



Medicine Hat Catholic  
Board of Education

# Mother Teresa School

## School Plan

### 2021-2022



## INTRODUCTION

Mother Teresa School has a total student population of 245 children in K-6. We also offer morning and afternoon Early Learning Programs (ELP) for those children who are not school age yet or those who wish to attend both the Kindergarten and ELP programs (each for a ½ day).

Our school also offers a full range of academic subjects and programs. We offer Music at all levels, Choir, Daily Physical Activity, and an OSC program that can be accessed by our K-6 students for all of their before and after school care needs. We have an active Student Council to promote student leadership in and out of the school. We also have an AMA School Safety Patrol program which is led by our Grade 5 & 6 students. There are a variety of ways for students to become involved at the school and we encourage each of them to take an active role.

Mother Teresa School students represent a wide range of learning styles from high independent learners, average learners, ELL students, as well as a great variety of students with academic and self-regulation needs. Mother Teresa School staff work with students in a variety of ways. The school offers Literacy and Numeracy Intervention Programs online which are incorporated into the daily timetable for each classroom for 90 minutes per week per program. These programs can also be accessed from home for further reinforcement of skills if necessary. Mother Teresa School also offers additional programming in the Just Right Room where students with regulation needs have access to work in a different space utilizing the tools available. Once they are showing signs of “readiness”, students are then welcomed back into the regular classroom environment.

With the help of an Alberta Education Nutrition grant, Mother Teresa School offers each student a free nutritious breakfast each day. We promote and encourage our students to make healthy choices for breakfast following the Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Children and Youth. Mother Teresa School has also partnered with the Medicine Hat Food Bank to provide a free, daily nutritious lunch to those families who request it.

Mother Teresa School is also very fortunate to have access to a variety of outside service agencies who support our students in many ways. From Alberta Health Services (Speech, OT, PT) to Community Coming Together (CCT) programming, and beyond, we make continuous connections with these agencies to ensure our students’ needs are being met to the best of our capabilities.



## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

At Mother Teresa School, we believe that all children can be successful; it's just a matter of recognizing what that path to success looks like and adjusting our programming and teaching to align with those particular strengths and interests. We are a dedicated staff here at Mother Teresa School and we recognize the value and importance of each and every one of our students.

During the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to implement the STREAM philosophy throughout our school. STREAM is an educationally embedded approach to learning that uses **Science, Technology, Reading & Religion, the Arts (Humanities, Performing & Visual Arts) and Mathematics** as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking. Students use the **Engineering** process to imagine, create, and plan open-ended problem solving which encourages students to learn from failure. Learning how to fail forward is a key component of this process. The end results are students who take thoughtful risks, engage in experiential learning, persist in problem-solving, embrace collaboration, and work through the creative process.

Mother Teresa School would not be what it is without the support of our parents and community members. We encourage all stakeholders to continue to communicate with us at the school. Your opinions matter! Please also consider joining our School Council. It is a great way to stay involved in your child's learning journey.

God Bless,

Aura Street  
(Principal)



## ADMINISTRATION TEAM:



Aura Street

Principal



Cody Young

Vice Principal

# MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION

Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education is a publicly funded school division with over 2600 students in 9 schools: 6 elementary schools, 2 junior high schools and 1 high school.

Medicine Hat is located in Southeastern Alberta and is known as communities of choice. Also known as the sunniest city in Canada, Medicine Hat offers a low cost of living, many amenities and is an ideal place to raise a family.

Our school division ensures the integrity and enhancement of Catholic education. We are a faith-based community that strives to inspire and prepare our students to pray, to learn, to work, to live fully and serve God in one another. Our schools are immersed in faith, offering liturgies, masses, and many celebrations throughout the school year including "Faith Development Days" that enrich the lives of students, our parents and our staff.

Our division offers quality Catholic education with a focus on academic achievement and success for all students.

Our schools operate as professional learning communities through school success teams that promote effective schools in safe and caring environments. We offer strong core academic programming, diverse and inclusive fine arts programming, French immersion, comprehensive co-curricular programming and academy programming in fine arts and sports.

## MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

### **Our Mission**

In partnership with family, church and community, we provide Catholic education of the highest quality to our students.

### **Our Vision**

A gospel-centered community committed to learning excellence, Christian service, living Christ.

### **Our Motto**

"Showing the Face of Christ to All"

### **Our Principles of Practice**

In our ministry we are called, always and everywhere, to:

- Model Christ
- Prayer
- Service
- Strive for Excellence

## **Our Values**

We believe that Catholic education is a ministry that is at the heart of the church.

In our ministry, 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.
- The uniqueness of each child.

## **What do Medicine Hat Catholic schools represent?**



**Staff, students and families working together,  
under our faith, with quality education as our foundation.**

# ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Grade	21-22	20-21	19-20	18-19	17-18	16-17	15-16	14-15	13-14	12-13
K	32	34	26	35	40	42	38	41	33	35
1	42	29	38	36	40	44	43	37	40	38
2	27	34	41	34	42	42	38	41	41	32
3	30	39	39	34	45	44	45	42	32	52
4	36	35	39	35	53	45	40	37	48	39
5	37	42	35	45	41	44	38	49	42	47
6	41	32	39	39	34	35	48	37	44	52
TOTAL	245	245	257	258	295	296	290	284	280	295

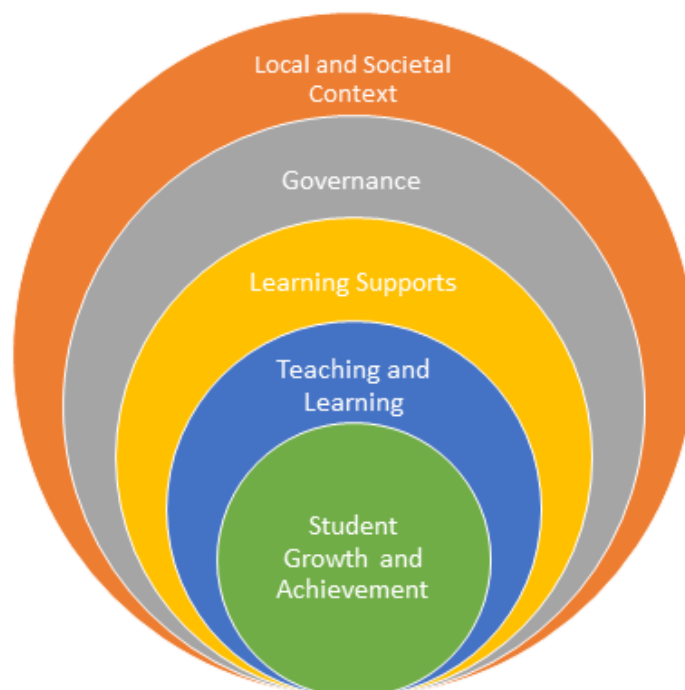
## ASSURANCE

Assurance in the education system happens when community members, system stakeholders and education partners engage across five domains:

1. Student Growth and Achievement
2. Teaching and Leading
3. Learning Supports
4. Governance
5. Local and Societal Context

For the purposes of this document, a domain is an area of activity where education partners have specific responsibilities that they are accountable for and provide assurance about. Fundamentally, assurance is reflected in what the public understands, perceives and knows about student growth and achievement, where the quality of the daily interaction between teacher and student is paramount. Assuring the public that the education system is successfully supporting student growth and achievement requires engagement and thoughtful action across all five domains.

Student growth and achievement is the primary purpose of the education system and is the core outcome domain for the assurance framework. The domains of Teaching and Leading, Learning Supports and Governance support and enable Student Growth and Achievement. Local and Societal Context, while a separate domain, operates across and is integrated into the others. For the purposes of description, the domains are considered discrete and separate. However, in practice, they overlap and are interconnected and interdependent, as depicted in the graphic below:



## ENGAGEMENT

- Frequent/Consistent Communication
  - School Website
    - Calendar
    - Regular Updates/Notices
  - Monthly Newsletter
  - Social Media Updates/Posts
  - Parent Distribution (Email) List
    - Specific Announcements
    - Programming Updates
    - Procedure Communications
    - Emergencies
  - Classroom Communication
    - Google Suites
    - Dojo/Remind (Apps)
    - Student Agendas
- Parent Council
  - Meetings
  - Surveys
  - Volunteer Opportunities
- School Events
  - Meet the Staff Night
  - Parent/Teacher Interviews
    - Virtual
    - In-Person
  - Celebrations
    - Christmas Concert
    - Talent Show
    - Masses
- Student Leadership Opportunities
  - Student Council
  - AMA Safety Patrols
  - Milk Delivery
  - Lunch Monitors
  - Prayer Leaders

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Catholicity



Health and Wellness



Quality Teaching and Learning

1	<b>Catholicity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Catholic Virtue Communication</li> <li>- Catholic Virtue Engagement, Demonstration and Recognition of this</li> <li>- Catholic Virtue-Based Service Projects</li> </ul>
2	<b>Health and Wellness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School Culture that supports and embraces Health and Wellness as a priority</li> <li>- Provide Access to a variety of PD and activities that promote health and wellness</li> </ul>
3	<b>Quality Teaching and Learning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide access for all students to engage in online Literacy/Numeracy programs</li> <li>- Collect data to communicate growth</li> </ul>



# SCHOOL GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION SPECIFICS



## Catholicity

### Goal #1

To engage students and staff in monthly virtue themes.

### Goal #2

To recognize those staff and students who are demonstrating the monthly Catholic virtue.

### Goal #3

To encourage others to demonstrate the monthly virtue through completion of community service projects and sharing what was done.

### Implementation Specifics:

- Catholic Virtue-Based Assemblies when restrictions allow
- Google Slides presentations outlining the monthly Catholic virtue
- Daily Recognition of Virtue Award winners during morning announcements
- Classroom Sign-Up to take on one virtue and share a presentation with others
- Newsletter (Principal's Message) centered around monthly virtue

### Outcomes:

1. Students live a more faith-filled life with the practice of our Catholic Virtues at the forefront of everything they do.
2. Students and staff understand the importance of each Catholic Virtue, are able to demonstrate the virtues themselves and can recognize when others are demonstrating the virtues





# Health and Wellness

## Goal #1

To create a staff culture where personal health and wellness are a priority

## Goal #2

To provide many opportunities for staff to participate in Professional Development, Division-Wide, or School-Based activities which promote health and wellness



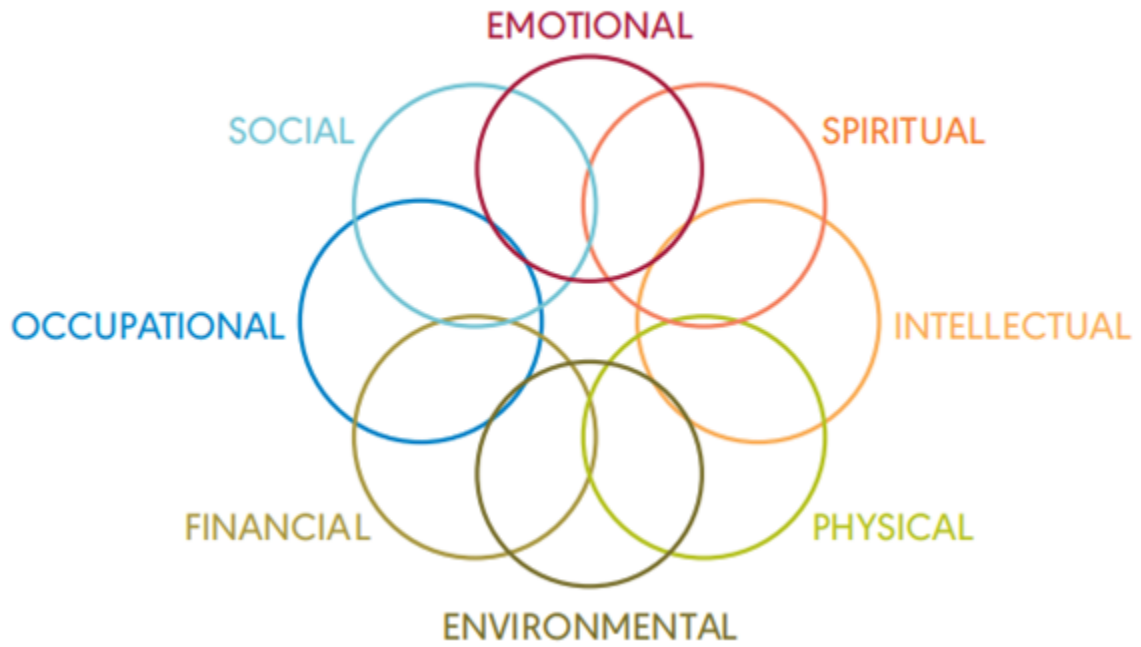
## Implementation Specifics:

- Regular Check-ins with staff
- Division Wellness Committee
- School Health and Wellness Team
- Team Building and other Promotional Activities with a Health and Wellness focus provided
- Focus on appreciation of one another and our specific roles

## Outcomes:

1. Staff recognize the importance of maintaining a healthy work/life balance
2. Staff participate in a variety of Health and Wellness focused activities throughout the year.
3. Staff morale increases and the number of staff absences decreases.

# Health and Wellness Components





# Quality Teaching and Learning

## Goal #1

To require all teachers (Grades 1-6) to have 90 minutes each of online Literacy (Raz-Kids) and Numeracy (Mathletics) programming included in their timetable.

## Goal #2

To conduct pre-assessments and post-assessments in Literacy and Numeracy programming and compare data from each to assess student growth.



### Implementation Specifics:

- Teachers allocate 90 minutes to online Literacy (Raz-Kids) and Numeracy (Mathletics) as part of their classroom timetable
- Students access online programs from home when absent from school or for extra practice purposes

### Outcomes:

1. Student achievement levels increase in both Literacy and Numeracy from previous year overall.
2. All Students are provided with opportunities to be successful in both Literacy and Numeracy.
3. Staff demonstrate a willingness, drive and ability to promote and encourage Literacy and Numeracy skill development through the use of technology.

## ACCOUNTABILITY PILLAR

### Mother Teresa School Alberta Education Assurance Measure Results (2020-2021)

Education Measures	Current Results	Previous Year	Alberta Current Results
1. Student Learning Engagement	88.1		85.6
2. Citizenship	86.8	82.6	83.2
3. Education Quality	97.3	91.0	89.6
4. Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments	90.7		87.8
5. Access to Supports and Services	92.1		82.6
6. Parental Involvement	88.5	87.3	79.5

## RESPONDING TO ACCOUNTABILITY PILLAR RESULTS

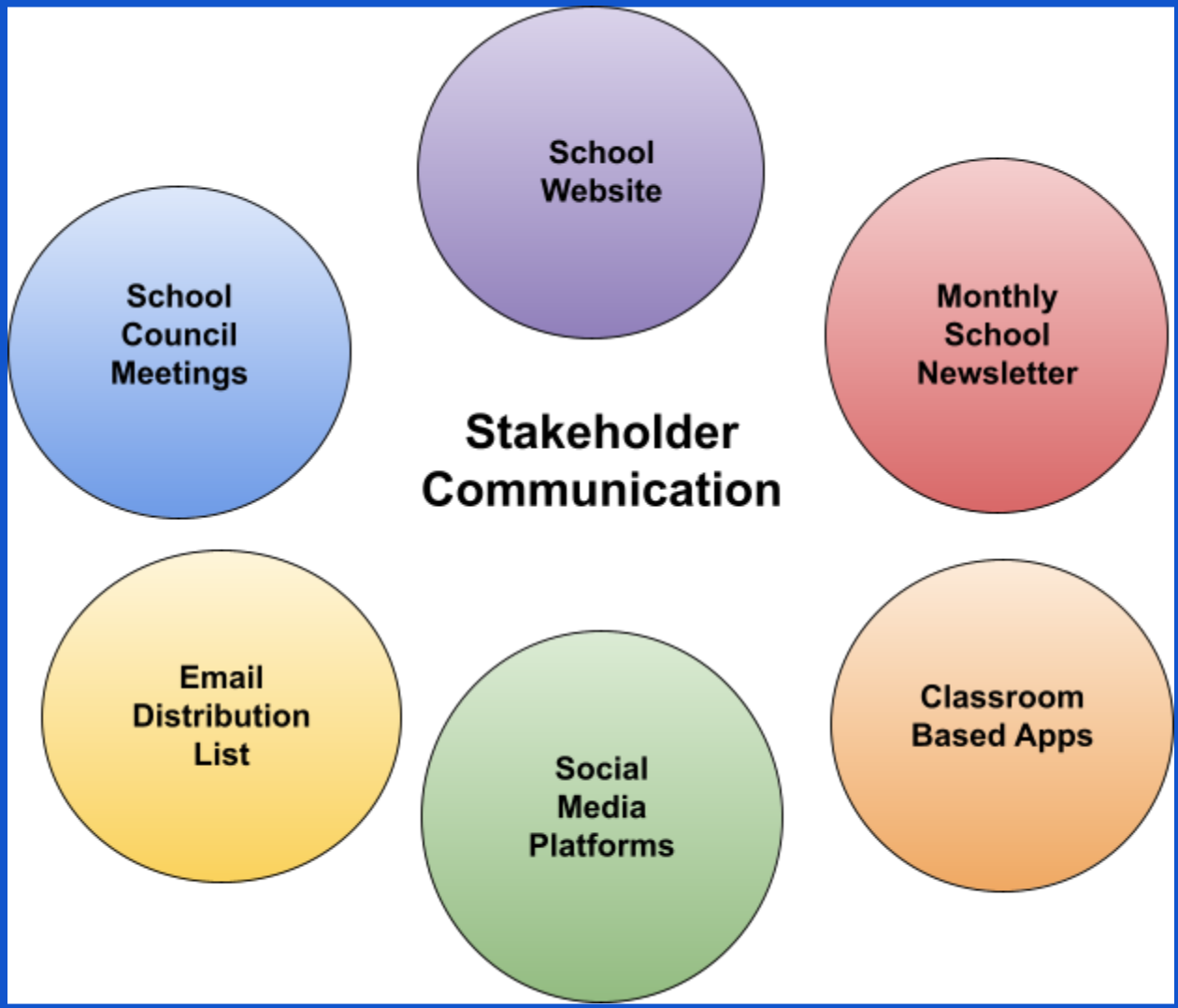
### School Strategies by Measure

### Indicators of Success

School Strategies by Measure	Indicators of Success
<b>Safe and Caring Schools</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Staff continue to permeate the Catholic faith in all that we do</li> <li>- Staff continue to keep certifications up to date (ie: First Aid, SIVA)</li> <li>- Students treat each other with respect (ie: less discipline issues)</li> <li>- Students are being recognized for demonstrating the virtues</li> <li>- Students understand the health and safety protocols of the school</li> <li>- Students are accessing the available supports within the school</li> <li>- Students feel supported by adults at the school and feel comfortable going to an adult with any issues that arise</li> </ul>
<b>Student Learning Opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STREAM philosophy is incorporated in all classrooms</li> <li>- Teachers provide a Home and School connection through the use of Google Classroom</li> </ul>
<b>Student Learning Achievement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Data is collected from a comparison of Pre/Post assessments for Grades 1-3 in Literacy and Numeracy and for all grades using our online Literacy and Numeracy programs</li> <li>- Intervention model for Grades 1-3, and funds associated with such, are utilized effectively (ie: student academic growth is achieved)</li> <li>- Online Literacy/Numeracy programs are utilized effectively (ie: student academic growth is achieved)</li> </ul>
<b>Preparation for Lifelong Learning, Citizenship, World of Work</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Staff continue to promote engagement in and demonstration of the Catholic Virtues</li> <li>- Teachers continue to research/explore STREAM philosophy and structure their lessons around it</li> <li>- School continues to promote Student Leadership Opportunities in a variety of areas</li> </ul>
<b>Parental Involvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase in Parent Council Involvement (ie: more attendees)</li> <li>- Increase in Parent Volunteers (when applicable)</li> <li>- Surveys developed and administered to parents to gather feedback on a variety of topics/issues</li> <li>- Staff demonstrate frequent and consistent communication with parents through a variety of avenues</li> </ul>
<b>Continuous Improvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Staff continually seek out opportunities for improvement in a variety of areas (ie: Professional Development)</li> <li>- Staff demonstrate continued high expectations for all students</li> </ul>

# COMMUNICATION

Stakeholders are communicated with in a variety of ways at our school:



## CONTACT US

### **Mother Teresa School:**

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Cody Young (Vice Principal) - [cody.young@mhcbe.ab.ca](mailto:cody.young@mhcbe.ab.ca)

### Follow Us:

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**A Caring Catholic Community Inspiring and Challenging Each Other To Reach Our Full Potential**

