

ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL

JANUARY 2009

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

Dear Lord,

In the new year, we pray, that You will guide us each new day in paths that are pleasing to You. Lord, the new year gives us another chance to rededicate our lives to You, to study Your Word so that we know right from wrong and to act in accordance with Your commands. Thank You for the sense of direction, purpose and peace we get from aligning our lives with Your Holy will. We pray for the strength and the will to obey You each and every day of the new year, and when we fail, we pray for Your mercy, Your compassion, Your grace and Your love. Help us in the new year to be Your faithful servants.

In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

A huge thank you goes out to all the students and staff for a very successful Christmas Concert. A special thank you to Miss Miller, who organized this year's concert. We would also like to thank the Bow Island Greenhouses for the use of the poinsettias again this year as well as the CWL and Knights of Columbus for the goodie bags.

Congratulations!

FIRE DRILLS

Please remember that fire drills occur throughout the year. Students should wear indoor shoes at all times as they will not be given an opportunity to put footwear on during a fire drill.



VISITORS

All visitors to the school including parents must sign in at the front doors. The only exception to this is at 3:00 when students are being picked up at the end of the day.



WINTER WEATHER

Please remember to have your child prepared for the cold weather with proper winter wear - - toques, gloves, boots, snow pants, etc. Unless extreme conditions exist, recesses are spent outside and we consider it necessary that all students be dressed properly. School doors are not open until 8:20 a.m. for Jr./Sr. students and 8:25 a.m. for Elementary students. During this cold season it is recommended that students not arrive at the school any earlier than Necessary. Please discuss this with your child.



LIBRARY NEWS

The AR Program has been running for 69 school days as of December 17 and the students have read 782 books, passing 714 quizzes. This gives the school an average of 82.2%. GREAT JOB!

Trade deadline for the NHL Reading Pool is February 1. Flames tickets have been purchased for the April 6th game against the San Jose Sharks. You need to be actively participating in the AR Program to win the tickets.

The Medicine Hat Tigers and CIBC have joined forces once again to bring us the Read-To-Succeed Program. Starting in January students need to log their reading minutes for chances to win tickets to a Tigers game. Students must read more than 100 minutes to be able to participate. Draws will be made at the beginning of February and March.

SUPPER & AUCTION

Thanks to the efforts of parent volunteers, the annual Supper and Auction was a huge success. This money will be used to continue to enhance the school's fine arts program. A huge thank you to those parents who spent countless hours getting donations for the auction, setting up the gym, organized the evening and ensured that everyone had a great time. Your hard work is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to the parents and staff who contributed to the classroom baskets as well as brought food for the supper. Thank you as well to all who came out and supported our school through the supper and auction.



STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

January 4-22nd the Grade 7-12 students can compete in 3 on 3 basketball. January 28th is



Sports Fan Day. Everyone is asked to dress like their favorite sports hero or team.



H.E.A.L. HOT LUNCH

The H.E.A.L. committee will be serving a hot lunch on Tuesday, January 19th. The menu consists of baked spaghetti and banana loaf slices. Thanks to all who helped with the concession in December. It is greatly appreciated.

MISSION MEXICO

Students and staff once again celebrated Mission Mexico Day on December 8th. A liturgical celebration was held in the gym where everyone was given an opportunity to contribute a loonie. Students then enjoyed a hot on lunch on December 10th with proceeds also going towards Mission Mexico. The total raised was \$260.25. Thank you to all those who helped with the lunch and also to Mrs. Van Ham and Miss Gregus for organizing the celebration. GREAT JOB EVERYONE!



ROYAL TYRRELL MUSEUM

The Royal Tyrrell Museum Outreach Program will be at St. Michael's School on January 20th and 21st. Several programs have been booked. Each program is an hour in length. Parents are welcome to attend any of the programs. For more information please contact the school or visit the school website at www.stmichaelschool.ca. We would like to give a huge thanks to Shell Canada for sponsoring this great program.



SCHOOL FEES

Please remember to pay your school fees as soon as possible. These fees are used for such things as textbooks, library books, art supplies etc. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

EXAM SCHEDULE

Please find the semester I Senior High exam schedule attached.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next school council meeting is set for January 19th at 6:30. Babysitting is available.

ATTENDANCE

To help your child with their academic success we ask that you remind them of the importance of being to school and class on time each and every day. When students arrive late to class they disrupt all others in the classroom and may miss important information.



McCoy High School Proudly Presents
(featuring students from
St. Michael's Elementary School)

Rodgers and Hammerstein's
Cinderella
Music by
RICHARD RODGERS
Book & Lyrics by
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

PERFORMANCES:
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26th, 2010 @ 7:00 PM
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 27th, 2010 @ 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM
TICKETS AT THE ESPLANADE: \$10:00 (not inc s/c or tax)

January 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					HAPPY NEW YEAR	
3	4 Welcome Back!	5	6	7 Birthday Assembly 12:51	8	9
	3 On 3 Basketball Jan. 4 - 22nd			Basketball: 8/9 Girls host Burdett at 5:00		
10	11 1-2-3 Fun Time	12 1-2-3 Fun Time	13 1-2-3 Fun Time	14 1-2-3 Fun Time	15 1-2-3 Fun Time	16
				Basketball: 8/9 Girls host Gershaw		
17	18	19 H.E.A.L. Hot Lunch Day	20 Tyrrell Museum School Visit 8:45 - 3:00	21 Tyrrell Museum School Visit 9:00 - 3:00	22	23
		School Council Meeting @6:30	Basketball: 6-8 Girls host Gershaw			
24	25	26	27	28 Sport Fan Day Dress like your favorite athlete or team	29 NO SCHOOL	30
				STAFF PD DAY		
31						

January 2010/Sr. High Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Soc30 Part A - 9-11:30	16
17	18	19 Last day of regular classes for Science 10 and Physics 20	20 Last Day of Class for: Chem 30 Math 30 P	21 Chem 30 Dip 9-11:30 Last Day of Class for Math 30A	22 Math 30 Dip - 9-11:30	23
24	25 Last Day of Class for: Grade 10/11/12 Except PE & Biology	26 Science 10 - 9-11:30 Complete outstanding DL and Virtual	27 Eng 10/20 - 9-11:30 Soc 30 Pt B - 9-11:30 Complete outstanding DL and Virtual	28 Physics 20 - 9-11:30 Complete outstanding DL and Virtual	29 PD Friday...No School	30
31	First Day of Semester II					

ON TRACK REPORT

Demonstrating a variety of activities that focus upon all four areas brings awareness to students on how important it is to take care of all parts of your life. At a very early age, children become aware of the areas that need additional attention. On Track sessions are designed to assist them in the awareness and importance of a healthy, active lifestyle.



Summary of December



Overview of January



**If you have any questions/concerns about On Track please contact Kim Rae – MHCBE
On Track Facilitator at kim.rae@mhcbe.ab.ca**

BOARD BULLETIN

December 2009 – MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION

"AMBASSADORS FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION" - The Board recognized Mrs. Jill Wilkinson as an Ambassador for Catholic Education for her enthusiasm in sharing her knowledge and expertise of the 6 + 1 Writing Program with fellow teaching colleagues. Congratulations Mrs. Wilkinson.

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS - A thank you letter was received from the Sisters of Charity of St. Louis; from Sister Mary Anne Mulvihill and the late Sister Joan Burns. The Sisters expressed their sincere appreciation for the invitation to accompany the Board to the Bishop's Dinner. - A letter was received from the Minister of Education, Mr. Dave Hancock, acknowledging the Board's request for a meeting regarding facilities. The Minister is unable to meet with the Board at this time, however, does recognize the division's initiative in addressing the facilities issues. Administration met with AB Infrastructure on December 14, 2009; a report from that meeting will be relayed directly to the Minister.

POLICY 7 – BOARD OPERATIONS - The Board approved 1st and 2nd reading of Policy 7 – Board Operations to include the revised content to correct the electoral wards and boundaries. The Policy will receive 3rd reading at the January 2010 Board Meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT -

- **Field Trip Approval** - The Board and Senior Administration discussed School Field Trips and the approval process for Field Trips; in particular, national and international travel. An AP will be developed and presented to the Board for information. The Board will then determine what level of authority to retain regarding field trip approval(s).
- **Program Reviews** - The *Fine Arts Academy*, *Sports Academy* and *Turning Points* program are currently being reviewed by a consultant. The results of the review will be used to determine future programming.
- **Class Size Report** - As reflected in the statistical report, our Division is meeting the Class Size Initiative guidelines in all grades except for Kindergarten to Grade 3. In January 2010, the Superintendent will present the Board with a detailed analysis and breakdown of the report.
- **Notre Dame Academy Appointments** - Mr. Rob Grisonich has been appointed Acting Principal and Mr. Neal Siedlecki has been appointed Acting Vice-Principal from January 04, 2010 – June 29, 2010. Congratulations Mr. Grisonich and Mr. Siedlecki. The Board also extends congratulations to Mr. Brian Macauley, Principal of Notre Dame Academy, on his appointment as Deputy Superintendent of Holy Spirit Catholic School Division beginning in January 2010.
- **H1N1 Update** - The Pandemic Plan was deactivated as of December 01, 2009; schools will continue to record absenteeism and only report rates over 10%.
- **School Year Calendars for 2010 – 2011** have been circulated for feedback in preparation for Board approval in January. The one recommendation is the PD day moved to June 04, 2010.

TRANSPORTATION - The Board approved the contract with Prairie Rose School Division to transport our rural students to St. Michael's School in Bow Island.

INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE RENEWAL PROPOSAL - The Board unanimously approved the updated IMR Project proposal to include the renovations to St. Patrick's School washroom facilities up to \$15,000.

REDCLIFF MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN - The Board will notify the Town of Redcliff to consider placing Catholic School Land in reserve for future needs; should the Board wish to expand to have a Catholic School in the Town of Redcliff.

Our Motto:

"Showing the face of Christ to all."



"SPECIAL BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 10, 2009" - The Board held a Special Meeting on Thursday, December 10, 2009 at St. Louis School at 7 pm, to discuss the Grade Reconfiguration Proposal as prepared by the Superintendent of Schools. The Board considered the plan, and in a split vote; passed the following motion regarding Grade Reconfiguration for September 2010:

Grade Reconfiguration for Implementation September 2010:

1. **St. Michael's Medicine Hat K-6**
Current configuration (K-5)
2. **St. Francis K-6**
Current configuration (K-5)
3. **St. Louis K-6**
Current configuration (K-5)
4. **St. Mary's 7-9 dual track with French Immersion in Grade 7-9, Fine Arts Academy in Grades 7-9**
Current configuration (K-7 French Immersion and Grades 6-8 with Fine Arts programming)
5. **Mother Teresa K-6**
Current configuration (K-5)
6. **St. Patrick's K-5**
Current configuration (K-4)
7. **Notre Dame 6-9 with Sports Academy programming**
Current configuration (5-8) with Sports Academy programming
8. **McCoy 10-12**
Current configuration (9-12)
9. **Add: St. Thomas Aquinas School will be returned to our operational inventory and will be home to the French Immersion K-6 Program. The current lease of St. Thomas Aquinas School to the Francophone Board will not be renewed.**

Note: The Board and Senior Administration acknowledge and appreciate the input received from our Catholic stakeholders at the Special Meetings held over the last two months. The input certainly assisted the Board in making the grade reconfiguration decision. We will face challenges as we move toward implementation, but we strongly believe we have provided for the best possible learning environments for our students; and at the same time, started a process of dealing with the concern of over crowding in our schools.

"TOWN HALL MEETING" - JANUARY 18, 2010 **BUDGET / PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS**

St. Patrick's Parish Hall @ 7pm



The Board has scheduled a Town Hall Meeting for **MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2010** to be held at **St. Patrick's Parish Hall at 7:00 pm** to get input from our Catholic community on the upcoming budget. The Province of Alberta has encouraged School Divisions to have public consultations to

begin discussions on budget considerations and assumptions for the upcoming school year.

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting:

Tuesday, Jan 12, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. @ the Catholic School Board Office, 1251 – 1st Avenue SW., Medicine Hat. Everyone is welcome to attend.

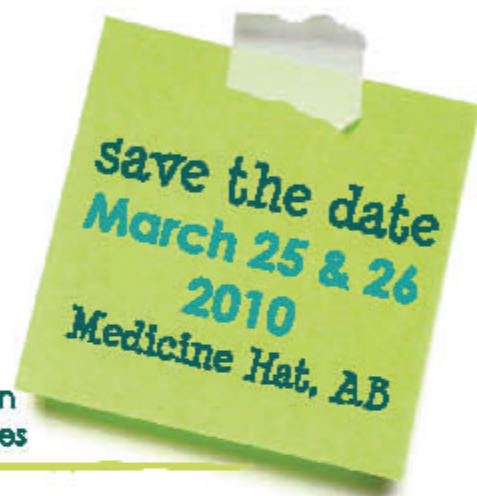
SE Alberta CFSA and Region 2 FCSS proudly present:

parenting through the years

New Tools for Professionals

topics

- the power of attachment
- strengthening resiliency
- non-punitive relationships
- dealing with resistance and oppositionality
- connecting with the digital generation
- selecting a model to guide assessment
- how to cope in turbulent times
- common problems in parenting assessments
- how to deal with separation problems in children
- peaceful partnering with differing parenting styles



key note speakers

Dr. Neufeld is a Vancouver-based developmental psychologist with over 30 years of experience with children and youth and those responsible for them. A foremost authority on child development, Dr. Neufeld is an international speaker, a bestselling author (*Held On To Your Kide*) and a leading interpreter of the developmental paradigm. Dr. Neufeld has a widespread reputation for making sense of complex problems and for opening doors for change. While formerly involved in university teaching and private practice, he now devotes his time to teaching and training others, including educators and helping professionals. He appears regularly on radio and television and is currently developing a series of video-courses for parent education. He is a father of five and a grandfather of three.

Dr. Terry Pessah-Fearce a child clinical psychologist in independent practice in Calgary, and Dr. John Fearce a staff psychologist with the Alberta Children's Hospital, present highlights of their co-authored book, "Parenting Assessments in Child Welfare Cases" that guides practitioners through the steps of assessment, from negotiating the initial referral, through data collection and report writing to court testimony. They also alert assessors to practice issues they are likely to encounter as they approach these complex evaluations.

sponsored by: Community Partnership Enhancement Fund (CPEF)

For More Information: www.positiveculture.ca/CPEF-conference-2010

