



Medicine Hat Catholic
Board of Education

St. Michael's School



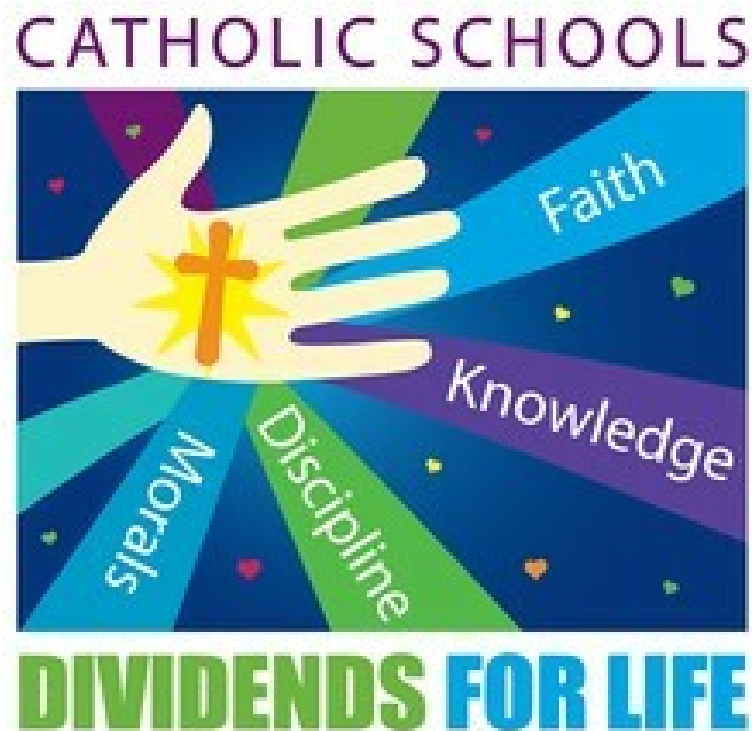
School Educational Plan 2024-25



INTRODUCTION

St. Michael's School opened its doors to students in 1965. In 1968 the addition of a gym and east wing was constructed. Further expansion included the completion of our drama facility and one classroom in September 2000. In 2010 two new modular classrooms were added to the east wing and another in 2012 to accommodate our increased enrollment. St. Michael's is the designated school for students from NW Crescent Heights, areas of NE Crescent Heights, Riverside and Redcliff.

Currently our school has a population of 120 students from Early Learning to grade six. In addition to our instructional hours, St. Michael's offers an Out of School Care Program with before and after school hours which is housed in our school gymnasium and stage area.



MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL



St. Michael's School is the dedicated Fine Arts Focus Elementary school within the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education. This year grades 3-6 are experiencing five weeks in each of the following disciplines of fine arts: drama, choral, instrumental, art, dance and performance arts including, choral speech, or black light theatre. This exposure focuses on process not performance and allows all of the students to become involved. Grades 1 and 2 already have art, choral and instrumental in them, but we are pleased to include drama and dance there as well. Special emphasis on the fine arts and their integration throughout the curriculum develops creativity, personal initiative, growth in self-esteem and encourages a desire for life-long learning.

Our school also offers an education based on the traditions of our Catholic faith that is both a preparation for life and a way of living out the Gospel message in all that we do. Catholic Education is extremely important as it provides for the physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual development of every child. Cooperation among families, school staff and our parishes within St. Michael's community is demonstrated by a commitment to the school mission.

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	24-25	23-24	22-23	21-22	20-21	19-20	18-19	17-18	16-17	15-16	14-15	13-14
K	12	15	20	14	15	25	31	23	23	26	34	34
1	14	20	14	16	21	26	19	24	21	32	27	25
2	15	14	20	23	20	15	25	20	30	30	25	29
3	14	20	25	21	15	24	28	31	25	24	30	20
4	18	26	24	16	26	23	28	24	25	28	22	28
5	29	20	17	26	22	28	27	23	29	25	32	32
6	15	16	22	23	19	28	20	31	24	30	33	24
Total	117	131	142	139	138	166	178	176	177	195	203	192

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 (2024)

Overall Summary (67 survey participants) = 5 Parents, 59 grade four-six students, 3 Teachers			
Education Measures	Current Results	Previous Year	Alberta Current Results
1. Student Learning Engagement	69.2	85.2	83.7
2. Citizenship	72.3	81.6	79.4
3. Education Quality	95.8	92.7	87.6
4. Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments	79.6	87.6	84.0
5. Access to Supports and Services	81.0	78.8	79.9
6. Parental Involvement	n/a	71.4	79.1
7. Lifelong Learning	n/a	72.7	79.9
8. Programs of Studies	n/a	77.8	82.8
9. Program of Studies - At Risk Students	81.0	79.1	80.6
9. Safe and Caring	84.0	88.4	87.1
10. Program Access	80.7	78.5	71.9
11. School Improvement	83.3	77.4	75.8
12. Work preparation	n/a	88.9	82.8

Celebrations - Our quality of education improved even from last year going from 92.7 to 95.8 which is 8.2% higher than the Provincial average. Our results also show that when our students need support they are receiving them as our “access to supports” and “program of studies at risk students” increased from last year and well ahead of the provincial average. Our school improvement is also up 5.9% form last year and above provincial average.

Challenges - Student learning engagement decreased by 16%, citizenship decreased by 9.3% and welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments decreased by 8%. All of these are also below the provincial average.

RESPONDING TO ACCOUNTABILITY PILLAR RESULTS

School Strategies by Measure

Indicators of Success

Safe and Caring Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alberta results are 87.1% and St. Michael’s School is 84.0% ● All school activities are integrated with Faith including weekly assemblies, themes and messages. We continue to have food drives which promote kindness. ● Staff participate in faith permeation activities ● Students recognized for kindness shown towards one another ● Regular drills for staff and students on emergency protocols ● Clubs and teams formed to promote inclusivity
Student Learning Opportunities/Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alberta results are 83.7% and St. Michael’s School is 69.2%. ● Integration of Fine Arts into all grades focusing on grades 3-6. ● Resources for both home and school to support ongoing success (ex. Raz-Kids, Mathletics, Mathology, Prodigy) .
Student Learning Achievement, Education Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alberta results are 87.6% and St. Michael’s School is 95.8% ● Assess and evaluate to aid in “Closing the Gap” learning disruptions with Literacy and Numeracy from grades 1-3. ● Implement literacy and numeracy interventions- outside the strategies already in place within the classroom.
Citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alberta results are 79.4% and St. Michael’s School is 72.3% ● Students have the opportunity to volunteer as a student leader throughout the school including: milk program, recycling program, lunch program ● Continue to recognize and model Catholic values in all interactions with students, assemblies, positive recognition and teaching and classroom strategies.
Parental Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alberta results are 79.1% and St. Michael’s School is N/A. ● Inviting parents to all assemblies in the gym and specific invites to parents whose child is benign recognized in assembly ● Utilizing Google classroom, Facebook, Powerschool and other formats to continue flow of information to parents. ● Open door (by appointment) policy to discuss issues and ideas that parents have throughout the year. ● Continued parent council involvement in the school
School Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction of CR meetings where teachers can collaborate about topics arising within the school. Assembly time will be used for this ● Addition of PLC time for teachers during Fine Arts has provided a win-win situation for students and teachers to improve the quality of education

received at St. Michael's School.



Catholicity

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Quality teaching



Health and Wellness

1	Catholicity	A communion of school and Community involvement (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



Goal #1 : Student Involvement in Faith

- Prayer in the classroom, and students leading and participating in assemblies.
- Visual symbols and Faith messages integrated into all subjects and activities (food drive, hampers, Blessing Song, Advent Activities, RAK Day, Christmas Concert, Grade 6 crosses, recognizing student who have completed the sacraments)
- Recognizing students showing Catholicity with Shining Bright with Saint Michael's Light assembly recognition
- Each child with an upcoming birthday will be recognized at the assembly and given a small cross
- POP (Power of Prayer) where students are invited to come to the gym at noon recess and discuss God, church or anything about their religion
- Student Faith Leadership group
- Adoption of New School prayer to said over the intercom after lunch by the student Faith Leadership group (1:00 pm)
- Invite BJ to join a classroom and faith leadership group

Goal #2 Family-Church Relationship

- School sponsored Mass
- Inviting parents to all weekly assemblies and other presentations in the school
- Perform a living rosary
- Eucharistic adoration and reconciliation at the school
- Priest visits to the classroom.
- Grade 1 and 5 visits to the church
- Grade 5 and 6 retreats to the church
- Seeds of the Word Community visit to the school
- Host a school event in St. Patrick's Church Hall
- Invite parish priests to say prayer at Christmas Concert, or the Gala, St. Michael's Day
- Shrove Tuesday pancakes at St. Patrick's church
- Continue to promote family picnics throughout the year



Health and Wellness

Goal #1 Commitment to Physical Well Being

- Working with Ever Active Schools to support healthy interactions
 - Utilize grade 6 to teach students structured recess games
 - Stencils on the concrete
 - Four Square
 - Maze Game
 - Tether Ball
- Intramural Program
- Accessing the Big Marble Go Centre for Swimming and skating
- Feast of St. Michael Outdoor Scavenger Hunt Week

Goal #2 Promoting Positivity

- High- Five Fridays among staff
- Positive Affirmation wall/bulletin board
- Shining Bright with Saint Michael's Light assembly recognition
- Start "lunch in the office" with weekly draws (students and admin)
- Card trading club
- Dance and Art club
- Treat days for staff and students- December to Remember
- School Bingos and Activities
- Leadership group for Spirit days

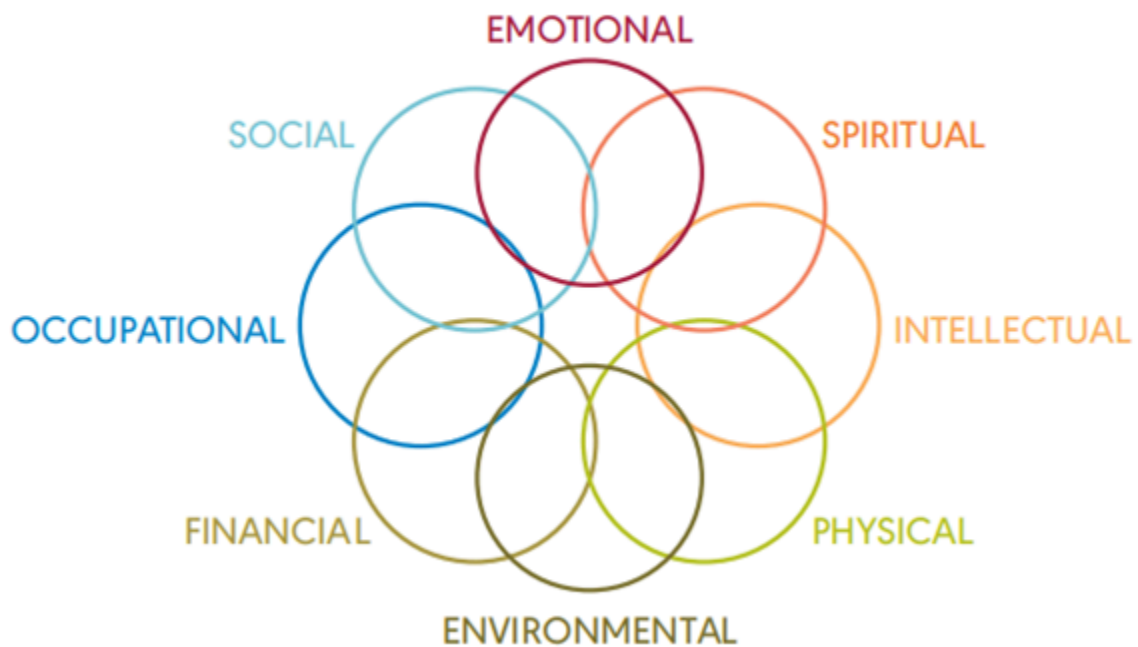
Goal #3 Parent Council Committed to Students

- Monthly treats as a "Pick me up" for students (chips and water at Halloween, Hot chocolate and a candy cane for Christmas, cookies for Valentine's Day, etc...)
- Sponsored Kona Ice/Swirls day for all students
- Family Activities
 - Board Game Night
 - Trunk or Treat

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 Enhancement of Fine Arts Education

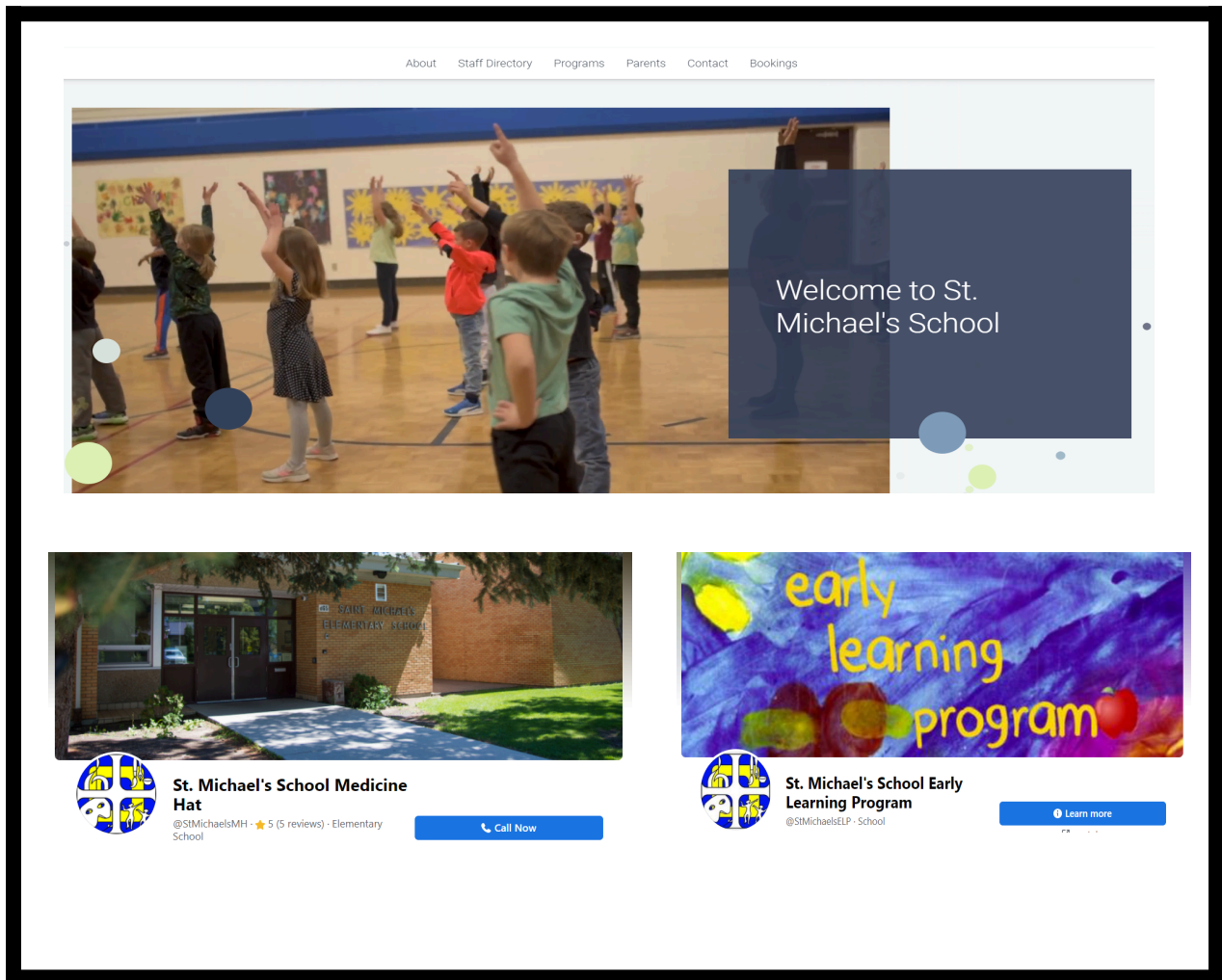
- Grades 3-6 all get to experience/explore 5 weeks of Fine Arts Education in each of the following disciplines: art, choral, instrumental, dance, drama, performance arts
 - During this time four of 6 teachers are engaged in Fine Arts education in their specialty, the other 2 are given a chance to PLC built right into the schedule
 - Parent council provides funding to promote the Fine Arts
- Grades 1-2 get to experience/explore music and drama for the duration of the school year.
- Alberta Musical Theatre Company production of Rapunzel
- St. Mary's Productions
- St. Mary's drama, dance and band performances in the school
- Have students attend St. Mary's for an afternoon- Life of an Academy student

Goal #2: Implementation of NEW Curriculum

- PLC time to collaborate with other teachers and grades to implement the NEW curriculum
- Access to Physical Education Wellness rep, Mr. Kelly Topp, in support of new PE curriculum
- Continue training support staff, teachers, and admin with SIVA (Supporting Individuals through Valued Attachments) and VTRA training (Violence Threat Risk Assessment)
- New curriculum resources and tools will be purchased and used in classrooms
- The division will be providing professional development for new curriculum implementation as well as collaborative planning time
- Teachers and educational assistants will work with their students to guide instruction while setting up an environment that allows options and imagination.

COMMUNICATION

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



CONTACT US

School Information:

- ❖ School Office: 403 527-7242
- ❖ School Website: <https://www.stmichaelsmh.ca/>
- ❖ School Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsMH/>
- ❖ Early Learning Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsELP/>
- ❖ Mr. Ron Pisoni (Principal): ron.pisoni@mhcbe.ab.ca