

BOARD BULLETIN

December 2014 – MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION - www.mhcbe.ab.ca

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT-Approved – The Audited Financial Statement for 2013 – 2014 was approved by the Board of Trustees. MNP issued a clean opinion on the statements. The Board ended the year with a *surplus* of **\$529,745**.

FALL BUDGET UPDATE Approved – The Fall Budget was approved for 2014 – 2015. There is a forecasted deficit of **\$1,057,518**. There will be a draw from the reserves of **\$783,317** including the transfer of financial assets related to the withdrawal of the Bow Island Ward. Find the Statements and Budget at http://www.mhcbe.ab.ca/Documents.php?df_id=1071

DONATE TO MCCOY - Did you know we are modernizing our Catholic High School?

The modernization *Project Plan, Concept & Design* is well underway for Monsignor McCoy High School with construction tentatively scheduled to begin **March 2015** with completion targeted for **September 2016**. We need your help in making our school modernization a reality. We have a fundraising goal of \$500,000 to cover enhancements not covered by the grant. Learn more about the project and how you can help @ www.mccoymodernization.ca. You can find web links right on your child's school website home page.



HOW TO INVEST

Invest online. Cash and Cheques accepted at any Catholic School or Catholic School Board Office.

For more information call 403.527.2292
Investment Options:

**“Bronze, Silver, Gold”
“Purchase a Brick Program”
“Friends of McCoy Modernization”
or “Sponsorship”**

Log onto the [modernization website](http://www.mccoymodernization.ca) for details about the Modernization Floor Plan with an interactive map; Video Footage describing the modernization plans and details about investing in the modernization project.



Monsignor McCoy High School
– MODERNIZATION –
MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION



Invest in OUR KIDS, invest in OUR SCHOOL!
www.mccoymodernization.ca



Thank You

Pick up a fundraising brochure at your Child's School, the Parish or Catholic School Board Office. **All donations graciously accepted! Thank you!**

Our Motto:

"Showing the face of Christ to all."



CLASS SIZE SURVEY – The Report for 2014 -2015 reflects a slight variable, however, class sizes **remain consistent with provincial targets**: Grades K-3(17); 4-6(23); 7-9(25) and 10-12(27). *Class Size Report* is available at www.mhcbe.ab.ca under Docs & Publications.

WEBSITE RE-DESIGN - The Division website and School websites are under review. We are in the process of doing a re-design resulting in the *overall look* and *accessibility features* changing. The Website Design Committee is now seeking parent consultation and will meet with Parent Association in January 2015. It is important for us to *determine what features of a school website are most important* to parents. New *website designs* are expected to be in place by **mid February 2015**.

INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE PLAN (IMR) Approved - The Board approved the 2014 -2015 IMR Plan: **\$547,154** for *new projects* and **\$303,897** for projects in progress from 2013–2014. In the plan there are *self-directed IMR funds* for schools in the amount of **\$3,000** with a top-up available based on eligible floor area to a maximum of **\$10,000**. Currently, we are developing drawings of what a *re-designed parking lot* at *Mother Teresa School* may look like that may allow for off-road parking for vehicles and buses. The government does not provide funds for bus lanes.

BILL 10 – Liberal MLA Laurie Blakeman introduced a private member's **Bill 202** requiring School Boards to support Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) groups in Alberta's Schools. Premier Prentice, then introduced **Bill 10** which would balance the authority of Schools Boards to make decisions related to their operations, but will also provide their students who want to form a GSA with a clear legal recourse to do so. **...In response**, the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association has published a letter, available on our website, that reads: **(ACSTA) believes: in an inclusive approach to education**—one in which each person, regardless of background, race, social status or sexual orientation is welcomed, accepted and supported. **(ACSTA) supports: inclusive Catholic school communities and protection of the dignity of each and every person;** and, safe and caring and inclusive student groups, open to all students, that demonstrate an understanding and respect for the sanctity of human life and respect for every person. Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education and our Schools fully support the ACSTA's response. Currently **Bill 10** is on hold.

*2015 EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Nominate your **favorite Teacher or Principal**
Nominations Open from Oct. 17, 2014 – Feb. 6, 2015
www.education.gov.ab.ca/teachers/excellence.aspx

Upcoming Board Meeting:

Tues. January 13, 2015 at 3:00 pm Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting

Meetings are held at the Catholic School Board Office, 1251-1st AVE SW, Medicine Hat. Everyone is welcome.

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS – This Bulletin is published following monthly Catholic School Board Meetings. The Bulletin highlights just a few of the School Division's many activities & events. **We hope you find this publication of interest and value to you.**