the many voices of Albertans and stakeholders across the province to provide valued input into the curriculum development process. The Fall 2016 online provincial curriculum survey is the first of many opportunities to gather feedback. The survey can be accessed at: <http://curriculumsurvey.alberta.ca>.

There are two parts of the survey. Part A gives Albertans an opportunity to share their thoughts about the Government of Alberta’s general direction for the development of all new curriculum. It will likely take you about seven minutes to complete this first part of the survey. Everyone wanting to participate in the survey will need to complete Part A.

Once you have completed Part A, you have the option to move to Part B where you will answer questions about what you see as the strengths and gaps in our current curriculum. You will create

your ‘own journey’ through Part B based on subject areas of interest. You will be asked to select the specific grade levels and subject areas that you would like to provide feedback on. Part B may take you between 15 minutes and one hour to complete depending on the number of subjects and grade-specific questions you choose to answer.

Albertans without technology are encouraged to stop by their local libraries or learning commons to complete the survey. Additionally, the Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPD) will assist people that do not have access to technology to complete the survey. Individuals who do not use technology can obtain a print copy of the survey from their local ARPD.

The online provincial curriculum survey will run from October 18 to November 18, 2016 and can be accessed from multiple electronic devices. Survey questions are available in English and in French. Français is in French only and is intended for Francophone education. Please note that the Government of Alberta webpages are scheduled for maintenance from November 11 to 13, 2016. This may lead to the survey being temporarily unavailable during that time.

Participation in this survey is voluntary and responses will be completely confidential. Only the combined results from all the survey respondents will be shared. The personal information collected is pursuant to section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (RSA 2000, C. F-25).

In addition to, or instead of completing the survey individually, you can attend face-to-face engagement sessions hosted by the ARPD in each region of the province from October 18 to November 18, 2016. These sessions will allow education stakeholders across the province to meet and discuss the topics identified in the survey and then complete the survey. Information on how to register for these sessions will be posted on the ARPD website as it becomes available. Of course, you can also host your own session for your group to complete the survey.

The survey results will be used by Expert Working Groups made up of teachers and post-secondary educators who have expertise within subjects and across grades. Their working groups are made up of a balanced representation of Alberta’s geographic and demographic diversity; and will also include representation from Francophone and First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities. Working with Alberta Education staff, in partnership with the Alberta Teachers’ Association, Expert Working Groups will consider survey results along with literature reviews, analysis of our current curriculum, research on student learning, what other jurisdictions from around the world are doing, and previous work with our stakeholders, such as curriculum development prototyping, to help develop new provincial curriculum over the next six years.

This initial survey won’t be the only opportunity for **education system leaders** to provide input about K–12 education in Alberta – or to learn what the future curriculum will look like. In addition to providing input through the online survey this fall, there will be additional opportunities to be involved in the development of new provincial curriculum over the next few years. This includes the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft subject area introductions and draft scope and sequences targeted for May and June 2017.

Information about provincial curriculum development along with additional opportunities to provide input can be found on the Alberta Education webpages at: <https://education.alberta.ca/curriculum-development/>

From: EDC Deputy Minister [mailto:EducationDeputyMinister@gov.ab.ca]

Sent: Thursday, November 03, 2016

Subject: USE OF COPYRIGHT- PROTECTED MATERIALS IN THE CLASSROOM

To: Superintendents of Public, Separate, Francophone and Charter School Boards

Executive Directors of Stakeholder Associations

ACSTA (Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association)

ASBA (Alberta School Boards Association)

AHEA (Alberta Home Education Association)

ASCA (Alberta School Councils' Association)

ATA (Alberta Teachers' Association)

AAPCS (Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools)

ACFA (Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta)

ASBOA (Association of School Business Officials of Alberta)

CASS (College of Alberta School Superintendents)

CCSSA (Council of Catholic Superintendents of Alberta)

Fédération des parents francophones de l'Alberta

Fédération des conseils scolaires francophones de l'Alberta

PSBAA (Public School Boards' Association of Alberta)

Ministries of education across Canada strive to ensure that all school authorities have the latest information about copyright law. Copyright rules for educators have changed significantly in recent years. While educators have new opportunities to use copyright-protected materials in their lessons, there are also limits as to what can be copied and distributed in the classroom.

To help educators determine whether they can use print materials, artistic works or audiovisual materials in their lessons without getting copyright permission, the Copyright Consortium of the [Council of Ministers of Education, Canada \(CMEC\)](#) has developed an online Copyright Decision Tool. This tool can be accessed on the Teachers and Copyright website at www.copyrightdecisiontool.ca.

The website also provides an overview of the [Fair Dealing Guidelines](#) as well as [Copyright Matters!](#) – a booklet about copyright-permission process. The booklet, along with other copyright resources, will be distributed to school authorities across Alberta over the next few months. Please ensure that these resources are made available to every principal and teacher, as well as posted near photocopiers and in staff rooms.

Additional information regarding copyright and the classroom can be found on [Alberta Education's website](#).

Thank you,

Curtis Clarke, PhD
Deputy Minister of Education

Accountability Pillar Results



The Board of Trustees for Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education is very proud to report that in 15 of 16 categories measured by Alberta Education, students in our Medicine Hat Catholic Schools have ***outperformed their provincial counterparts.***

Did you know our ***Grade 6 & 9 students*** average ***9.1% higher*** than the province on meeting the ***acceptable***

standards in all Provincial Achievement Exams and our ***High School Completion Rate*** has improved the last 3 years and is more than ***10% higher*** than the province. These results show the high quality of education in our Catholic Schools and the ***commitment of staff, students and parents.*** Great job!

[Click here](#) ← **Results Summary** for MH Catholic Schools

[Click here](#) ← Check out the **Result Infographics** for each of our Catholic Schools

Division Highlights

Medicine Hat Catholic is

11.8% 

above provincial average in High School Completion Rate (3 years).



Medicine Hat Catholic is in the "Very High" range in 7 categories measured.

★ **15/16**

categories, Medicine Hat Catholic is above provincial averages.

9.1%

higher than provincial average as a division in the academic acceptable range, and are slightly above provincial average in the excellence range.



Modernization of Monsignor McCoy – Standing Item
Board Report November 8, 2016 Public Meeting

1. Monsignor McCoy Modernization Update

Senior Administration will provide an update on the modernization of Monsignor McCoy.

Recommendation: Receive as information.

Attachment: Attached

St. John Paul II School Construction – Standing Item
Board Report November 8, 2016 Public Meeting

1. **St. John Paul II School Update**
An update will be provided

Recommendation –None

Attachment: None

Superintendent's Report
Board Meeting
November 8th, 2016

1. Student Code of Conduct

Following our commitment to provide welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments a committee made up of senior admin and school based administrators have met three times to review and develop a common Division Student Code of Conduct that could be used by each of the schools. Following the requirements of the School Act and using ASBA guidelines a draft document has been completed and was shared with the DLT at our last meeting and will be shared with parents before I bring it back to the trustees for input.

Background

"On June 1, 2015, amendments to the *School Act* contained in Bill 10 will come into force. Among other changes, the amended *School Act* places new responsibilities on school boards, parents, and students for ensuring that all students and school staff are provided with a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging. 45.1(1)

Section 45.1(2) of the *School Act* requires boards to establish, implement, and maintain a policy respecting their obligation to provide a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment and this policy includes a code of conduct for students that addresses bullying behaviour. Section 1.1(b.1) of the *School Act* defines bullying as *"repeated and hostile or demeaning behaviour by an individual in the school community where the behaviour is intended to cause harm, fear or distress to one or more other individuals in the school community, including psychological harm or harm to an individual's reputation."*

Section 45.1(3) goes on to stipulate that the student code of conduct:

- a. be made publicly available,
- b. be reviewed every year,
- c. be provided to all staff of the board, students of the board and parents of students of the board,
- d. contain the following elements:
 - i. a statement of purpose that provides a rationale for the code of conduct, with a focus on welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments;
 - ii. one or more statements that address the prohibited grounds of discrimination set out in the *Alberta Human Rights Act*;
 - iii. one or more statements about what is acceptable behaviour and what is unacceptable behaviour, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means;
 - iv. one or more statements about the consequences of unacceptable behaviour, which must take account of the student's age, maturity, and individual circumstances, and which must ensure that support is provided for the students who are impacted by inappropriate behaviour, as well as for students who engage in inappropriate behaviour, and
- e. be in accordance with any further requirements established by the Minister by order.

Recommendation: Receive as information

2. Professional Growth Plans and Education Plan review meetings

Thank-you to our school administration for the work in completing their personal Professional Growth Plan and School Education Plan. The development of the Education Plans has been a collaborative effort including school administration, staff and parents, and reflects Division Strategic Priorities and any areas of improvement noted in the Annual Education Results Report. Review Meetings with members of the Medicine Hat Catholic senior admin team and school based administrators have been scheduled for the first two weeks of November.

Once all meetings have been completed Education Plans will be posted on the school and division website. The first two schools will be presenting their Education Plan to the trustees at the November Public Board meeting. The schedule for presentations is as follows:

November

- St. Michaels School
- Notre Dame Academy

December

- Ecole St. Thomas d'Aquin
- St. Patrick's Schools

January

- Mother Teresa School
- St. Louis School

February

- St. Francis Xavier School
- St. Mary's Schools

March

- Monsignor McCoy

Recommendation: Receive as information

3. Administrative Procedures Review

Senior administration has started the process of reviewing all 175 Division Administrative Procedures. This is a huge task that will require a lot of time and careful thought. I have set review dates that we will endeavor to meet. Our goal is to have the majority of the review completed by the end of this school year. As we work through the AP's we will seek input from the DLT, trustees and parents on the Administrative Procedures that specifically affect them.

Administrative Procedures that are emergent in nature such as, field Trips, Volunteers, and School Code of Conduct, will be discussed at the earliest possible date, through ad hoc or at DLT meetings.

Recommendation: Receive as Information

4. Technology Committee

On October 19th I attended a Jurisdiction Technology Contacts (JTC) event in Edmonton. These events hosted twice a year by Alberta Education provide technology leadership for staff and senior admin and provide an opportunity to network, discuss and learn about trends in the field along with emerging technologies and Alberta Education initiatives. Sessions throughout the day included topics relevant to the Learning and Technology Policy Framework.

It was very beneficial to attend the Jurisdiction Technology Contacts (JTC) event. I had numerous opportunities to connect with Technology experts from Alberta Education as well as contacts from other Divisions. On October 25th members of our senior administration who are part of the Division Technology Committee reviewed the process for developing the Technology Plan. Our intention is to bring the entire Technology Committee (senior administration, school based administration and teaching staff) together before the end of November. The goal is to have the Technology Plan completed by spring 2017.

Recommendation: Receive as Information

5. November Meetings

November will be a very busy month with numerous important conferences and meetings for trustees and senior administration. Conferences and meetings include:

- a. CASS Fall conference -November 2nd - 4th Calgary
- b. CCSSA meetings – November 16th -18th Edmonton
- c. ACSTA AGM and Convention – November 18th – 20th Edmonton
- d. ASBA Conference – November 21st - 22nd Edmonton
- e. Special Board Meeting November 24th Medicine Hat
- f. CASSIX - November 24th -25th Lethbridge

Recommendation: Receive as information

6. Bishops Dinner

The Bishops annual dinner was held on October 20th in Calgary. Each year, Bishop Henry celebrates generosity with several hundred of his closest friends. People come from all over Southern Alberta to visit with fellow Catholics and other special guests. They also come to hear our Bishop deliver a keynote that inspires and challenges us in how we live out our faith from the perspective of justice and mercy. This year's talk was on human trafficking. Proceeds are divided between multiple charities, selected annually, serving the people of Southern Alberta. Charities are selected based on the theme of the year.

The Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education trustees had seven people attend the dinner. Candace Lambert attended on behalf of the Parent association.

Recommendation: Receive as information

7. High School Redesign

On October 27th Chuck, myself, school administration and a number of teaching staff from Monsignor McCoy met with Susan Poole (High School Redesign Manager) and Adelee Penner, (Senior Education Manager), from Alberta Education. These meetings are held twice a year and are used to initiate a conversation around redesign goals set by the school and discuss how the school year has begun relative to the Redesign initiative.

The goals Monsignor McCoy has set for the 2016-2017 year include:

Educator Roles and Responsibilities

- Administrators expand their participation in the learning community and expand their leadership roles.

Flexible Learning Environments

- Learning Environments will be created throughout the modernization of Monsignor McCoy High School. These spaces need to support students as they engage in their studies in environments that give them more control over when and where, and with whom they learn.
- Embedded teacher team time that empowers teachers to decide how best to structure time to teach students.

Assessment

- To continue the creation of learner assessments that are outcome based and can be analyzed for immediate feedback by a Scranton.

Mastery Learning

- Increase staff capacity for supporting a school culture of flexible learning.

8. Kev Soft

School Cash Online is a tool our District uses that allows parents to make purchases online. It is a safe, fast and convenient way to pay for school fees, activities, field trips, hot lunches, events and more! Payment options include credit card, E-Cheques (similar to a debit transaction) and My Wallet (similar to a preloaded Starbucks card).

It is now MHCBE's preferred method of payment as it minimizes the amount of time the school secretary spends counting cash, recording transactions and taking deposits to the bank. We have made an FAQ available on the homepage of the Districts website. Clicking on the shopping card on any of the District or schools' website will take you directly to the School Cash Online website where you can get started.

All of our schools have made their school fees available to pay using School Cash Online and most are in the process of using the system for Early Learning Program fees, Before and After School Care fees, spirit wear and hot lunches. As some of these events/processes are largely administered by the school's Parent Council (ie hot lunches) we suggested they discuss with their school principal and secretary as to how School Cash Online can work for their next hot lunch/fundraiser, etc.

1,019 students are currently using Kev Soft. This represent 39% of the student population. Some highlights include Ecole St. Thomas d'Aquin achieving 100% adoption and St. Francis Xavier is at 86% adoption.

Executive Assistant & Corporate Communications –Della Dewald
Board Meeting Report
November 8, 2016

1. **Corporate Communications Advertising/Public Relations** - Exhibit a consistent message and increase community awareness.

a. **Remembrance Day 2016** - This year is a very exciting year for one of our very own students from St. Mary's School who won **1st Place** in the **National Poster and Literary Contest**. Quirina Thompson is travelling to Edmonton for the November 3rd annual Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Rotunda in the Legislature Building to read her poem to the gallery. She has read her poem locally in Medicine Hat at the Esplanade. The Board of Trustees recognized her as an Ambassador for Catholic Education earlier this year. Quirina and her parents will send us pictures of the event in Edmonton. We will feature her poem this year on the web and on our social media as part of our REMEMBRANCE DAY feature. We will send a notice to All Division Staff first week of November of this good news.

b. **November – Remembrance Day**

a. Ad in the MH Shopper acknowledging Remembrance Day.



December 27th, 1940

Smoke is rising into the crisp, cold sky
The conversation of bullets is in my ears
I wiggle my fingers and toes
Trying to return feeling to them through the cold
Even though I have my thick, patched up coat and leather boots
The chill seems to seep into my bones
Numbing every part of me

Sweat, gunpowder, and frost cloud my senses
Tough ground seems to hold my feet in place
The chatter of bullets ceases
Blessing me with peaceful silence
All-to-soon, my commander yells
My unit and I lift our guns
The conversation starts again...

Back at the camp
Three layers of dirt and grime coat every part of me
Thankful to be away from the merciless cold
I grab a bowl of warm chili and sit down at a bench
As I sit, my family crosses my mind
Are they okay?

In the still of the night we are alone with our thoughts
That is the most difficult thing about war
Not the fighting, not the cold
But the time after dark
When all you have are your thoughts and nightmares.

Quirina Thompson

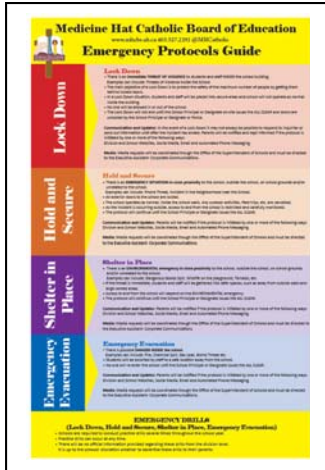
Medicine Hat, AB • St. Mary's School • Robertson Memorial Br. #17

b. Fine Arts MHCBE

- i. **Calendar** – We are finalizing the calendar, awaiting information from schools. We hope to have it published by mid-November.

c. Emergency Protocol Communication Strategy

- i. ☒ Notice to ADS – Sept 22
 - ii. ☒ Media Event – Sept 29
 - iii. ☒ Updated Notice to ADS – Sept 29
 - iv. ☒ Media Release – Sept 29
 - v. ☒ Backpack Circulation – Early October
 - vi. ☒ Laminated Posters for Classrooms & Offices – Early October
 - vii. ☐ Desktop “tent-cards” for Teacher Desks, Office Desk – October
1. Timeline: End of November



d. Sesquicentennial – 150th Anniversary of Canada’s Confederation (A Year Long Celebration)

- i. Last month Mother Teresa represented MHCBE at the tulip planting ceremony on Oct 5, 2016 in Robertson Park. Those in attendance planted 1,000 tulips which of course will be symbolic in the Spring when they bloom, a tulip follow up event will be hosted by the city.
- ii. The [Countdown](#) is on is an official website hosted by the Government of Canada to highlight events happening until Dec 31, 2016. When the calendar flips to over to January 1, 2017 the yearlong celebration begins!
- iii. The communications team will send information home in the backpacks as well as we will highlight events, celebrations and other information on our website and through social media. Schools and



the Division are encouraged to promote events happening during the countdown to 2017 and throughout the 2017 year! Promotion by means of websites, social media, school newsletters and division wide communications.

e. **Canadian Association of Communications in Education – CACE since 1984**
PRESENTATION by Della & Derrian – overview of CACE & Conference

- i. Della and Derrian attended the National CACE Conference in Ottawa in October – *CACE-Capital Connections*. CACE is national association of professionals committed to encouraging and enhancing excellence in communications in education. CACE is bilingual offering a *national conference, regional workshops* and *networking opportunities* for its members across Canada. Students are the beneficiaries of our efforts as we support teaching and learning through effective communication strategies. Working together, members increase awareness and understanding of the important management role played by communicators in education.



...moving communications from good to great!

Derrian Hallas- School Communications and Social Media

Contact Information: derrian.hallas@mhcbe.ab.ca (403) 878-2017

#MHCatholic

- Canadian Association of Communicators in Education (CACE) Conference 2016- Presentation
- Alberta Education Accountability Pillar Infographics
- Catholic Education Sunday Video
- Academy Promotion Video Projects



Social Media Activity

556 to **566** "likes" on our **Facebook Page**

393 to **406** followers on **Twitter**

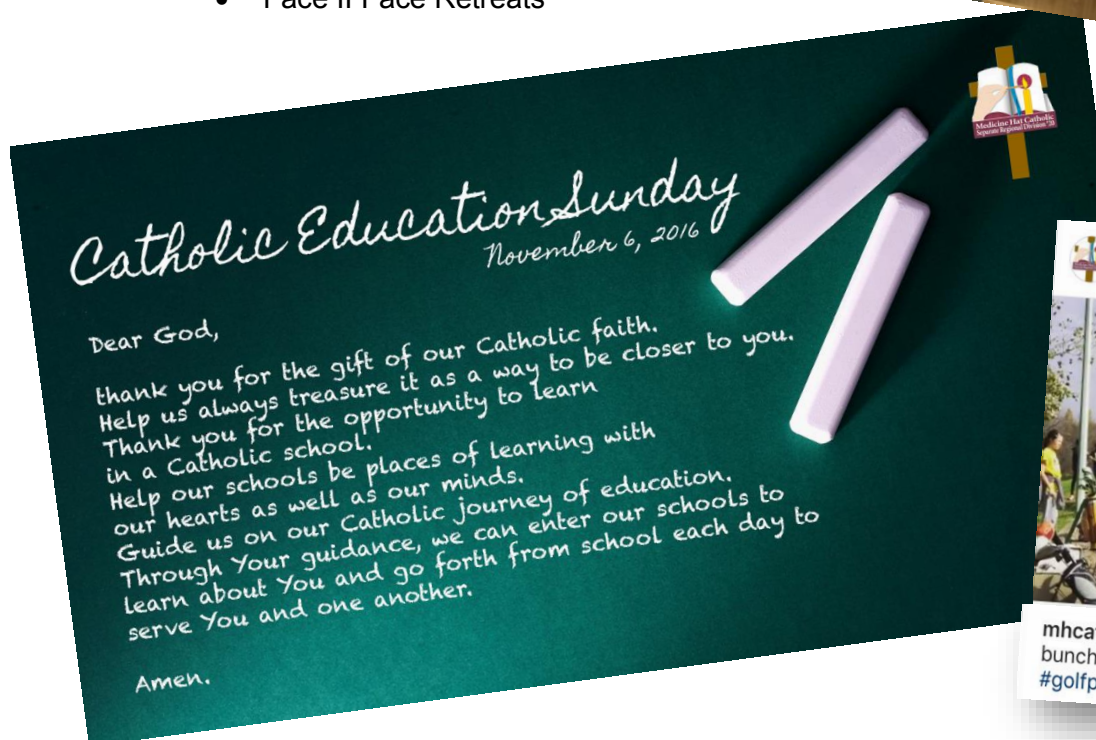
87 to **98** followers on **Instagram**

What Happened in October?

- Legislative Mace Visit
- Southland Bus Evacuation Drills
- Grade 4 Bible Liturgy
- Grade 5 Religion Retreats
- Face II Face Retreats
- WE Day
- Bishops Dinner
- Halloween

Coming up in November:

- Catholic Education Sunday
- RAK Day #GoBeKind
- Remembrance Day
- Advent
- Grade 5 Religion Retreats
- Face II Face Retreats



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Nov 1

Congratulations to the October #TerrificKids from @StLouis_MH! Keep on being awesome 🍌 #terrificuesday



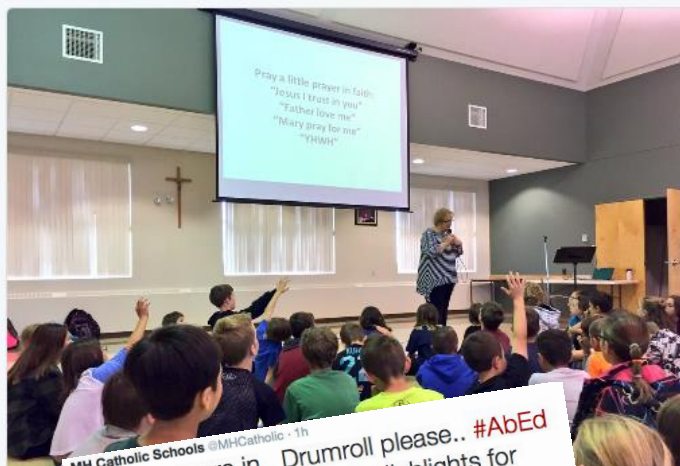
Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education
32 mins · Medicine Hat ·

#FaithFriday "My heart is free, no chains on me!"
St. Louis School Medicine Hat Face2Face Retreat



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Oct 14

Grade 5 Religion Retreats are the best way to spend a Friday 🏰
@StPatricksMH



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · 1h
The results are in.. Drumroll please.. #AbEd
Accountability Pillar Result Highlights for
MHCBE! Infographics here:
mhcbe.ab.ca/documents/gene...



mhcatholic

St. Patrick's School Medicine Hat >



mhcatholic Friday morning fun with Southland Transportation during evacuation drills! Thanks for keeping our students safe 🍌 #medhat #weloveourbusdrivers

You Retweeted



Drew Barnes MLA @DrewBarnesMLA · 5h

Excellent work by Quirina Thompson! Presenting her award winning poem in the #ableg Rotunda today in honour of Remembrance Day!
@MHCatholic



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Oct 12

Alberta Legislature visits Alberta's youth!
Special thanks to @bobwanner & @DebJabbour for taking the time to talk with our students #ableg



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Oct 14

How adorable are these little early learners from @StPatricksMH at the Neubauer Farm Pumpkin Patch 🍂🍂



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Nov 2

We invite our community to come together this Sunday as we celebrate the joy of Catholic Education! 🏰 #medhat
youtu.be/SxoDYXmpvJk



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Oct 20

MHCBE representatives on their way to The Annual Bishops Dinner tonight! Safe travels everyone @calgarydiocese #CatholicCommunity



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Oct 20

Our MHCBE representatives with Bishop Frederick Henry at The Annual Bishops Dinner @calgarydiocese #yyc #medhat #MHCatholic



You Retweeted

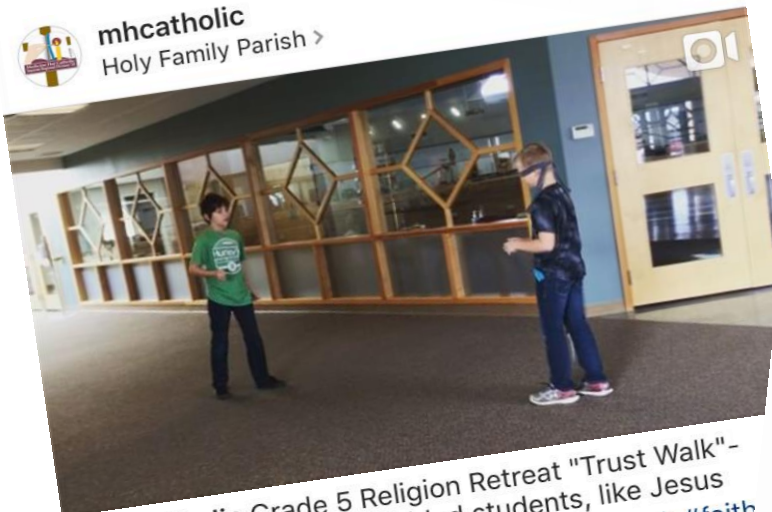


St. Francis Xavier @StFrancisMH · Oct 7

St. Francis Xavier Early Learning Program's "FOOD TRAIN". They collected the food for the FCC food drive! #medhat #MHCatholic



mhcatholic
Holy Family Parish >

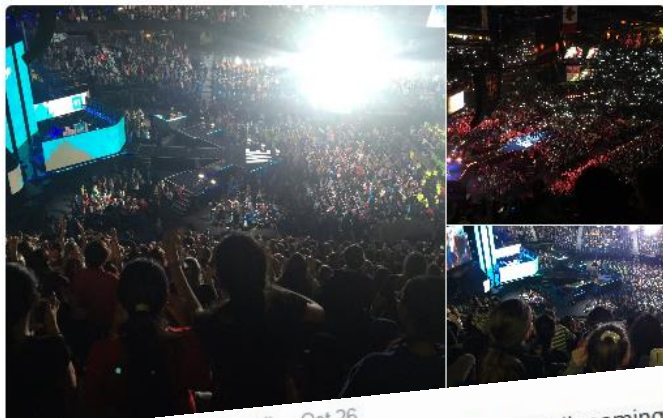


mhcatholic Grade 5 Religion Retreat "Trust Walk"- students guiding blindfolded students, like Jesus guides us 💕 #religiouseducation #teamwork #faith #mhcatholic



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Oct 26

#WEDay **WE** fun from our @NotreDame_MH #MEtoWE team. These student leaders work together everyday to inspire and encourage their peers @metowe



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Oct 26

@StMarys_MH crew at #WEDay **WE** ❤️ Thousands of youth coming together to celebrate another year of inspiring and empowering one another #amazing



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Oct 7

"Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe" -St. Augustine #FaithFriday #MHCatholic

You Retweeted



Mother Teresa School @MotherTeresaMH · 5h

Our ELP students dressed up like Mummies as they get ready for Halloween!



MH Catholic Schools @MHCatholic · Oct 26

"Together we are louder, together we can change the world, together we can make a difference." @WEMovement #WEDay **WE** @MMcCoy_MH #medhat



Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education at École St. Thomas d'Aquin Medicine Hat

October 18 at 2:24pm · Medicine Hat · 🌐

"Jesus, you are my rock. You are my life. You are my strength from up above" ❤️

Two schools coming together as one family to Praise God. Beautiful!

St. Francis Xavier School & École St. Thomas d'Aquin



mhcatholic

St. Patrick's School Medicine Hat >



mhcatholic Miss. Diana's class is super excited to have Halloween a little early this year 🍷 aren't these kiddos adorable?! #happyhalloween #earlylearning

**Associate Superintendent Human Resources
Board Meeting, November 8th, 2016**

1. Jody Carrington

On Friday, Oct. 21st, Dr. Jody Carrington met with all teaching staff, librarians, and learning assistants. Mr. Grad and Mr. Mastel also heard Dr. Carrington's message. Her presentation was very well received. Due to our relationship with Jody, we have the opportunity to expand our partnership. DLT is in the process of discussing how to best utilize Dr. Carrington's skillset to continue to work with staff, parents and students.

Action: N/A

Recommendation: N/A

Attachment – N/A

2. Curriculum Development

Alberta Education is in the process of changing the curriculum. On November 1st, some of our teachers/administrators met with representatives of AB Education in a Provincial Curriculum Development Engagement Session. The Board will be given an update of the learnings gained during this PD event. Principals have been asked to engage the parent community in curriculum redesign by communicating the importance of the survey AB Education is using to collect feedback from stakeholders. Principals have been asked to have teachers take the survey at their next staff meeting. (November 14) The survey can be accessed at <http://www.alberta.ca/curriculum-survey.aspx>

Action: N/A

Recommendation: Board members are encouraged to take the survey to provide input into curriculum development.

Attachment – N/A

3. Instructional Leadership

On Tuesday, October 25th, administrators met to start work on instructional leadership in the area of literacy. It was an interesting afternoon. The collaborative work done on the literacy exemplars was very informative. Moving forward, a stronger connection between the exemplars, and non-exemplars to instructional leadership, and teacher feedback in the classroom will be a focus.

The instructional leadership meetings allow all administrators to gain knowledge and understanding of a number of important topics. Over the course of the year, principals and vice principals will meet and discuss topics such as literacy, numeracy, Catholicity, high school redesign and classroom management. The focus of these meetings is research based best practice. Based on research, administrators are challenged to work with teachers to continue to improve instructional practice in the classroom.

Action: N/A

Recommendation: N/A

Attachment: N/A

Secretary Treasurer
Board Report November 8, 2016 Public Meeting

1. 2016-17 Trustee Honorarium

The Board will receive information regarding the 2016-17 Trustee Honorarium.

Recommendation: For information
Attachment: 2016-17 Trustee Honorarium

2. Notre Dame Academy Presentation – Outdoor Fitness

The Board will receive information regarding Notre Dame Academy request for Outdoor Fitness Equipment. This item will be presented by the school principal after their school plan presentation.

Recommendation: For information and consideration
Attachment: To be provided by the school

3. Facilities Covenant Review

The Board Work Plan has a review of the Facilities Covenant. The attachments outline the covenant.

Recommendation: For information
Attachment: a. ACSTA Shared Facilities Covenant November 1999
b. Bishop's Message September 2002c. ACSTA Covenant
c. Communications November 2002

4. Letter from Kevin Feehan

Information for the Trustees

Recommendation: For information
Attachment: Letter from Kevin Feehan

Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education

Trustee Honorarium 2016-17

Policy 7 Board Operations - Article 11

Background

As per Policy 7, the Board recognizes that the duties of a trustee require time and commitment. In order to compensate trustees for time spent on Board business and time away from regular work and family, the Board provides each trustee with an honorarium. Rather than compensating trustees for meeting attendance, in-town travel expenses and sundry out of pocket expenses, the board provides each trustee with an honorarium. Recognizing that the Board Chair must devote more time to preparing agendas and acting as spokesperson for the Board, the Board Chair receives a larger honorarium than the other four trustees. Reimbursement of out of town travel expenses and conference attendance for trustees is the same for Division personnel as outlined in Policy 7. The increased rates take effect November and runs to the following October.

Trustee Honorarium Calculation:

1. The total Trustees' honoraria shall be a sum equal to the average teacher's salary calculated by dividing the total salary paid to all certificated teachers covered by the collective agreement, of the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education by the total number of full time equivalent certificated teachers.
2. The Board Chair shall receive 22% of the average teacher's salary plus an additional \$200 per month.
3. The remaining 78% of the average teacher's salary shall be divided equally among the remaining four Trustees.
4. The Superintendent or designate shall calculate the average teacher salary on September 30 of each year and from that calculation, determine the amount of each Trustee's honorarium for the ensuing school year.
5. At the first regular Board Meeting following October 31 of each year, the Superintendent or designate shall advise the Board of the honorarium payable to each trustee for that school year.

Therefore the 2016-17 trustee honoraria are as follows:

The average teacher salary as at September 30, 2016 is \$ 93,614. This is a decrease of 1.03% from the prior year.

	Percentage	2016-17 Honoraria	2015-16 Honoraria (After January 1, 2016)
Chair	22% plus \$2,400	(\$ 20,595 plus \$2,400) \$ 22,995 (\$1,916.25 monthly)	\$ 20,810 plus \$2,400
Trustee (3 of 4 positions)	78%	\$ 18,255 (\$1,521.25 monthly)	\$ 18,445



ACSTA FACILITIES COVENANT AND GUIDELINES

ADOPTED NOVEMBER 1999

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FOREWORD

In the provision of a Catholic education system, it is important to understand the interdependent nature of the process. It is a consultative effort that involves Catholic parents, the local Catholic Board and the local Bishop. At the Provincial level, it involves the local Catholic Board through the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association and the Alberta Bishops. Without the participation of all these partners, a Catholic school does not result. As a community dedicated to the education of our children, we need, and depend on, each other. In order to ensure this interdependence, we dialogue regularly, always with the goal that the common good must be reflected in our decision.

During the last three years there has been increasing pressure on Catholic boards to resolve their space crunch through negotiations. This has led to division within communities, overcrowding in Catholic schools, and many meetings with our community members, with government, and with School Boards, public and separate, in an attempt to provide educational space for our children. We would like to put these problems behind us.

To this end, and in response to your request Mr. Minister, the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association provides an explanation of our position on facilities and the beginnings of a glossary of terms for use in discussion to help explain the kind of facilities we need for our children.

We are not opposed to 'sharing' as a core value of our society. Indeed, we teach it to our children as something very important in our faith. Catholic schools and Catholic School Boards attempt to live out this sharing in many ways in our communities and can point to many shared initiatives that have been most beneficial to the community and to the Province. Further, we can point to many shared projects with our public school neighbours that have been equally as successful and positive. However, the sharing of school facilities in many circumstances is problematic for us. If sharing causes us to lose our identity and our uniqueness, we also lose our reason to exist. If the purpose of sharing is simply to save money, experience has already shown that in many cases savings are minimal, at best, and often non-existent. Some of the Catholic Boards in the Province have done studies and initiated projects where sharing occurs. Some of these were successful but some were not. Let us be sure not to repeat previous mistakes.

The circumstances facing urban boards will be addressed in a section entitled, "Facilities in Urban Centres".

Circumstances regarding the housing of Catholic educational systems in rural Alberta are unique and will be addressed in a section headed "Facilities in Small Communities". The question has become a topic of debate with regard to the Boundaries Expansion Proposal and its introduction of a new educational choice to smaller rural communities.

It has never been the intention of our Association, or of Separate school systems, to close, or make non-viable, existing Public schools. We see ourselves as an integral part of public education in Alberta. To establish a Catholic school at the expense of an existing Public school flies in the face of the principle of choice.

We hope this document will clarify our position indicating in the case of facilities, what we can share, what is negotiable and what we cannot share because of our Catholic philosophy and teaching.

This document has the support of the Alberta Conference of Catholic Bishops.

If you have any questions please contact the ACSTA for a personal response.

Lois Burke-Gaffney
ACSTA President

ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES

Catholic schools are places where the whole ethos and learning environment – the syllabus, curriculum and the total life of the school – are permeated with the teaching of our faith.

In particular:

- The curriculum in all its aspects – content and teaching approach – reflect our gospel values.
- School buildings are blessed and dedicated as special places where study, prayer and faith celebrations are an integral part of school life. Religious symbols and artifacts are displayed in each classroom, in the halls and in signage both inside and outside the building. These are regularly used as teaching opportunities. Often there is a dedicated chapel.

In short, Catholic schools are centered on our Catholic faith.

ACSTA FACILITIES COVENANT

On this day, November 6, 1999, we, the membership of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association, represented by our Board of Directors, our Board Chairs accompanied by our Superintendents, met to determine a corporate position regarding what type of building configurations are acceptable to house Catholic Educational systems in the Province of Alberta. Notwithstanding the configurations agreed to in the past, from this date forward the following Covenant Agreement is attested through the signature of all parties and understood to be the position of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association on the question of facilities.

1. The ACSTA is opposed to the sharing of school buildings with public school boards in any manner that has, in the opinion of a Catholic School District and the ACSTA, the effect of undermining or interrupting the full opportunity for the permeation of Catholic values and beliefs throughout the entire school day.
2. Sharing facilities on a short-term or transitional basis is also a concern, although some options may be acceptable under guidelines to be established by the ACSTA.
3. The ACSTA is not opposed to community partnerships. Catholic school districts have demonstrated an ability and willingness to foster and implement such arrangements with community-based organizations and groups which do not compromise our philosophy and faith values.
4. Any current arrangements between Catholic and Public schools, which might exist throughout the province, should not be considered to be precedent setting.
5. Any Catholic school district contemplating any proposal for sharing school facilities with public school districts will consult formally with the ACSTA and its membership.

Grey Nuns Conference and Retreat Centre
Edmonton, Alberta
Dated November 6, 1999

ACSTA GUIDELINES FOR SHARING SCHOOL FACILITIES ON A SHORT-TERM OR TRANSITIONAL BASIS

1. In order to begin instructional services and only when there has been a commitment by the Ministry of Infrastructure to a firm date for an independent Catholic School facility can a short-term or transitional sharing of facilities be considered. These independent Catholic school facilities can be provided in one of the following ways:
 - a new building
 - transfer of a Public school to the Catholic system
 - renovation of an existing Public building into a school.
2. Each jurisdiction must operate and manage its own area of the facility and be in charge of its own space, programs, students, staff and services.
3. Temporary facilities are not intended to extend beyond three years.

FACILITIES IN URBAN CENTRES

The shortage of classroom space in urban centres is, in many instances, even more critical than elsewhere. The demographic shift that is occurring in most centres has exacerbated the problem. Housing starts and new developments are flowering throughout the province. Despite Separate Boards best efforts to bus students to any excess space, there is simply no more space available. The problem is made even more difficult because Public Boards see a need for new schools in those areas as well. The fact that they are not being allocated has upset them. The explanation of under-utilization gets lost in the recognition that in new areas they see their own parents sending their students to Catholic schools. In other locations many parents see our schools as a opportunity for choice because of a number of reasons, not the least of which is our excellent Diploma and Achievement Test results. Throughout the province, on average, Separate School enrollment is increasing and Public School enrollment is decreasing. Despite this, Separate Boards are unable to get approval for independent buildings, or even have unused Public School space reconfigured to allow for a building to be freed up for their use. Academic success and increased enrollment are not recognized as accomplishments, but rather as a handicap resulting in overcrowded classrooms and schools that have no ancillary space whatever.

Urban Separate Boards face unique problems. The growing enrollments demand new facilities. The Ministry remains adamant that there will be no new construction until excess space is utilized in public systems. Urban Separate Boards are placed in a no win circumstance. The only way new construction is available to them is through some innovation configuration that involves a community facility. The most acceptable added community facility is a recreational one that is under independent community management. The first choice of all Separate Boards in the province is for an independent facility. In the past some Separate Boards made concessions in order to have a much-needed school approved. The result of such cooperation is that we are now expected to do that in all instances. What was intended to be an experiment has now become an expected norm. In our view it may well lead to a one-facility educational system. Separate Districts experiencing critical space shortage are directed to Public Boards with under-utilization to resolve their problem. The two systems are being played one against the other on the issue of facilities. Government fiscal responsibility is being satisfied but is it all achieved at the expense of Separate Boards. The Roman Catholics of the Province of Alberta have a constitutional right to an educational system of their own. With that right is the responsibility of the Government to provide a facility within which that education takes place.

Notwithstanding the configurations now under consideration by some Separate Boards, our Association continues to request the construction of independent facilities in order for us to deliver a Catholic Education reflecting our educational philosophy. We require the display of religious artifacts, crucifixes and liturgical celebration space. The rationale for these requests remains consistent. In order for Separate Boards to have both the ambiance and ethos within our teaching facilities, it is essential that the province continue the practice of approving independent facilities as it has for the last 100 years.

The argument has been made by Government that the joining of several buildings together is cost efficient and time saving. It is now being substantiated that the suggestion of cost saving is false. The current joint site complexes are all more expensive than planned. The increase in administrative time and effort on supervision alone has, in most cases, doubled. The suggestion of placing two competing educational systems on one site is tantamount to suggesting that a Tim Hortons and a Robin's Donuts operation should be on the same site. It doesn't happen in industry—why should it happen in education. The logistics of having two schools of 500 students or more on one-site presents a major traffic and infrastructure strain on any community. The Calgary City Police, supported by other Police agencies, have stated categorically that these infusions of large numbers of students into a community are a risk to the safety and security of students and residents alike.

In conclusion our position with regard to facilities in urban centres is:

- We require independent facilities to educate our Catholic children
- We are prepared to negotiate the construction a community recreational facility alongside the school if the recreational facility is independently owned and managed and does not contravene our Facilities Covenant.
- We are prepared to share mechanical/utilities/athletic fields or playgrounds.

Because of our educational philosophy of permeation we are not prepared to share instructional space, administration offices or personnel, teaching staff or staff lounges, common timetable, or the public address system. Nor are we prepared to share any facility that allows free flow traffic area for the public that would give access into or out of our facilities.

FACILITIES IN SMALL COMMUNITIES

In many instances small communities have been served by a local public school for years. The introduction of a Separate school is seen as a threat to the viability of the local school. Facilities are an essential ingredient to all school districts – public and separate. The allocation of them has become a contentious issue because of the appearance of a lack of consideration given to special circumstances. This assumption survives because of two independent but related directives from the Department of Infrastructure. They are:

- The Department has developed utilization formulae which, perhaps unwittingly, appear to discriminate against small town rural Alberta.
- The Ministry, aided by numerous MLAs, has declared there will be no new construction until excess space has been resolved.

The combination of these directives, plus the demographic shift from rural to urban communities now occurring throughout Alberta, has set rural public boards on edge. Already dealing with dwindling registration and restricted ability to meet core course delivery, public schools see the looming prospect of a Separate school in their community as a threat to the survival of their local school. Inadvertently, we have become their scapegoat. In the larger communities we have been directed by Infrastructure to negotiate with public boards for unused space. This adds fuel to the fire in any discussion in rural public boards. The atmosphere is charged before any negotiations begin. The only resolution, it appears, is a new paradigm.

In the face of no new buildings on the one hand, and the reality of closing the public school on the other, the choices open to Separate boards are difficult. One option would be to refuse to establish Catholic educational delivery to the parents requesting it, on the grounds that there were insufficient students to make a school viable. The other is to request an independent building – which the Department has declared it will not supply. The only other possible consideration is to allow for a locally negotiated ad hoc solution in each specific situation as it arises. This solution must be in consort with the ACSTA Facilities Covenant with the right to appeal to the Minister if negotiations fail.

In larger communities where public districts have several schools, different problems exist. One is the declared under-utilization by the public system while at the same time there is overcrowding in the separate system. Currently this problem is being perpetuated by the Ministry directing the two boards to negotiate a resolution. As indicated earlier, the atmosphere is usually already overheated before the negotiations begin.

Clearly, a different paradigm is needed here as well. If we are to be successful the Ministry must take an active role in directing the under-utilized authority to reconfigure their schools to free up a building. To continue the current practice simply divides the community into camps in the same way the current establishment of new Separate Districts does. The talks continue without resolution because there is no political will on the part of the public board to do so.

FACILITIES GLOSSARY

The following terms are currently being used by the Ministry of Infrastructure and the ACSTA in discussions on facilities.

Facilities Covenant:

Refers to the ACSTA agreement on facilities as determined by ACSTA Member Boards on November 6, 1999. (see page 4)

Permeation of Catholic values:

Refers to the understanding in a Catholic school that all dimensions of school life, including the course content, school celebrations and activities, expected student and staff deportment, and the aesthetics and decoration of the building, reflect the values of our Catholic faith.

Instructional space:

Refers to classrooms, library, gymnasium, computer labs, CTS space, gathering and reflection areas and auditorium.

Independent Shared Programming Facility:

Refers to a facility where programs offered by one or the other system which, because of small class sizes, have students attending from both systems and have been determined not to jeopardize the integrity of either system. This situation is usually found only in small rural schools.

Independent Facilities:

Refers to a Public School or a Catholic School that is not shared or joined in any way. Each school is located on its own geographical site and has its own footprint.

Shared Site or Joint Campus:

Refers to three independent buildings located on the same geographical site - including a Public school, a Catholic school, and a Community Facility:

- each building has its own entrance.
- may have shared mechanical/utilities/sports fields/playgrounds.
- there is no sharing of instructional space.
- the Community Facility will not include partners who would compromise Catholic teaching (e.g. some community health facilities).
- the Community Facility would be independently owned and operated, i.e. not by the schools involved.
- the Community Facility may include a gymnasium, theatre or swimming pool, all of which may be individually scheduled by either the Catholic school, the Public school or the community.

Shared Roof, Joint Use Facility:

Refers to three buildings under one roof - a Public school, a Catholic school and a Community Facility:

- each building has its own entrance.
- may have shared mechanical/utilities/sports fields/playgrounds.
- there is no sharing of instructional space.
- the Community Facility will not include partners who would compromise Catholic teaching (e.g. some community health facilities).
- the Community Facility would be independently owned and operated, i.e. not by the schools involved.
- the Community Facility may include a gymnasium, theatre or swimming pool, all of which may be individually scheduled by either the Catholic school, the Public school or the community.

Shared School:

Refers to a Public school and Catholic school sharing a joint multi-use facility between them. This model envisages the sharing of administrative offices, gymnasias, staff lounges, libraries, some classrooms, CTS Labs, food court, community services, etc. or a combination of some of these. In short, it allows for a spectrum of sharing of administrative, community and instructional space.



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September 4, 2002

Catholic Education: Becoming Salt and Light for the World

In his homily concluding the 17th World Youth Day in Toronto on July 28th, Pope John Paul, drawing upon the gospel imperative, challenged the youth of the world to be "salt" and "light" for the world.

The world you are inheriting is a world which desperately needs a new sense of brotherhood and human solidarity. It is a world which needs to be touched and healed by the beauty and richness of God's love. It needs witnesses to that love. The world needs salt. It needs you — to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Salt is used to preserve and keep. As apostles for the third millennium, your task is to preserve and keep alive the awareness of our Saviour Jesus Christ, especially in the celebration of the Eucharist, the memorial of his saving death and glorious resurrection. You must keep alive the memory of the words of life which he spoke, the marvelous works of mercy and goodness which he performed. You must constantly remind the world of the "power of the Gospel to save." (Romans 1: 16)

Salt seasons and improves the flavour of food. Following Jesus, you have to chance and improve the "taste" of human history. With your faith, hope and love, with your intelligence, courage and perseverance, you have to humanize the world we live in, in the way that today's reading from Isaiah indicates: "loose the bonds of injustice ... share your bread with the hungry ... remove the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil ... then your light shall rise in the darkness." (Isaiah 58: 6-10)

In Catholic education we seek to keep alive the memory of the words of life which Jesus spoke, and the marvelous works of mercy and goodness which Jesus performed.

The heart and soul of Catholic education is following Jesus Christ, and our school system finds its very reason for existence in the communication of the Christian message. The goal of Catholic education is nothing less than a truly holistic formation of persons who will become living witnesses to the faith. This vision of Catholic education is inspired and sustained by an understanding of the Catholic school as a participant in the saving mission of the Church, a mission that is realized in and for the world.

Following Jesus, we must change and improve the "taste" of human history. With our faith, hope and love, and with our intelligence, courage and perseverance, we are called to humanize the world we live in.

As bishops, we are committed to working together with parents, educators, and trustees to ensure the integrity of Catholic education. This responsibility does not and cannot rest solely on the shoulders of a few individuals but is grounded in the interdependence of all members of the Catholic education community.

"Catholic education is inspired by the general principles enunciated by the Second Vatican Council concerning collaboration between the hierarchy and those who work in the apostolate. In consequence of the principle of participation and co-responsibility, the various groupings which constitute the educational community are, according to their several competencies, to be associated in the decision-making concerning the Catholic school and in the application of decisions once taken." (The Catholic School, Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education 1977, 70)

Together we all face the task of developing schools into communities of faith in which the requirements of good citizenship will be learned in a vital way from the perspective of the message of the Gospel and the teachings of the Church. We are bound together by a common faith and in common service.

In order to realize this mission and instill the virtues of the Catholic community of faith in our youth, we require and employ the same basic principles that are employed in a family. In intimate circles of communion, love, and service we work to foster the virtues and lifestyle that will later serve the common good of our whole society. For this to be effective, a Catholic school, like a family, needs some time and a place for itself. It is a basic requirement if we are to submerge our youth in the culture of the faith.

In light of this mission, we would like to share a few reflections with you on the phenomenon of "shared facilities." This has become a major issue of concern for Catholic Education in Alberta. During the past four years there has been increasing pressure on Catholic boards to resolve their need for space by negotiating with public school boards to construct one shared school building rather than having each build its own independent, stand-alone schools.

The pressure to build "shared facilities" has led to division within communities, overcrowding in some Catholic Schools, and many meetings with our community members, with government, and with School Boards, public and separate, in an attempt to provide educational space for our children. It is not our intention to close or make non-viable existing public schools. We see ourselves as an integral part of the educational endeavor in Alberta. Nevertheless, we are compelled to stress with the utmost clarity that the sharing of facilities creates grave problems for Catholic education.

Our concern with “shared facilities” does not arise out of any desire to segregate ourselves from the rest of society. When a family raises its children in the separate confines of its own home, it does not reject every other home and every other family. It is merely preparing its own children for the necessary and desirable interaction to come. Our insistence on having our own schools is not a rejection of society, but a preparation for full engagement in it.

In the same way, a separate Catholic school is not a rejection of the culture, but a designated environment of faith formation, which requires its own separate space for the sake of cohesion, unity, and growth. Far from rejecting our pluralistic society, we nurture these young citizens in an atmosphere of faith, so that they can make a unique contribution to that society. The particular contribution they do, in fact, make to our province because of their Catholic education is recognized and valued by our fellow citizens of all faiths.

To educate our youth in the context of the Gospel a certain distinct educational environment is needed. Catholic schools are places where the whole ethos and learning environment — the syllabus, curriculum and the total life of the school — are permeated with our faith. School buildings are blessed and dedicated as special places where study, prayer, and faith celebrations are an integral part of school life. Religious symbols and artifacts are displayed in each classroom, in the halls, and in signage both inside and outside the building. These are regularly used as teaching opportunities. Often there is a dedicated chapel in a Catholic school, and the Blessed Sacrament is reserved there. The shared faith life of the school permeates every part of the building and every activity that happens within and around it. Anything that detracts from this permeation, such as a “shared facility” situation, leads to the loss of something vital to Catholic education.

The Catholic community of Alberta must be allowed to continue the time-honoured and constitutionally-protected tradition of forming and educating our children in an environment we foster and fashion. Together we must continue to state clearly our position that “shared facilities” are not acceptable to the Catholic community.

There are many opportunities for ecumenical co-operation with people of diverse faith traditions. The “shared facilities” approach is not one of them. Ecumenism is based upon a conversion of hearts and upon prayer which will also lead to the necessary purification of past memories. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians, inspired by love, by the power of the truth, and by a sincere desire for mutual forgiveness and reconciliation, are called to re-examine together their painful past and to inspire in everyone a renewed willingness to proclaim the Gospel. This mission is clearly outside the mandate of public schools.

From childhood, all of us are taught that sharing is good, and there are many creative ways in which distinct school systems, or distinct stand-alone neighbouring schools, can share resources so as to assist each other as they go about the mission of education in their own very different ways. There might on occasion be some situations in which there is a good reason for negotiating the construction of a community recreation facility alongside the school if the recreational facility is independently owned and managed, and does not contravene the Facilities Covenant of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees’ Association.

It is not true creative sharing, however, when two schools with significantly different educational philosophies are simply attached to one another, in a mechanical way, in the hope that this will somehow automatically produce added convenience or economic benefit. This uncreative strategy may look like sharing, but there is little real benefit to be gained from it. Furthermore, such arrangements not only impede the ability of a Catholic school to have the distinct environment which is needed for Catholic education, but also set the stage for the future merging of the two intertwined entities, at which point Catholic education ceases. This would be a loss to the Catholic community, but also to our wider society.

Canadian society continues to define itself as one in which community values (linguistic, cultural and religious) are to be respected rather than denied. We have staked our hope as a nation on the possibility of strengthening the common social fabric by safeguarding the distinctive quality of each thread within it. One such thread is the preservation of a vibrant Catholic education system, not just for our good but for the good of our whole society.

Catholic education creates a real hope for the future when we teach the next generation the mystery of the Body of Christ, where all members are important for the body's well being, and where the body brings together the members into a life-giving unity. The rise of nationalism and war around the globe demands such a unity — a unity that respects legitimate diversity and recognizes the God-given freedom and dignity of each human being, whatever their race, colour, or creed.

Real hope for the world is created when we form our youth in the spiritual principles of justice and of respect for all human life. Environmental crises plague us, yet we form real hope when we imbue our youth with the Biblical standard of a people who know themselves to be called by name as stewards of creation.

Our ongoing commitment to the development of Catholic education is one of our greatest contributions to the common fabric of society. By reinforcing this distinctive thread of what is best in our Church community, far from closing in on ourselves, we release formidable energies for the benefit of society, so that we may help each other to grow wiser, and to harmonize personal rights with the other requirements of social living in the world.

We conclude our reflections on Catholic education and shared facilities, with the prayer of John Paul II:

O Lord Jesus Christ, keep (our) young people in your love. Let them hear your voice and believe what you say, for you alone have the words of life. Teach them how to profess their faith, bestow their love, and impart their hope to others. Make them convincing witnesses to your Gospel in a world so much in need of your saving grace. Make them the new people of the Beatitudes, that they may be

the salt of the earth and the light of the world at the beginning of the Third Christian Millennium! Mary, Mother of the Church, protect and guide these young men and women of the Twenty-first Century. Keep us all close to your maternal heart. Amen.

+ Thomas Collins

Thomas Collins
Archbishop of Edmonton

Arthé Guimond

Arthé Guimond
Archbishop of Grouard-McLennan

Frederick Henry

Frederick Henry
Bishop of Calgary

+ Lawrence Huculak

Lawrence Huculak, OSBM
Bishop of Edmonton Eparchy

Luc Bouchard

Luc Bouchard
Bishop of St. Paul

MEMO

DATE: November 5, 2002

TO: ACSTA Member Boards

FROM: Medicine Hat Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 20
Board of Trustees

RE: *Response to Nov. 2, 2002 Draft Joint-Use Facilities Guiding Principles*

Our Board of Trustees would like to make the following comments in response to the above noted *Draft Guiding Principles*.

Our mission states "In partnership with family, Church and community, we provide Catholic Education of the highest quality to our students". That desired future is "A Gospel-centered community committed to: learning excellence; Christian service; and, living Christ. We believe that Catholic education is a ministry that is at the heart of the Church. We value and celebrate: teaching and living our Catholic Faith; our Catholic traditions; our ability to offer a full range of educational programs for all students; and, the uniqueness of each child. In our ministry, always and everywhere, we are: called to model Christ; called to prayer; called to service; called to strive for excellence; and, called to build community.

We believe that a Catholic school is created whenever a Catholic teacher teaches children within the above noted context. The permeation of our Faith must transcend every aspect of the teacher's instruction to their students. This can happen in any given room, in any location whether it is in a formal school or on a field trip or while using community or other recreational facilities. The physical room does not make or break the "Catholic" teaching. A Catholic school is more than bricks and mortar.

We believe that cooperating and collaborating with other community organizations in building and providing educational or multi-use facilities provides an opportunity to strengthen Catholic education. This type of partnering helps create an important perception within the community at large that a publicly funded Catholic education system provides value-added resources to the community. Such positive perceptions will help ensure that the community "at large" continues to see value in having two "publicly" funded educational systems.

We believe that, as Catholic school boards, we must stand up for one another in defense of our beliefs and Catholic principles. Should any external organization, such as a provincial government, attempt to force or coerce any Catholic board into actions the

board does not think are in the best interests of its students or actions that go against the wishes of the Faith community, **'all'** Catholic boards should unite and help defend that individual board's rights. We must provide that solidarity to each other.

We also believe that duly elected boards of education should have the right and freedom to build and administer schools in the manner they believe is best suited for their particular Faith-based community. This must be done in conjunction with the values and aspirations of the Church, the Family and the School Community. We also believe that as duly elected trustees we are then in the best position to make such decisions for our particular school system.

Yours in Christ,

The Board of Trustees

The Medicine Hat Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 20

Catholic board joins protest of shared schools

Thursday, February 6, 2003

Separate system must stand alone, board insists

SHELLEY KNAPP
CALGARY HERALD

The Calgary Catholic school board voted Wednesday night to line up alongside its sister boards provincewide in forbidding the sharing of facilities with public school systems.

Trustee Linda Wellman said she was troubled that a northern Alberta school district was ordered to share a facility with the public system or risk losing \$5.5 million in funding for its junior/senior high school — especially because Premier Ralph Klein recently expressed outrage that Ottawa is giving the provinces money for health care but telling them how to spend it.

"That is the medicine that we have choking on for a very long time," Wellman said.

School district officials say that sharing facilities inhibits a Catholic school's ability to be Christ-centred.

Board chairwoman Lois Burke-Gaffney said she is concerned about coercion tactics apparently being used by the Alberta government.

"The whole issue of shared facilities is very divisive," she said.

The Calgary Catholic trustees unanimously approved a recent declaration by the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association that it does not support sharing school facilities.

The association's statement was prepared during a Jan. 24 meeting between Alberta Catholic school board trustees and the province's Catholic bishops in Edmonton.

"In short, a Catholic school is one in which God's presence, truth and life permeate every aspect of the school," the association said.

The association said Catholic schools should be free-standing, there should be no joint usage of facilities and a Catholic school board should not be pressured into agreeing to any arrangement.

It said any Catholic school districts contemplating a joint-use facility must inform the ACSTA in writing and receive support from a local bishop.

The Calgary Board of Education has repeatedly stated it would not be averse to sharing facilities with the city's Catholic school district.

Both of the city's school boards are waiting for frozen infrastructure funding from the province for desperately needed new schools proposed in their three-year capital spending plans submitted last May.

The CBE is looking at building 13 new schools and the separate school board nine schools, mostly in the city's burgeoning bedroom communities such as McKenzie Lake and Arbour Lake.

The provincial government recently stated it will free up around \$500 million from its projected \$1.5-billion budget surplus to meet its backlog on infrastructure spending.

The Calgary Catholic school board's next meeting will be on Feb. 19.

KNAPPS@THEHERALD.SOUTHAM.CA



January 8, 2003

The Honourable Mr. Ty Lund
Minister of Infrastructure
424 Legislature Building
10800-97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB
T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Lund:

The Board of Trustees for St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Separate Regional Division #38 wishes to seek your support in providing the Living Waters Catholic Regional Division #42 with a stand alone school facility to accommodate its students in Hinton, Alberta.

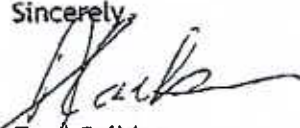
That this issue has remained unresolved for so long is a source of considerable concern for our Board that demands the immediate attention of government. Our Board joins with other Catholic Boards in supporting the Living Waters facility plan for a grade 4-12 school on the Eaton site and the modernization of Gerard Redmond School to accommodate Kindergarten to Grade 3 students.

Our Board remains confident that the Government of Alberta remains committed to providing adequate and appropriate school facilities. We urge you to lend your support in prompt action in meeting the expressed needs of the Living Waters CRD #42 will be seen as a strong affirmation of the right and the opportunity for Catholic education throughout the province.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important matter that has garnered the attention of all Catholic School Boards throughout the province.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Regional Division #38 I would like to extend my sincere best wishes for a happy and successful 2003.

Sincerely,


Fred Calkins
Board Chair

cc: Premier Ralph Klein
Dr. Lyle Oberg, Minister of Learning
Mr. Albert Klapstein, MLA, Leduc
Mr. LeRoy Johnston, MLA, Wetaskiwin/Camrose
Mr. Tony Abbott, MLA, Drayton Valley/Calmar
Mr. Halvar Jonson, MLA, Ponoka/Rimbey
* Board Chairs, Catholic School Divisions

Christ The King
Jr/Sr High
Leduc

Notre Dame
Leduc

Sacred Heart
Wetaskiwin

St. Anthony
Drayton Valley

St. Augustine
Ponoka

St. Benedict
Leduc

4906 - 49 Avenue
Leduc Alberta
T9E 6W6

Phone: (780) 986-2500

Fax: (780) 986-8620

1-800-583-0688

www.starcatholic.ab.ca

CATHOLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES IN ALBERTA

To conform with our Catholic teaching, a Catholic school has a distinct and unique culture and philosophy. It is defined and characterised as being Christ-centered, an instrument of the Church, focused on the development of the whole human person, committed to the inculturation of life and faith, and permeated in every aspect by the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In short, a Catholic school is one in which God's presence, truth and life permeate every aspect of the school.

While we, as trustees, have the responsibility to make decisions for our local communities, we also recognize our reciprocal responsibility to the greater Catholic community. As trustees dedicated to the education of our children, we cannot act independently of one another or of the Alberta Catholic Bishops when our Catholic faith binds us together on key issues.

In light of this teaching, and seeking to work co-operatively with our provincial government, we, the member boards of the ACSTA, together with our Alberta Catholic Bishops, identify the following Fundamental Principles as the foundation for building Catholic schools in Alberta that allow full permeation of Christ's teachings.

Fundamental Principles

1. Free-standing Catholic schools on separate sites have a long and successful history in this province and remain the standard for Catholic educational facilities.
2. ACSTA and its member boards support community partnerships, provided they adhere to these Fundamental Principles.
3. The ACSTA and its member boards oppose the joint use of school buildings with public school boards in any manner that has the effect of undermining or interrupting the full permeation of Catholic values and beliefs.
4. No Catholic school board should be pressured into any type of partnership or joint-use arrangement that could restrict the board's ability to fulfill its mandate to provide quality Catholic education to its students.
5. When a Catholic board wishes to establish a Catholic school, where none has previously existed, facilities must be arranged in adherence with the ACSTA Fundamental Principles. Arrangements would proceed with a commitment from the Minister responsible for a designated Catholic school when numbers warrant.
6. Catholic school districts contemplating a facility other than a free-standing school will take the following steps prior to beginning the project development process:
 - a) inform the ACSTA in writing, and;
 - b) seek and receive support of the local bishop.
7. The ACSTA, its Board of Directors and member boards will not consider as precedent setting any pre-existing arrangement between a Catholic school and a public school that does not conform to these Fundamental Principles.

Adopted January 24, 2003

October 21, 2016

Attn: Greg MacPherson, Secretary Treasurer
Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education
1251 - 1st Avenue SW
Medicine Hat, AB T1A 8B4

Dear Sir:

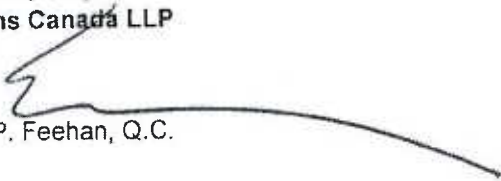
Re: Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education

As you may now have heard in the news, I have been appointed as a Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta. That means, effective immediately, that I may not practice law and may not continue to progress your file. However, as you know several other lawyers in this office have done some work on your file and over the next week or two, I will be thoroughly reviewing your file, drafting a detailed memo on the file and working with other lawyers in this firm to effect a smooth transition. You do not need to be concerned about your file "falling through the cracks" or about the momentum on your file slowing. I will ensure that you are fully and properly taken care of during this time of transition.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank you very much for having faith in me to act as your lawyer to date. I have very much enjoyed working with you and I am sure that your legal needs in the future will be well served by this firm. I will write to you further as this transition continues.

Yours very truly,
Dentons Canada LLP

Kevin P. Feehan, Q.C.





**Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education
Board Meeting
Agenda Items**

**Associate Superintendent
Learning Services**

Date: November 8, 2106

Name: Hugh Lehr

Agenda Item: Vision Screening

Dr. Alan Berger, through the Lions Club of Medicine Hat is again offering vision screening in the local schools. Last fall, we were able to arrange for a number of classes in the Catholic system to be screened. They will be conducting screenings through the months of November and December for students in kindergarten and grade 2.

Each assessment takes about 15 seconds. It is a quick photo that provides a visual assessment and an indication of "PASS" or "REFERRAL". This gives the parents information that they can take to their eye-care professional.

Recommendation

- Receive as information

Attachment - Letter to Parents
- Screening Sample

Agenda Item: Fentanyl

As you may know there is a growing health crisis across Canada related to rising numbers of deaths associated with illicit Fentanyl. I have been told that many school authorities shared materials last year to help students and their families understand the risk of Fentanyl. However, despite our best efforts there continues to be a devastating impact on many Alberta families. Our government is committed to slowing the fatal progression of this drug and reducing the tragic loss of life through accidental overdose.

Fentanyl is a pain reliever that is more potent than morphine. Illicit Fentanyl may be mixed with, or substituted for, heroin, prescription opiates or other street drugs to strengthen their potency. Substance users are at risk of overdosing when they unknowingly ingest drugs mixed with Fentanyl.

Recommendation

- Receive as information

Attachment – N/A

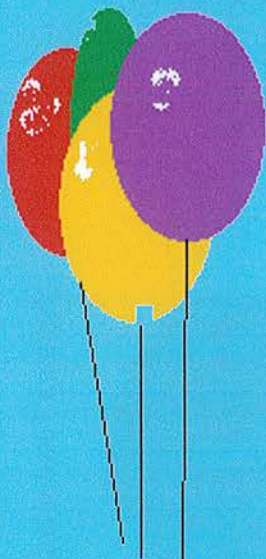
Agenda Item: Mental Health Summit

Leaders from Mental Health and Student support met last Tuesday to review how we support students in MHCBE with mental health needs. The group looked at our current model of support within the division and what resources are out there in the community. We then looked at the needs that are prevalent with our students. We went through each need to see who or what resource was able to provide support. Out of this analysis came a few gaps in service that we will address.

Recommendation

- Receive as information

Attachment – N/A

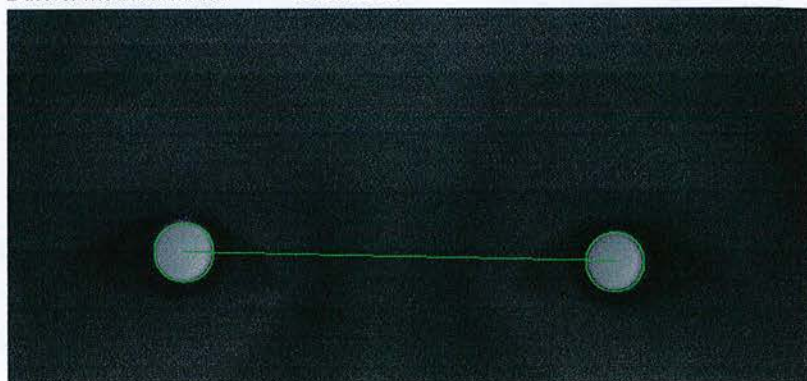


P.O. Box 133
Medford, NJ 07645
hmf133@gmail.com

LIONS CLUB OF MEDICINE HAT

Vision Screening Result

Name: [REDACTED]
Patient ID: [REDACTED]
Date of birth: 10/31/2007
Contact information: [REDACTED]
Date of measurement: 06/04/2013



Right eye	Refraction [dpt]	Left eye
	+1.00 -0.25 4° +1.25 -0.25 160°	
	Spherical equivalent [dpt]	
	+1.00 +1.00	
	Gaze asymmetry [°]	
	4.0	
	Pupil size [mm]	
	7.6 7.3	
	Pupil distance [mm]	
	55	

Pass/Refer criteria

Refer

Anisometropia	Spherical equivalent ≥ 1.50 dpt	No
Astigmatism	Cylinder ≥ 2.50 dpt	No
Hyperopia	Spherical equivalent ≥ 3.50 dpt	No
Myopia	Spherical equivalent ≥ 3.00 dpt	No
Gaze asymmetry	Asymmetry $\geq 10.0^\circ$	No
Asymmetric corneal reflexes are caused either by strabismus (true positive referral) or by fixation to an object other than the camera (false positive referral).		No
Anisocoria	Pupil size ≥ 1.0 mm	No

Vision Screening does not replace a complete eye examination by an ophthalmologist or optometrist! Vision Screening must be conducted regularly as eyes may change over time!

ROC 3; Version: 6.0.0.0

www.plusoptix.com

Pass



LIONS CLUB of MEDICINE HAT

The Lions Club of Medicine Hat is a local service club, that has assisted the community in various endeavours since 1950.

For several years we have deplored the lack of early childhood vision screening that once was conducted. One of the reasons for this failure has been the lack of manpower that such testing required.

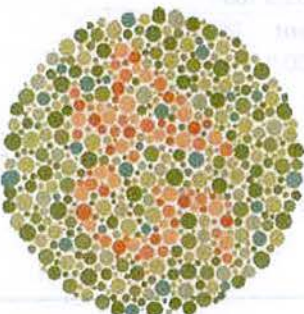
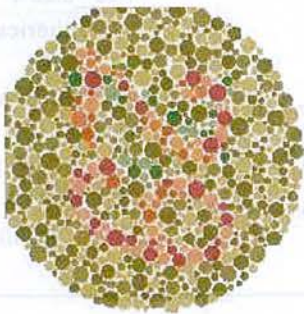
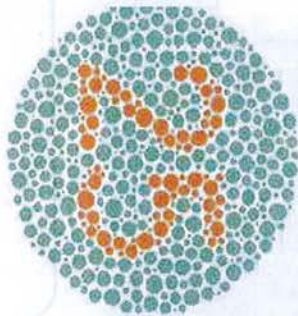
Recent technology is allowing volunteers with minimal training, to run vision assessments through the use of infra-red photographic techniques. For this reason, our club has invested in the technology, and is in the process of conducting "in-school" screening sessions.

These examinations are in no way intended to replace regular examinations by eye-care professionals. Rather they are intended to augment and document changes that can occur rapidly through the development of the child.

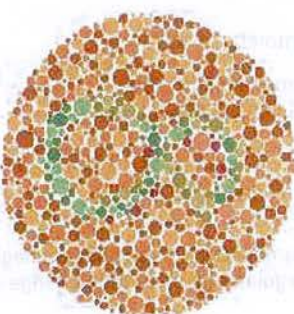
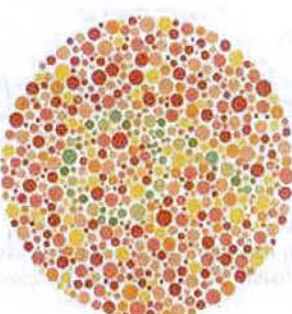
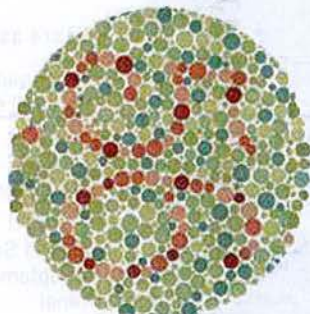
Please provide the results of this examination to your eye-care professional, and ask him/her to communicate comments to

lcmb732@gmail.com.

Ishihara Test for colorblindness



(25,29,45)



(56,6,8)

Date:

Dear Parent:

The Lions Club of Medicine Hat is a local service club, which has assisted the community in various endeavors since 1950. Recent technology is allowing trained volunteers to run vision assessments through the use of infra-red photographic techniques. For this reason, the Lions club has invested in this technology, and is in the process of conducting “in-school” screening sessions. Alan Bergen volunteers his time not only in Medicine Hat but around the world providing quick and free visual assessments through infra-red photographic techniques.

These screenings are in no way intended to replace regular examinations by eye-care professionals. Rather they are intended to augment and document changes that can occur rapidly through the development of the child. Each assessment takes about 10 seconds. It is a quick photo that provides a visual assessment and an indication of “PASS” or “REFERRAL”. We encourage parents to provide the results of this assessment to your eye-care professional.

Assessments are planned for students in Kindergarten and grade 2. Please sign and return this consent if you grant permission for this assessment to continue for your child.

Student information shared with assessor will be name and date of birth. The date of birth is a required piece of data to calibrate the technology for each individual student.

Sincerely,

Principal

I, _____ approved the visual screen be performed on
Parent/Guardian Signature

_____, born on _____.
Student Name Date

Title – Religious Education Coordinator

Board Meeting November 8, 2016

1. Faith Day Donation Drive – November 1st – 14th

For two weeks leading up to November 14th we have the amazing opportunity to conclude the Year of Mercy by supporting local community organizations. Although there are many organizations who work hard to make a difference in our community, three local organizations are in particular need of our help: Medicine Hat Women's Shelter, Pregnancy and Family Support Centre, and Saamis Immigration.

- The Medicine Hat Women's Shelter is being supported by St. Francis Xavier School, Monsignor McCoy and Notre Dame Academy
- The Pregnancy and Family Support Centre is being supported by St. Louis School, St. Patrick's School, St. Michael's School and the Catholic Education Centre
- Saamis Immigration is being supported by École St. Thomas d'Aquin, St. Mary's School and Mother Teresa School.

All the items will be taken to Holy Family Parish and set up on the tables in the entrance. We will then join the parish community at the church to celebrate a division Mass beginning at 9:00. Volunteers will help deliver the items to the organizations. This is a wonderful way to serve others and celebrate as a community of faith. During the Mass we will have a second opportunity to support the Brown Bag Lunch Program with a monetary donation taken during the collection. Last year we donated \$1107.10 to the program!

Recommendation: Receive as information

2. Excellence in Catholic Education

MHCBE has many teachers who make a real difference in the lives of our Catholic students. Our school jurisdiction may award one certificate to acknowledge their commitment to Catholic education. Nomination Process and Selection Committee have been attached. One trustee will be needed to sit on the 2017 selection committee. The committee will meet in February to determine the successful recipient.

Recommendation: Receive as information

Action – Nomination Form and one page summary

must be forwarded to Religion Coordinator and Superintendent by school administrators. Deadline is January 31st.

Require one trustee to sit on selection committee

Attachment – Nomination Process for Excellence in Catholic Education Award

3. Mission Mexico Dec 12th

Students and staff in Medicine Hat Catholic schools will once again participate in Mission Mexico Day in order to help support the humanitarian needs of the marginalized mountain communities in southern Mexico. Many Mexican students benefited from the proceeds donated last year to “Alex’s Welding Shop” in memory of former Monsignor McCoy student, Alex Graf.

Recommendation: Receive as information

4. Keeping Christ in Christmas

We once again have a great opportunity to remind our students of the reason for this Holy season. The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a poster contest with the theme: Keeping Christ in Christmas. Students create a poster sharing their reflections of this important message. The Catholic Women’s League is sponsoring a writing contest with the theme: Keeping Christ in Christmas. Students can write a story, poem, letter or an essay sharing their reflections and thoughts of this important message. The posters and essays will be picked up from the schools on Friday, December 16th. Posters will be displayed at St. Patrick’s Church Hall.

Recommendation: Receive as information

5. Brown Bag Lunch Delivery Update

All delivery charges will be paid through a grant approved by the Education Foundation from October 1st to June 30th. A presentation of the Brown Bag Lunch Program will be made to the Foundation on November 15th by Lori Hellawell, coordinator of the program. Schools who have provided testimonials on behalf of students will also be shared.

Recommendation: Receive as information

Nomination Process for Excellence in Catholic Education Award

The Excellence in Catholic Education award was established by the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta to communicate clearly and convincingly the benefits of Catholic education and its value to society. This prestigious award recognizes Catholic teachers in Alberta who have done an exemplary job in preparing our youth to grow into outstanding Catholic citizens. Each Catholic school jurisdiction chooses a recipient to be honoured annually at the Blueprints or SPICE Annual Spring Conference.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible for this award a nominee must hold a teaching certificate and be working full time in Medicine Hat Catholic. He/she must be a practicing Catholic.

Who can nominate?

Teachers, parents, administrators, members of the parish community

How do I nominate someone?

1. Ask permission of the teacher to be nominated
2. Complete the nomination form using the criteria provided
3. Submit the nominee's name and form to the school administrator

When is the deadline?

Nominations are due January 31st.

Being nominated for this award is an honour; therefore each nominee will be recognized as an Ambassador for Catholic Education and will be presented with a certificate at a board meeting.

Nomination Form for the Excellence in Catholic Education Award

Name of nominee _____

School of nominee _____

Nominee has agreed to the nomination _____

Please check eligibility requirements:

Works full time in Medicine Hat Catholic _____

Holds a teaching certificate _____

Practicing Catholic _____

In a one page summary, comment on why this faith-filled person is an outstanding candidate for this award? Please refer to the criteria provided:

- Role models Catholic values and a Catholic lifestyle;
- Fosters the development of students and their spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional and physical growth;
- Motivates students to exceed their own expectations;
- Attends to individual student needs;
- Works collaboratively with colleagues and parish;
- Demonstrates an in-depth knowledge of subject matter, curriculum, and the integration of the teachings of the Catholic Church;
- Is involved in professional and spiritual growth activities;
- Achieves positive results in student learning
- Demonstrates caring for the well-being of students and colleagues, thereby contributing to a positive school climate

Please attach the summary to this page and submit to the school administrator.