



St. Patrick's School School Plan



2022-2023

INTRODUCTION

St. Patrick's School was originally constructed in 1952 and established on the riverside of Medicine Hat. During the year of 1982, St Patrick's school was then moved to the southridge side of the city and opened November 19th. The original gymnasium is now our current school library, along with many more added classrooms that can sustain an enrollment of up to 500 students.

St. Patrick's school is over 70 years of age. Our mission continues to provide a dynamic catholic education, focusing on literacy and numeracy. Our vision is a safe and caring environment where students feel safe and maintain a high standard of academic achievement and Christ-like behavior.



MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

St. Patrick's School consists of Early Learning Programs (ELP), Kindergarten, Grades 1-5, and ranges within the ages of 3-11 years old. We are extremely proud of our amazing students, staff, and parent community. For over twenty years our school and community have supported the Accelerated Reading Program (AR) because of how much it builds a love of reading within our students. This year we continue to support many components of Literacy and Numeracy in support of AB Education and government assessments for grades 1-3, Close The Gap. These assessment scores, results, and interventions will be shared with parents as information and funding is received.

This year we also plan to focus on the "communion of community" by inviting students, staff, and parents to participate in school and our local parish activities that help to connect faith and education. Many of the strategic platforms intended to support these connections will be through the use of Google Meet/Classrooms and our School Facebook. We invite and encourage all of you to share in the many blessings and gifts that God has given you with all of us. We strive to promote opportunities of teamwork, cooperation and interaction to help connect all of our school and community stakeholders.

As always, we are tremendously grateful for the support and understanding of our students, staff, and parents with respect towards ongoing changes of COVID and school guidelines that help to keep all of us safe. In the words of Saint Teresa, "prayer in action is love, love in action is service."



Mr. Pisoni (Vice Principal)

Mr. Unreiner (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:

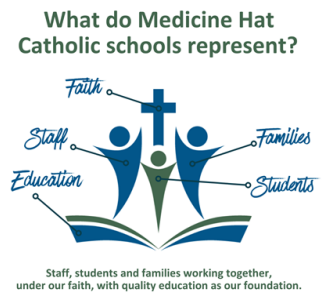
- Model Christ
- Prayer
- Service
- Strive for Excellence

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.



ST. PATRICK SCHOOL ENROLLMENT TRENDS (10 YEARS)

Grade	22-23	21-22	20-21	19-20	18-19	17-18	16-17	15-16	14-15	13-14
K	56	73	68	63	64	66	48	59	62	60
1	83	76	64	65	73	48	60	57	56	69
2	72	70	68	67	44	65	53	55	69	69
3	71	73	74	48	63	67	63	63	69	78
4	74	81	52	61	79	73	63	65	77	67
5	83	59	67	81	71	64	65	69	65	80
Total	439	432	393	385	394	383	352	368	398	423

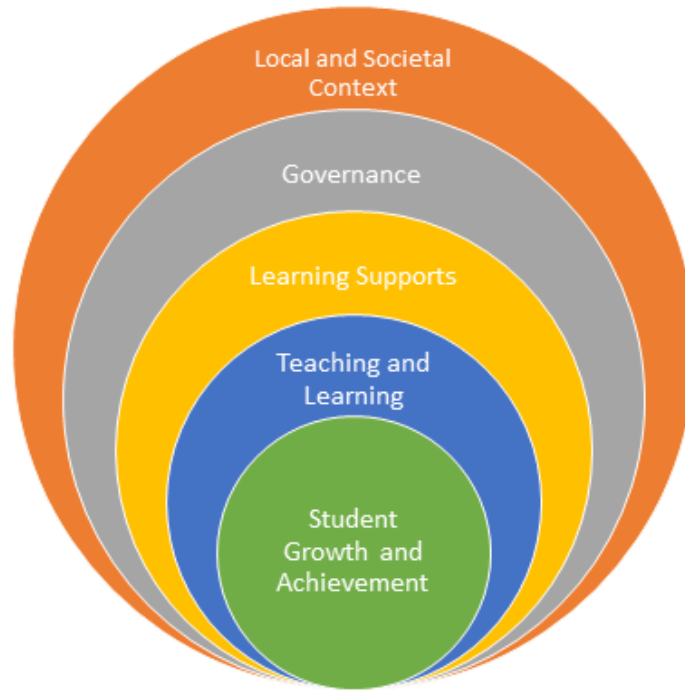
ASSURANCE

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 & ACCOUNTABILITY PILLAR Results (2021)

Education Measures	Current Results	Previous Year	Alberta Current Results
1. Student Learning Engagement	89.3	86.3	85.1
2. Citizenship	92.4	93.2	81.4
3. Education Quality	96.1	94.1	89
4. Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments	92	94.7	86.1
5. Access to Supports and Services	86.5	81.5	81.6
6. Parental Involvement	83	77.4	78.8

CELEBRATION: Successful survey data

1. *Teachers care about your child?*
 - a. 100% of teachers and parents strongly agree or agree
 - b. 95% of students Strongly agree or disagree

2. Do students treat each other well at your child's school?
 - a. 100% of teachers agree, 85% of parents agree, and 92% of students agree

3. *Your child is taught attitudes and behaviors to be successful at work when they leave school?*
 - a. 100 % of teachers agree, and 90% of parents agree

STEP #1: Shared AERR Data with all school stakeholders (learning assistants, teachers, and parent council)

- **Timeline:** October 7 PD day, October 17-21 PLC week and staffroom discussion, and October 25 Parent Council Meeting
- Admin shared and reviewed the [Alberta Education Assurance Measure Results \(Spring 2022\)](#)
- Admin summarized and shared the AERR strengths and challenges with all staff (teachers and learning assistants) and parent council.
 - [AERR 2022-2023](#)
 - AERR Survey Data: challenges reviewed by all stakeholders
 - When students need it, teachers at your school are available to help them?
 - Your child can get help at school with problems that are not related to school?
 - To what extent are parents involved in your child's school?
 - Students at your school find work challenging. (parents are saying school is easy)
 - Students at your school follow the rules.
 - Do students like learning language arts and math?

STEP #2: Collaborate with Parent Council (October 19 PC Meeting):

- Many PLC and staff meeting discussions of possible reasons for results: COVID, questions are not clear, etc. (not considered strategies)
- Parent Council meeting in school library and other parents joined virtually through Google Meet (18 parents)
- Discussion of parent survey questions to better understand the school challenges
 - Input from all grades K-5, not just grade 4 students/parents

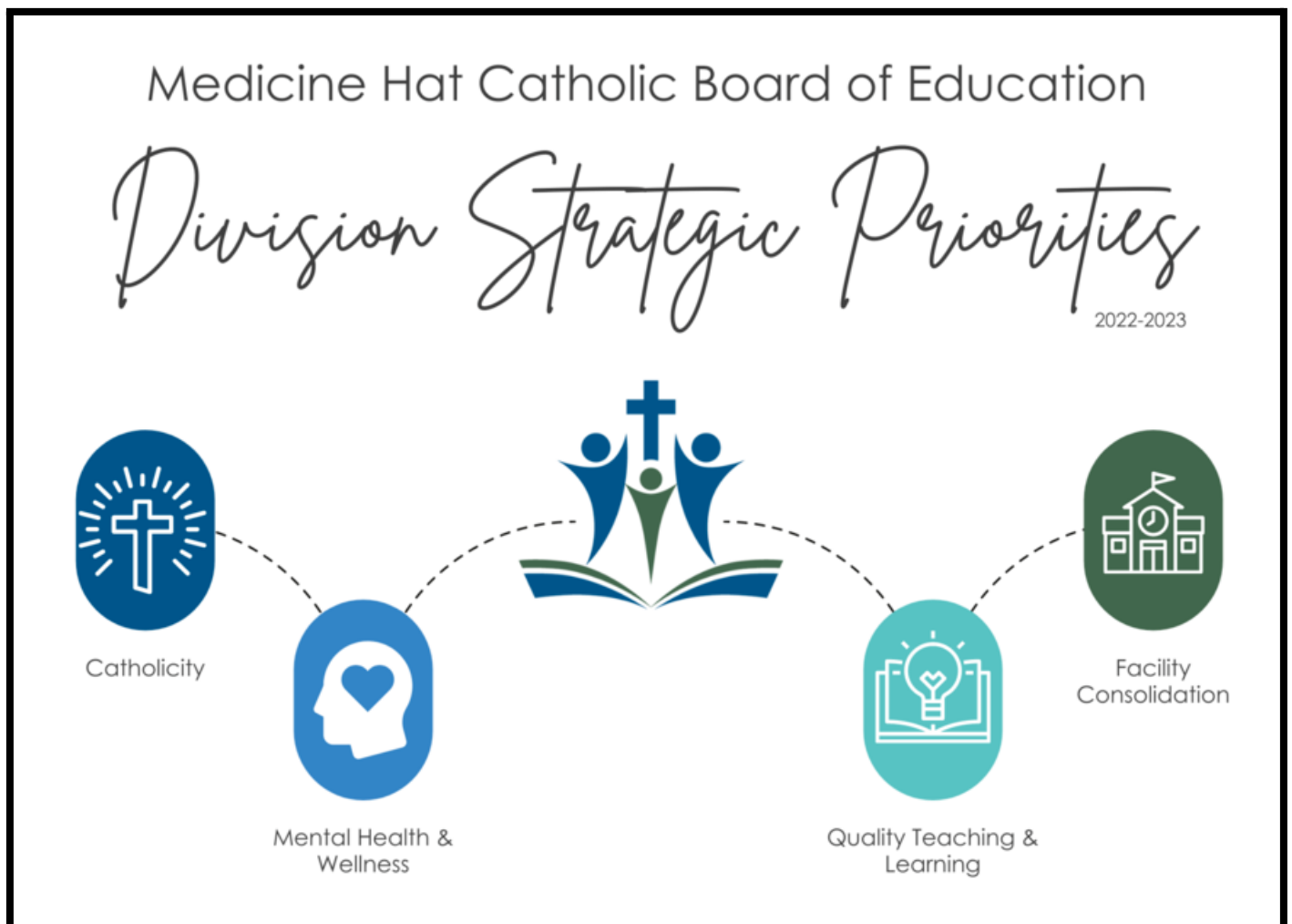
STEP #3: Strategies to improve challenges of survey results:

1. ALL teachers rotate attendance at parent council meetings. A chance for our parent council to meet all teachers (building relationships and connections).
2. Inform school community about mental health connections to classrooms
 - a. Collaborative Planning Circle Team (CPC)
 - b. Division Mental Health Counsellor
3. Increase opportunities for parents to be involved in the classroom (ie: projects, field trips, swim/skate, literacy/numeracy, etc.)
4. Teachers will continue to invite parents to Monday assemblies to share and witness "student recognitions." A great way to also share weekly faith messages and school information.
5. Growing School comes with challenges...adapting school activities to gym capacity (480 persons).
 - a. Parent Council organizing "double movie nights" = a popular and well attended community activity
 - b. Christmas Mass and Concerts = previous years we hosted two concerts (daytime and evening)
 - i. Advent Mass at Holy Family Parish = solves parking, 1500 capacity, and temperature
 - ii. Christmas Concerts: THREE = student/staff only, ELP/K/1/2 in AM, and ELP/K/3-5 in PM
6. Google Classroom Presence in all classrooms. Staying connected with students and parents at home.
7. Parent Council support towards "mental wellness" school presenters for all grades.
8. Universal Behavior Expectations and Communication:

- a. Common recess incidents = shared at assemblies
 - b. Common game expectations (gr. 4/5 students)
 - c. [Recess Play \(Safe Expectations - Bullying\)](#)
9. Leadership Opportunities: building opportunities for grade 5 students to lead by example
- a. [Student Leadership Conference 2022](#)
10. Create, collaborate, finalize, and share the [School Improvement Survey](#)
- a. Review results in December or January PD day and January Parent Council meeting

STEP #4: Review of School Education Plan:

- Share and review results of the “school improvement survey”
- Reflect on the above strategies in future PLC and staff meetings (December and March)





STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Catholicity

Mental Health & Wellness

Quality Teaching & Learning



1	Catholicity	A communion of School and Community involvement both virtually and in person (assemblies, mass, celebrations, etc.).
2	Health and Wellness	Building connections and support with school and community stakeholders (EverActive, Parent Council, etc...).
3	Quality Teaching and Learning	Division and School wide PD opportunities that promote student and teacher engagement.

SCHOOL GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION SPECIFICS



Catholicity

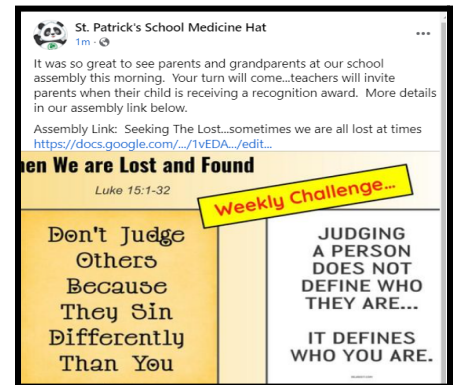
Goal #1: Promoting our faith through scripture and recognitions

- Introduce “children's liturgy” activities into Monday assemblies and connecting to our school community (<https://adorers.org/childrens-liturgy/>)
- Continue to integrate faith and weekly assembly messages into all subjects (literacy) and daily student incidents
- Continue Pandarrific Recognitions: encouraging students, staff, and parents to share and recognize christian leadership through panda traits (caring, gentle, and patience) - students, staff, and parents



Goal #2 Connecting and Celebrating our school community

- Introduce connecting our weekly faith messages and Monday assemblies to our school community through social media
- Continue weekly social communications of assembly links (weekly faith message and school information and recognitions)
- Continue face-to-face parent council meetings in the library and provide virtual connections for parents at home



Goal #3 Creating opportunities for students to share and build faith with one another

- Introduce “Lunch With Student Leaders”: providing an opportunity for younger grades to make friendships with grade 5 student leaders (sharing stories, faith, and prayer)
- Continue the Power Of Prayer (POP) POP with Mr. Pisoni and all grade levels weekly throughout the school year
- Continue “lunch in the Office” for students to feel comfortable and safe with the office administration
- Continue to invite parish priests into the school to build connections and relations





Health and Wellness

Goal #1: Student Leadership Opportunities

- Attend the Student Leadership Conference hosted at the Medicine Hat College
- Collaborating school activities with our leadership team that promotes multiple levels of wellness (emotional, physical, mental, and spiritual)
- Continue grade 5 recess leadership games
- Introduce school community opportunities to connect with students and staff during school time



Goal #2: Building relationships with students and staff

- Introduce “joke of the day” within the library for all students and staff to view (laughter is great)
- Introduce “lunch with the class” bi-weekly (class and admin)
- Introduce opportunities for staff to connect: Wednesday morning chatter, Last Friday Sociable, High Five Fridays, and more
- Continue “lunch in the office” with weekly draws (students and admin)
- Continue community service challenges with students followed by student and staff activity (ie: class raises the most play staff in games of soccer, dodgeball, etc.)



Goal #3: Connecting our students and staff with our school community

- Introduce ALL teachers to our parent council by rotating attendance throughout the year for monthly parent council meetings. An opportunity to meet and build relationships.
- Recognizing challenges and adapting traditional school activities to maintain and promote parent involvement
- Re-introduce grade 4/5 students with city elementary athletic opportunities (ie: basketball tournament, floor hockey, volleyball, and more)
- Continue to review recent and develop new opportunities to celebrate as a school community (Food Truck Event, Pancake Breakfast, and more)

Christmas Mass and Concerts
Multiple Christmas events to support our growing school!

Advent Songs & Mass: Wed/Dec 14 (6:00 - 7:30 pm)

Student & Staff ONLY Christmas Concert: Thur/Dec 15

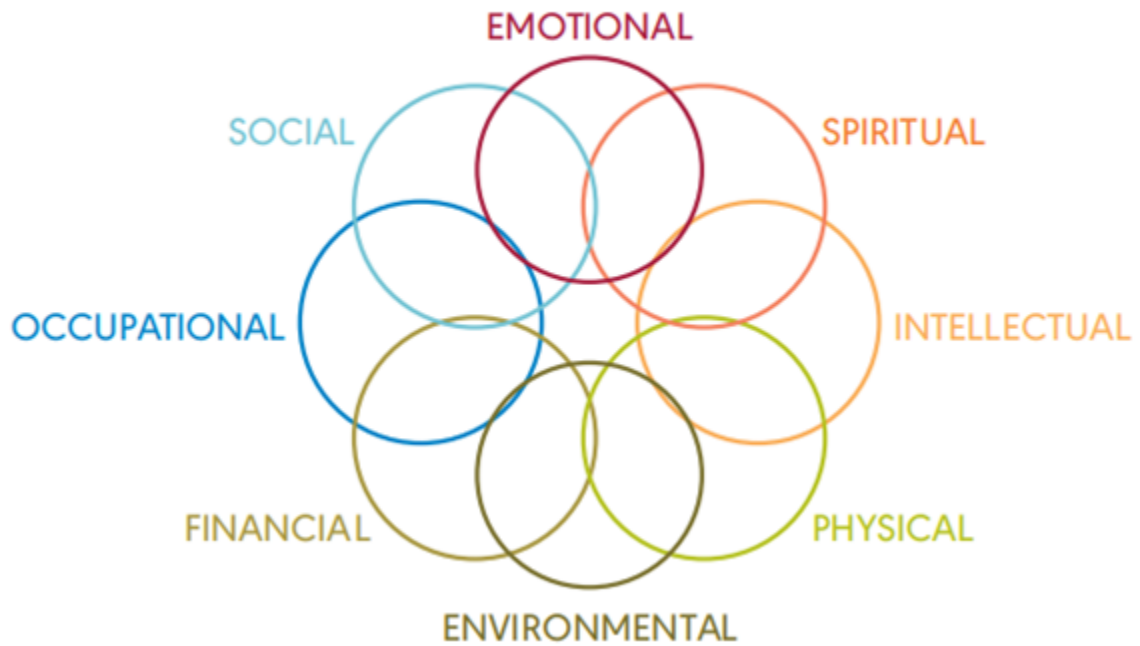
School Community Christmas Carol Concerts:

ELP-Kin (AM) and GR. 1-2	Fri/Dec 16	10:00 - 11:00 am
ELP/Kin (PM) and Grades 3 - 4 - 5	Fri/Dec 16	1:30 - 2:30 pm

Outcomes:

- 1. Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education students are successful.
- 2. First Nations, Metis and Inuit students in Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education are successful.
- 3. Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education has excellent teachers, school leaders and school authority leaders.
- 4. Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education is well governed and managed.

Health and Wellness Components





Quality Teaching and Learning

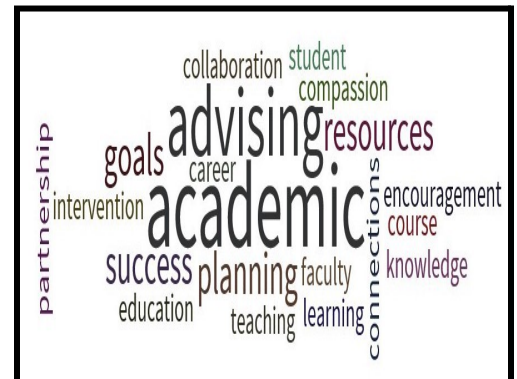
Goal #1: Emerging use of technology to engage learners

- Introduction of Smart Interactive TV technology (student and teacher life-long learning)
- Introduction of technology (wireless remote) that allow instructional and academic support anywhere in the classroom
- Continued support of parents council that promotes emerging technology
- Recent purchase of “touch-screen” chromebooks (30) that assist younger grades with OT and other online learning manipulatives.



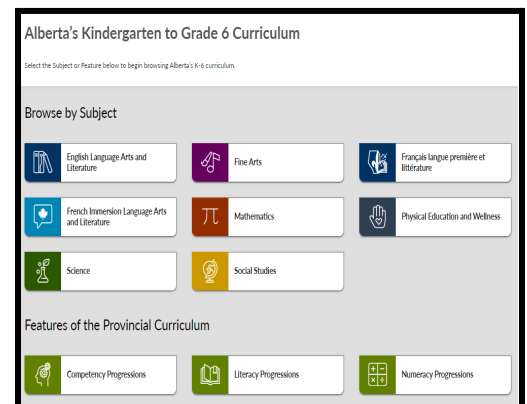
Goal #2: Assessing learning gaps and providing interventions

- Continue pre/post literacy and numeracy assessments for all grades 1, 2, 3, 4 students (mandatory AB Ed assessments)
- Grades 2, 3, 4 pre-assessment (end of September/2022)
- Grade 1 pre-assessment (end of January/2023)
- Identify Students at Risk: use of government funds to support intervention plan
- Post Assessments: all grades by end of May/2023



Goal #3: Progressive implementation of NEW Curriculum

- Quarterly Grade Level meetings to review and collaborate K-3 literacy and numeracy curriculum, and K-6 Physical and Mental Health Literacy
- Supporting Individuals through Valued Attachments (SIVA)
- Provide training to ALL staff: 8 teachers and 6 learning support staff this year
- Providing opportunities for grade 5 students to be school leaders: Faith Development Days and School Activities



RESPONDING TO ACCOUNTABILITY PILLAR RESULTS

Add...screenshots of 2022 School Parent Survey results

School Strategies by Measure

Indicators of Success

Safe and Caring Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alberta Results are 87.8% and St. Patrick's School is 94.7% - As a staff, we have committed ourselves to daily faith integration within all subjects and interactions with students (relating weekly assembly themes/messages and recognizing Panderrific moments of students and staff = Student Citizenship).
Student Learning Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alberta Results are 85.6% and St. Patrick's School is 86.3% - Survey parents for "recommended home strategies" that help to regulate and direct focus - Modelling use of doc cameras and student participation
Student Learning Achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alberta Results are 87.8% and St. Patrick's School is 94.7% - Assess and Evaluate "close the gap" learning disruptions in grades 1, 2, and 3 - Implement literacy and numeracy intervention - outside of regular teaching and classroom strategies
Preparation for Lifelong Learning, Citizenship, World of Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alberta Results are 83.2% and St. Patrick's School is 93.2% - Continue to recognize and model catholic values and Panda traits through daily conversations, weekly assemblies, and student participation in school activities
Parental Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alberta Results are 79.5% and St. Patrick's School is 77.4% - Current parent council feel otherwise = very supportive of school communication and invitation/welcome of parents to school - COVID has prevented parents from normal access into the school - Parent Council purchased VC equipment for Hybrid parent council meetings (in-person and virtually by Google Meets). - Parent Survey: methods of communication, volunteer awareness and interest, and other PC inquiries (hot lunch, fundraisers, etc.)
Continuous Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents = 35% improved 57% same and 9 % declined - Teachers = 25% improved 63% same and 13% don't know - Overall, 1 of every 3 teacher and/or parent feel that education has improved

COMMUNICATION

Stakeholders are communicated with in a variety ways through our school:



CONTACT US

School Information:

- School Office: 403-527-1177
- School Website: <https://www.stpatricksschool.ca/>
- School Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/StPatricksMH/>
- Mr. Ron Pisoni (Vice Principal): ron.pisoni@mhcbe.ab.ca - 403-977-7003
- Mr. Dwayne Unreiner (Principal): dwayne.unreiner@mhcbe.ab.ca - 403-580-0339

[St. Patrick's 2022-2023 School Plan](#)