

WELCOME  
BACK



## Welcome Back

The staff has been very busy preparing the school and their classrooms for another exciting and busy year. You will notice a few changes. Mr. Krauss and Mrs. Nelson will be teaching Kindergarten and Grades One and Two. Mrs. Van Ham and Miss Wingenbach will once again be sharing duties in the Grade 3/4 classroom. Miss Gregus has moved to the Grade 5/6 classroom. Mr. Weisgerber along with Mrs. Gill, Mr. Stroh and Mr. Bechtold are back to teach our Jr./Sr. high school students.

This year the theme in our School is "Angels Among Us". As part of this theme students caught "being an angel" will have their names put into a draw for a prize at the end of the year.

## Student Electronic Devices

The School Policy states that cellular phones and other unnecessary electronic equipment (i.e. i-pods) will not be permitted in classrooms. These devices are not conducive to the learning environment and may cause unwanted disruptions. Students who bring

their electronic devices to school will only be able to use them before and after school and during lunch hour. Students must remember the risk of losing that device. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged student property.



# St. Michael's School—B.I.

## September 2011

Medicine Hat Catholic Separate Regional Div #20  
Celebrating 100 years of Catholic Education

## Message from the Superintendent

In the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education one of our foundational statements calls on us to value and celebrate *teaching* and *living our Catholic Faith*.

During the 2011-2012 school year the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education will celebrate 100 years of teaching and living our Catholic Faith.

One hundred years of imparting faith and knowledge is a tremendous accomplishment. I would like to extend thanks and recognition to the visionaries who started Catholic education in our community. Appreciation is also extended to those Board members and staff members who served us so well over the last century.

Everyone involved in Catholic education in our community should be confident that we have and will continue to meet our mission: *In partnership with family, Church and community, we provide Catholic education of the highest quality to our students.*

Whenever you can this year, I invite everyone in the communities that we serve to celebrate the success of Catholic education.

Sincerely,

Mr. David Leahy, Superintendent of Schools

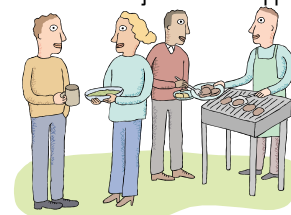
## Transporting Students

All parents transporting students for any school activity must complete a new *Driver Agreement for Students Transported in Private Vehicles* form each year. Please find a form attached. The completed form must be returned prior to transporting students.

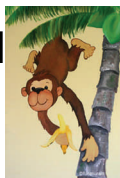


## Welcome Back BBQ

A free welcome back barbecue will be held on Wednesday, September 21st beginning at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us for supper.



## Student Council



Student Council is planning another busy, fun filled year. The theme for this year is a jungle/safari theme called "Welcome to the Jungle". Each student will be placed on a "team/family" with a student council leader. This is the team/family that they will be doing activities with for the year.

The first week of September (September 6-9) students will be in their groups at lunch hour coming up with a sign and cheer for their team/family for the year to display at our first Pep Rally which will be on Friday, September 9th during blocks 7 and 8.

Various activities have been/will be planned throughout the year.

September 16—National Jersey Day. We would like everyone at our school to participate in this NATION WIDE event!!!



## Concession

The school concession continues to offer a variety of healthy choices at reasonable prices. Please find a menu attached. Students are encouraged to pre-order their lunch in the morning before classes begin. We hope this will shorten the wait time at lunch hour. Milk cards can be purchased for \$8.50 for 11 milk. Parents are asked to help in the concession during the lunch break. Thank you to Stephanie Hlady who came in during the summer and cleaned the concession. For more information about working or to volunteer in the concession please contact Mrs. Mastel at the school as soon as possible.

## Terry Fox

It is once again our privilege to participate in the annual Terry Fox Run. This year we have decided to hold a "Dance-A-Thon" on Tuesday, September 27th at 1:40 pm. Students are encouraged to dress up in their favorite dance style or era (i.e. western/50's etc.). Following the dance-a-thon, the total amount raised will be announced and refreshments will be served.



The challenge this year is for the school to raise at least \$1.00 more than last year. If they do the school teams/families will get to dress the staff in appropriate costumes. Everyone is welcome to join the fun !!



## Parking

Parking stalls are available along the east and west sides of the school and should be utilized. Parking in front of the school is not permitted from 8:00-9:00 a.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m. This is to ensure busses have proper access to the school. Everyone is asked to comply with the posted parking signs for student safety. Vehicles should not move from the parking lot until all busses have left the school.



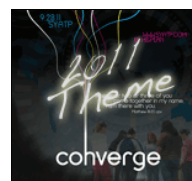
Once again students in Grades 5 & 6 will be participating in the AMA Safety Patrol. These students patrol the intersection to help ensure student safety. Please remind your children to respect the duties of our patrollers. We ask that all students and parents **cross the street at the patrolled corners.**



## See You At The Pole

Parents and friends are invited to join the staff and students at St. Michael's flag pole on Wednesday, September 28 at 8:00 a.m. to pray for our school, friends, families and the world at large. The theme this year is "Converge (Matthew 18:20). Join students around the world for "See You At The Pole", the Global Day of Student Prayer.

Join the movement—be encouraged, challenged and blessed to experience what God is doing globally. Special thanks to Taria Gouw for once again organizing this event for us.



## Bell Times



Morning supervision begins at 8:15 a.m. Students should not be at the school prior to this time. Jr./Sr. students enter the school at 8:20 and Elementary students enter at 8:25. Bell times are as follows:

Classes start	8:35
Elementary Recess	10:24—10:38
Lunch Break	12:16—12:51
Elementary Recess	1:41—1:56
Dismissal	3:12 (Mon-Fri)

**NOTE: NO EARLY DISMISSAL FRIDAYS**



## School Council

St. Michael's is very fortunate to have an active Parent Council. Meetings are usually held the third Thursday of the month beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the school library. Free child care is provided at all meetings. The first meeting of the new school year will be Wednesday, September 21st at 6:30 p.m. following the welcome back barbecue. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Your support is always appreciated.



# September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Aug. 31 First Day of	1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day No School	6	7	8	9 Pep Rally	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Jersey Day	17
18	19 No School Staff PD Day	20	21 Welcome Back BBQ 5:00 School Council Meeting 6:30	22	23	24
25	26 Rachel's Challenge Presentation for Jr./Sr. High	27 Rachel's Challenge Presentation for Elementary AM  Terry Fox Dance-A-Thon 1:40	28 See You At The Pole @8:00	29	30	

## CONCESSION MENU

Chicken Quesadilla	Full	\$2.50
Chicken Quesadilla	Half	\$1.75
Chicken Wrap		\$2.50
Grilled Cheese		\$2.00
Kraft Dinner (Original/3-Cheese)		\$1.75
Pizza		\$1.50
*Veggies & Dip		\$1.50
*Fruit Trays		\$1.50
Veggie Chips & One Topping		\$1.25
Veggie Chips & Two Toppings		\$1.50
*Fresh Popcorn (only on Fridays)		\$1.50
Trail Mix		\$1.25
Beef Jerky		\$1.50
Fruit Cups		\$0.75
Yogurt & Granola		\$1.00
Yogurt		\$0.75
Yogurt Tubes		\$0.75
Dads Cookies		\$0.75
Thinsations		\$0.50
*Real Fruit Popsicles		\$0.50
Cinnabons		\$0.50
Cheese Strings		\$0.50
*Fruit		\$0.50
*1 Homemade Cookie		\$0.25
*1 Slice Banana Bread		\$0.25
*Milk (Chocolate/White)		\$0.85
*Juice Box		\$0.85
Water (Nestle/other)		\$1.00
Aquafina		\$1.25

**\*Items marked with an asterisk are brought in when available**



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Toll Free: 1.866.864.0013

Phone 403.527.2292

[www.mhcbe.ab.ca](http://www.mhcbe.ab.ca)

Fax 403.529.0917

Dear St. Michael's Parents and Staff:

At the end of the last school year you received a letter informing you that I had recommended to the Board of Trustees that a consultant be hired to conduct the review of high school programming at St. Michael's School. As you are aware in March of this year the Board of Trustees unanimously passed the following motion:

*That the Board of Trustees continue to evaluate and review programs in the division and specifically at this time, do a review of the high school programming at St. Michael's Bow Island; the review is to be completed by the November 2011 Board Meeting.*

In order to find a consultant I approached the Alberta School Boards Association. The Alberta School Boards Association retains a number of former superintendents under contract in its Education Services Division.

I am happy to inform you that Mr. Jim McLellan has agreed to undertake the St. Michael's High School Review. Mr. McLellan has spent 32 years as an educator, 17 of those as a Superintendent of Schools in three jurisdictions, the most recent of which was the Foothills School Division (10 years)

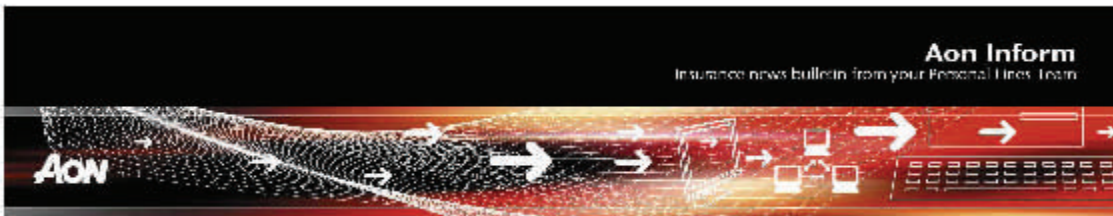
Mr. McLellan retired in June of 2010 after a distinguished career with numerous accomplishments and responsibilities.

Mr. McLellan's report to the board is due in November. Over the next two months Mr. McLellan will be spending time at St. Michael's and will be holding interviews with staff, students, and parents.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me either via e-mail at [David.Leahy@mhcbe.ab.ca](mailto:David.Leahy@mhcbe.ab.ca) or by calling 403-502-8345.

Sincerely,

David Leahy  
Superintendent of Schools  
cc. MHCBE Trustees



## ***The new Distracted Driving Legislation will be in effect September 1, 2011.***

The fine for this offense is \$172. Following are some reminders regarding this new legislation.

You cannot engage in distracting activities when stopped at a red light, delayed in traffic or waiting for a train. You are still driving and engaged in a traffic situation. To be compliant with the law drivers need to be legally parked before engaging in the restricted activities. To be compliant with this legislation, a driver's vehicle must be off the roadway or legally parked before engaging in any of the specified activities.

The following are deemed as distracting activities:

- talking on a hand-held cell phone
- texting/e-mailing
- using electronic devices like laptop computers, video games, cameras, video entertainment displays and programming portable audio players (e.g., mp3 players)
- manually entering information on GPS units
- reading printed material like a book or a magazine
- writing, printing or sketching
- personal grooming like combing your hair, applying makeup or brushing your teeth
- using a 2-way radio or what is commonly referred to as a CB (Citizen's Band) radio (some exemptions apply)

Pets are not addressed as there is current legislation that restricts drivers to allow anything, including a pet to occupy the front seat of the vehicle such that it interferes with the driver's access to the vehicle controls and the safe operation of the vehicle or causes any obstruction to the driver's clear vision in any direction. For everyone's safety it is suggested pet carriers be used when transporting animals.

Aon Personal Lines Team | 1.800.448.2539

### **Celebrating a Century of Catholic Education and Service**

Celebrate with us your school, your friends, and your memories

Schools in our Medicine Hat Catholic Division are looking for your stories, pictures and memories to be shared during our homecoming celebration in June of 2012. We are asking former parents, students, and staff to share with our community any special pictures, memories, stories, or artifacts from their time in the division. Please take your stories, pictures or artifacts to any one of the catholic schools in our division

Please **label the item with your name, phone number, and the school you attended.** All items will be returned back to you.

With your help our homecoming will bring wonderful memories of our schools, our friends, our faith, and our past years in our Catholic Division.

God Bless and thanks in advance

### IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance

IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance offers protection against the unexpected costs of injury from accidents, and is especially valuable for families who:

- do not have medical or dental plans,
- have limited plans, as it may help supplement health and dental benefits, or
- have active children who enjoy sports and outdoor activities.

For your convenience, we have made arrangements for families to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through the IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance program, underwritten by Industrial Alliance Pacific Insurance and Financial Services Inc. ("IAP").

IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance has a selection of plans to suit most budgets. Benefits include coverage for:

- The full school year (September to September), 24 hours a day, whether at school or at home;
- Expenses that are often limited or not covered by private or group insurance plans, or Provincial Health Insurance Plans - such as ambulance, physiotherapy, private tutoring, counselling, and much more;
- Injury-related dental treatment (including future dental treatment up to age 26);
- Out-of-province or country emergency medical expenses.

If your address changes during the school year, your IAP Kids Plus™ Accident Insurance plan is transferable from school to school, anywhere in Canada.

Insurance premiums range from \$13.50 to \$31.95 per year, depending on the plan selected, and your child is covered all the time, not just while at school. A discounted premium is available for families with 3 or more children.

For more information or to apply online, please visit [www.iapkidsplus.com](http://www.iapkidsplus.com), or speak with an IAP Kids Plus™ Client Service Representative at 1-800-556-7411.



### **First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Student & Parent Reminders**

- If you are a returning or new student and identify yourself as either a First Nations, Metis, or Inuit heritage and have not done so on your school registration, please do so now. This will give you entitlement to FNMI school programming and events offered during the school year.
- This year we are planning to attend the Dreamcatcher Conference in Edmonton again (Oct. 14-16) for students aged 14 years and up. For this event to be a success we need parent and student volunteers to help with bake sales and food sales. The first FNMI parent advisory meeting will be held September 7th, 2011 at St. Louis School, 7:00 p.m.
- If you have and questions regarding FNMI programming, events, or issues, please contact:  
 Raevon McKenzie (FNMI Support Teacher)  
 403.527.7411 School  
 403.580. 7337 Cell  
 Raevon.mckenzie@mhcbce.ab.ca



## Superintendent's Message-September 2011

Dear Students & Parents:

On behalf of the **Board of Trustees** and all **Staff** I would like to welcome you to the **One Hundredth Year of Catholic Education** in our Community! "**Celebrating 100 Years of Catholic Education and Service**" will be the major theme throughout the 2011-2012 school year.

To start off our Centennial Year, each student and staff will receive a "**Centennial T-Shirt**" on the first day of school. The T-shirts feature the Centennial logo which was designed by Michael Fritzier, the Centennial Logo Student Content Winner from Notre Dame Academy. Students and staff can wear their Centennial T-Shirt anytime including *School Spirit Days* or at special events.

The main Centennial Celebrations will occur during the **Centennial Celebration Homecoming Weekend on June 8 - June 10, 2012** with a number of events as follows:

- June 8** \*\* MH Catholic Schools' Education Foundation Golf Tournament  
\*\* Social for all former students, current and former staff
- June 9** \*\* Open House at all Division Schools in Medicine Hat & Bow Island  
\*\* A "Free" Picnic in the Park open to the Community  
\*\* Centennial Bishop's Dinner" with proceeds to support Youth Ministry in Medicine Hat and a Retirement Residence for Diocesan Priests. Bishop Frederick Henry will be the keynote speaker for the evening
- June 10** \*\* Centennial Mass @ Holy Family Parish with Bishop Frederick Henry as the main celebrant

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A **Centennial Sponsorship Brochure** will arrive home with your child in September outlining opportunities for you, your family or businesses to become involved in the Centennial including; **purchasing a History Book; being a History Book page sponsor; being a Friend of the Centennial** through sponsorship of the event; and **purchasing tickets for the "Centennial Bishop's Dinner"**.

In particular, the Centennial History Book offers something special for families and individuals by sponsoring a history book page. This is a unique opportunity to be part of this legacy project. You may dedicate your page in memory; or as a thank you; or your personal faith message; or on behalf of your family. The Centennial History Book committee has been working hard for over a year to prepare this publication. The History Book will be published and available for Christmas.

We hope you enjoyed our **Centennial Edition** of our annual **Zooming In on our School Community** publication. This year's edition featured a glimpse at some of historical events in the 100 years of Catholic Education in our community. Additional copies are available at your child's school.

We have much to be thankful for as we begin our one hundredth year of Catholic Education. Our Division is one of the **best performing jurisdictions** in the province; the credit for this is equally shared between our parents, students and staff. From our humble beginnings in 1911 with 1 school of 66 students to today with 10 schools and 2800 students we thank you for supporting Catholic education. Our 100 year history is rich and diverse, one which is steeped in strong traditions with a fascinating story to be told. Please join us in celebrating our Centennial Year!

Wishing you a Blessed School Year,  
**David Leahy, Superintendent of Schools**



Since 1911 – A Century of Catholic Education & Service

# BOARD BULLETIN

June 14, 2011 – MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION

**PRESENTATION** – The Board of Trustees acknowledged a number of students at the June 2011 Board Meeting. For their individual efforts and accomplishments, the students are acknowledged as *Ambassadors for Catholic Education*.



★ **Minister for a Day** – St. Louis School Grade 5 student, *Jayda Dopp* was chosen as *Environment Minister for a Day*. Jayda's essay of ideas on the environment on how we might motivate Albertans to become *Environmental Stewards* was selected along with eleven (11) other students in the Province of Alberta. Wow! In Picture: Mrs. Annika Graf Teacher @ St. Louis, Jayda Dopp, Mr. Peter Crad Board Chair

★ **Rosary Presentation** – Mrs. Trish Carr, a Teacher at Notre Dame Academy began a student prayer group 7 years ago. That small group honours *Our Blessed Mother Mary* by promoting the Rosary. Each year this group makes Rosaries for students, special guests and residents of St. Joseph's Home. The group has named themselves "Our Lady's Fan Club", meeting once a week during lunch in the School Chapel. Two of the students presented Rosaries to the Board.

In Picture: Brianna MacPherson, Mr. Peter Crad Board Chair & Jessalyn Phillips

★ **Centennial Logo Contest Winner** – Notre Dame Academy Grade 8 student Michael Fritzier, won the Centennial Logo Contest. Michael's artwork will be used as the official logo for the 100<sup>th</sup> Centennial Celebration of Medicine Hat & Bow Island Catholic Schools. The artwork will be used on School Flags, T-Shirts for all students in K-9, Lanyards for all students in 10-12 as well as an official Centennial Pin.

In Picture: Michael Fritzier, Peter Crad Board Chair

★ **Monsignor McCoy High School students Rachel Brown & Katherine Van DerSloot** have won multiple years running in the Regional, Provincial and National Science Fairs. Yet again this year winning Bronze at the National Science Fair in Toronto; the students were invited to the *International Science Fair in Slovakia from July 18-24, 2011*, as members of *Team Canada in Expo-Sciences International (ESI)*, a non-competitive International Science Fair.

In Picture: Rachel Brown, Peter Crad Board Chair, Kalle VanderSloot

**CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS** – The First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Council will engage School Divisions in Alberta in the upcoming year to participate in focus groups regarding programming and educational needs of FNMI students.

– All *Grade One* students in Alberta will be presented with a story book sponsored by the "Success by 6" *Literacy Project*, with a dedication to students from the Office of the Minister of Education.

**TRANSPORTATION REVIEW** – The Board engaged in the review to *determine efficiencies* and possible *modifications* to our transportation model. Recommendations included: *charging a fee for specialized programming; additional support for students with special needs* and the consideration of a *joint transportation tender*. An Action Plan will be developed by Sr. Administration.

**STAFFING FOR ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL (BOW ISLAND)** – A Board motion to approve additional funding to provide an additional 0.5FTE for staffing @ St. Michael's School was defeated.

**ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL (BOW ISLAND) HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMMING REVIEW** – The Board of Trustees accepted the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the review of High School Programming at St. Michael's School Bow Island be conducted by a Consultant. The timeline for the completion of the review is November 2011.

## Our Motto:

"Showing the face of Christ to all."



**RETIREE CELEBRATION 2011** – The Board of Trustees acknowledged the *Division Retirees for 2010-2011* at the annual Retiree Banquet on Thursday, June 9, 2011. The evening celebrated and recognized individual talents and expertise. Each Retiree was presented with a gift acknowledging their exceptional service to the Division. Congratulations *Mrs. Doreen Judge, Mrs. Donna Crush, Mrs. Judy Gukert, Mrs. Glenda Syrota-not in attendance*; the Board had a special memorial Retiree Recognition for the late *Mr. Chuck Love*. The Board extends their heartfelt thank you's and wishes well to all for the future. CONGRATULATIONS!



Back Row Trustees: Mr. Kelly Van Horn, Mr. Dick Martin, Mrs. Jodi Charla, Mr. Peter Crad, Mr. Stan Aberle  
Front Row Retirees: Mrs. Doreen Judge, Mrs. Donna Crush, Mrs. Judy Gukert, Mrs. Allyson Lowe  
(missing: Mrs. Glenda Syrota)

• **BUDGET 2011-2012 (APPEAL OF FUNDING ALLOCATIONS)**, Senior Administration has written to *Alberta Education* to formally appeal the funding allocation for the Division. A reduction in revenue of 4.6% resulting from a declining enrolment; elimination of the declining enrolment grant and class size funding reduction. This is significant for a Division our size.

**(MEETING WITH MLA ROB RENNER AND MLA LEN MITZEL)** The Board of Trustees has met individually and with both MLA Mr. Renner and Mr. Mitzel providing them with a detailed financial analysis of the reduction of revenue; the MLA's encouraged the Board to request a meeting with the Minister of Education.

**(MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION)** - The Board is pleased to have a meeting *scheduled with the Minister of Education, Mr. Dave Hancock in July 2011* to review the funding allocation. A delegation of Board & Sr. Administration will attend.

**SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS FOR 2011 - 2012** – The Board approved the school year calendars in March; however, in order to further accommodate bussing in Bow Island and offer an additional PD opportunity for Teachers; a *revised calendar* was presented for *re-approval*. The Board unanimously approved the revisions. The calendars for Medicine Hat & Bow Island are posted on the Division website @ [www.mhcbce.ab.ca](http://www.mhcbce.ab.ca) under the PARENTS tab then click on SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS.



### OUR CENTENNIAL

... the celebration begins September 2011 to June 2012!

The next regular Catholic School Board Meeting is Tuesday, September 13, 2011 @ 6:00 pm @ the Catholic School Board Office, 1251 - 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SW, Medicine Hat. Everyone is welcome to attend.

*Celebrating 100 Years of Catholic Education & Service (1911-2011)*