

Regina Catholic School Division Director's Communiqué

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"Go Make a Difference – Love the Lord with all your mind"

A Message from Director of Education, Rob Currie



From my point of view, God is the light that illuminates the darkness, even if it does not dissolve it, and a spark of divine light is within each of us. -Pope Francis

Earlier this month, the June 2016 Communiqué was posted on our website. But as one knows, the schools and Division still continue to have significant activities that cause us to reflect and celebrate. Thus, in the next few pages, you will find even more school division highlights to be recognized and celebrated. Enjoy a second edition of the June Communiqué.

As this chapter of the 2015-2016 school year draws to a close, and my career with the Regina Catholic School Division is about to conclude, I want to thank the RCSD students, their respective families and the staff who make our Division as faith-filled and effective as a learning community, as possible. I look forward to connecting with the Division in the future, in my new capacity at the Ministry of Education.

I would also like to thank Twylla West, Communications and Media Coordinator, and the numerous contributors of news worthy items, for outstanding work in designing, creating and sharing the celebrations within each edition of the Communiqué. I know we, as readers, enjoy the results of their collective efforts in these informative and celebratory newsletters.

The people of the Regina Catholic School Division make a difference in this world. I ask God to continue to work through such great faith-filled people who remain of service to be witnesses to Him.

God Bless!



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A Message from Director of Education, Domenic Scuglia

I am writing this message after attending Rob Currie's retirement/farewell celebration. I am thankful for having had the five weeks to transition with Rob in the new and important role I will assume in a few short days - Director of Education for Regina Catholic Schools. I feel privileged to be following such a skilled, faith-filled and loyal servant of our Division. Rob, on behalf of everyone connected to the Regina Catholic School Division - thank you for dedicating yourself to making a difference.

I am excited to continue to support the good work that is already at play in our schools. I have taken the time to visit each school site and I have been overwhelmed with the level of commitment to student well-being and learning I have encountered at each site during my short visits. I am looking forward to working together with our students, their families and our entire staff in the coming years to help fulfill God's plan to grow positive, successful Catholic graduates.

As we end another school year, and on behalf of the senior team, I encourage all of you take the time to rest, relax, and re-energize over the summer months. I look forward to getting to know more of you better in the Fall. Have a great summer recess and see you all on August 30th for our opening mass.

God bless.

Dom



Director's Meeting

Rob Currie held his final Director's Meeting this month. We prayed, ate, laughed, and were entertained. Father John Weckend spoke about evangelization. Two outstanding teachers were honoured as well, Marguerite Kryzanowski from Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School and Leanne Barnes from Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School.

"We need to go where the people are." ~Father John Weckend





French for the Future

Congratulations to Renee Wahl, a Grade 10 student at Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School on being chosen to attend the National Youth Ambassador Forum in Toronto this summer. Renee is one of just 30 students chosen from across Canada!

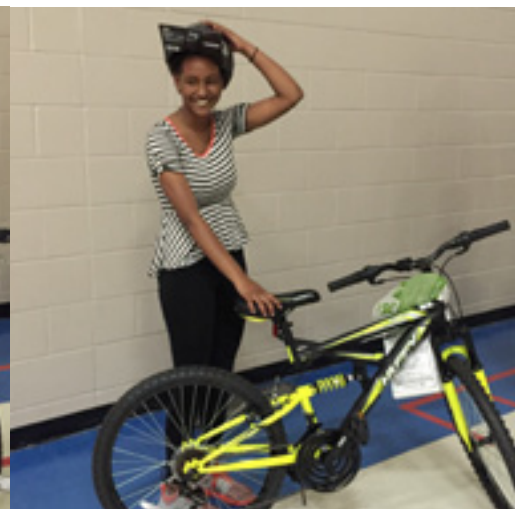
Her video submission gives us all a

taste of her passion for the French language. You can view [her video here](#).

We presented Renee with a few travel items while she represents the Regina Catholic School Division nationally, and look forward to having her share her experiences when she returns.

AR Rewards

St. Augustine Community School awarded many prizes to students for their hard work at reading. While every student walked away a year smarter, having pushed themselves to read more, two lucky students won brand new bikes and helmets to enjoy all summer long!



Digital Fluency Badges

The Saskatchewan School Library Association (SSLA) has acknowledged three RCSD employees as they participated in the SSLA Digital Fluency Badging Project this past school year.

Congratulations to: Gaetan Hammond of Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School, Hali Burt of St. Gabriel School, and Sophie Long of St. Bernadette School.

SSLA created the Special Project "SSLA Digital Fluency Badges" to provide self-directed, convenient professional development open to all educators and library support staff. Participants earn badges by learning about web tools and apps. They are asked to demonstrate their successful integration of the web tool or app within their instructional or professional practice. The focus for educators is the integration of technology as a means to deepen student understanding of learning outcomes.

We appreciate the effort of all RCSD employees in their professional growth, and congratulate those recognised by the SSLA.



Making Us Proud

Congratulations to Johanna Nodado, a Grade 6 student at St. Michael Community School. Her artwork was chosen to represent the Division's theme of Go Make a Difference: Love Your Neighbour as Yourself. The 2016-2017 theme is shown through flag covered world neighbours and two clasped hands, with the sun shining on all the colours of the rainbow, and a symbol of our faith at the top.

Young Artists

The 2016-2017 Kindergarten t-shirts are being designed using two pieces of student artwork. On the Front will be the drawing below by Cullen O'Halloran at St. Gabriel School to represent "Go Make a Difference." On the back, we will feature Meredith Toth's art, created at St. Francis Community School to visually share "Love Your Neighbour as Yourself."

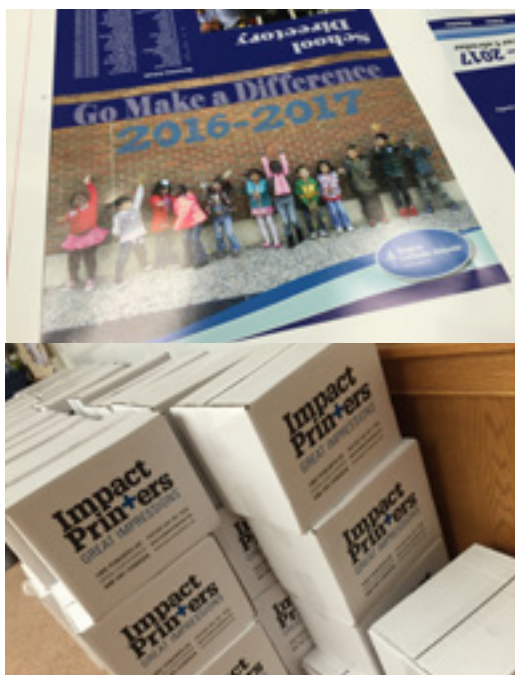


Kindergarten t-Shirt artists will be acknowledged at our Opening Mass on August 30.



2016-2017 Calendars

They're here! By now, all schools should have their calendars to share with students and staff. They do have the elementary and high school calendars incorporated, and also feature the Feast Days we want to acknowledge. If you should need more copies, please call or e-mail to let us know. Many thanks to Rob Bredin for his hard work throughout the year capture images for the Division; you had about two thirds of the calendar covered, and perfected many of the other photos with your magic editing! Also, a thank you to Keith Hershmiller Photography for permission to use his image of St. Gregory choir students singing O Canada at a Regina Pats game. Finally, to all those who were asked for assistance in proofing the calendar, thank you! You're the reason this calendar looks so good!



Twelfth Year

It was another successful group of RCSD students honoured in a project called Twelfth Year. Two photographers, Erin Ball and Andrea Norberg, collaborate to acknowledge just a few of the extraordinary students in each of Regina's high schools. You can see more at twelfthyear.ca.



CTV Regina welcomed several of our grade 11 and 12 students for a tour and the chance to watch the noon news live in studio! Pictured are Karlie McGeough from Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School, Irelyn Heward from Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School and Gabrielle Krylchuk from Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School.



Cardboard Boats

Cardboard may be an unconventional material to use when building a boat, but several Regina Catholic Schools gave it a shot, then raced in those boats!

St. Michael Community School, St. Marguerite Bourgeoys School, and École St. Andrew all worked with Skills Canada Cardboard Boat Races on June 13 at the Lawson Aquatic Centre and Field House. Construction of the watercraft was followed by testing of the boats in the pool.

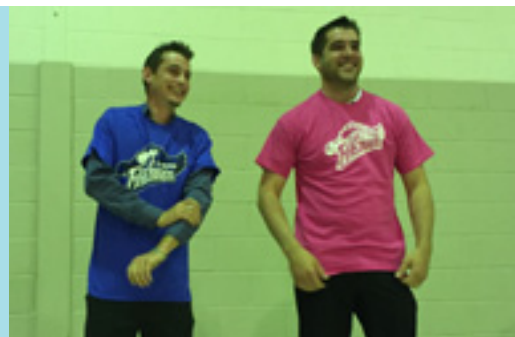


Firebird Thanks

St. Francis Community School had a morning of giving thanks as the school year draws to a close.

Tom and Brent of Tom's Independent Grocer came by to be named Honourary Firebirds for all that Tom's Independent has done for the St. Francis Community. Their generosity has put smiles on many faces, and their commitment to the school is graciously given. Thank you Tom, Brent and staff!

The hard working teachers were also honoured, this time by the CSCC and students. Each teacher was presented with a rose as a small token of thank you for all that they do to make the school a great place to be!



St. Catherine Community School students are super excited about their gardening project. Who doesn't love to water onions on a beautiful day? The produce grown will be used in their nutrition program.

Maker Days

St. Catherine Community School students put on their thinking caps and stretched their creativity muscles during two Maker Days in May. Students from kindergarten to grade 8 had opportunities to explore various STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) activities such as coding, building Rube Goldberg machines, use apps to create music, engineer towers, program robots and even build with Lego!

The two day event included experts from the RCS Educational Technology department, Bricks4Kids and the University of Regina and was an introduction to Maker Education for the students. St. Catherine Community School will be opening its own MakerSpace in the fall for students from Pre-K to grade 8. The MakerSpace will provide students with a myriad of opportunities for learning through creating, exploring, problem solving and play.



A very special thank you to award winning filmmaker Ariadna Ochrymovych, who presented her film *Holodomor: Voices of Survivors* to many of our high school students. The tale of genocide was well received, and very enlightening.



Aboriginal Day

St. Michael Community School celebrated National Aboriginal Day with two days full of activities. The days began with a blessing from Moshum Dennis, followed by smaller groups splitting up to rotate to different stations. Events included First Nations toys and games, Metis Dance lessons, storytelling, and a lesson taught right inside a tipi.

Sweet Ride

When a high school principal ends his career, his students take celebrating seriously. Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School's Jamie Bresciani was driven to school in style to end the year, and surprised by students lining the parking lot to greet him.

Congratulations to Jamie and all of our wonderful RCSD employees ready to be taken on the quieter challenge of retirement!



Rand Teed was honoured with the IC&RC Prevention Professional of the Year Award, presented by Rob Currie, Director of Education for Regina Catholic Schools. Nomination was by CACCF Canadian Addiction Counsellors Certification Federation. This was the first time this award was given to a Canadian. Congratulations Rand, we're very proud!

Charity Classic

Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School started their 20th Annual Wellness Day/Charity Classic with a school rally and parade. The charity of choice this year is the Social Justice Department of the Archdiocese of Regina in support of Newcomers to Regina. Assisting in refugee sponsorship offers students an extraordinary way of meeting Christ, himself a refugee and one in need of the necessities of life.



Entertainment was brought to us by Tavria Ukrainian Dance, Maharlika, Couples for Christ, and Little Eagle Singers and Dancers.

The parade followed the student rally, then the staff and students were treated to a healthy lunch before loading busses and venturing to the City of Regina Field House/Lawson Aquatic Center for an afternoon of physical activity. It was a great day to reflect, express gratefulness, and stay in motion as a school community.



Miller Faith Day

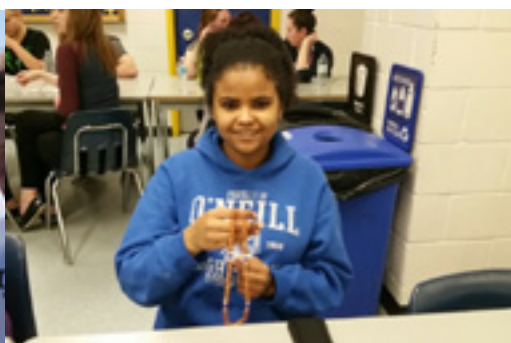
Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School's Youth Faith Day was a great success! Students created personal photo frames to send to their 40 adopted students in the Phillipeans and Haiti.

When lunchtime came around, Martin Turcotte and his crew served up a giant sub sandwich, big enough to cover two rows of tables the entire length of the cafeteria! What a way to break bread as a school family!



Faith Day

Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School and St. Luke School teamed up for their Faith Day on May 17th. The day began with a liturgy led by students. Our keynote speaker Colm Leyne shared his life story and positive messages, then students attended workshops. There were over 20 sessions to choose from, including yoga, adoration, asking the "Freakin' Deacon" about faith, and even understanding genocide. Each session encouraged growing, expressing, understanding, and sharing our faith.



<http://www.oneillcatholic.ca/faihtday2016>



Multicultural Week

by Jocelyn Haider Grade 5 Student

Multicultural week at St. Joan of Arc completely took my breath away. It was so great to see how many cultures are represented by students at our school. The week wouldn't have been possible without our lovely, hardworking teachers. Thanks to them, we got to express and appreciate our cultures in various ways. Multicultural week exposed kids to new languages, dances, music, food, and an awareness of how special everyone is. That week was like our very own mini Mosaic.



Farewell Season

The City of Regina and Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame teamed up to help RCSD students say goodbye to Mosaic Stadium and Taylor Field. Students from several schools, including St. Francis Community School, were invited to the field for curriculum related activities. Students had a blast learning that it was rugby, not football, first played on the field, and that Piffles Taylor lost his glass eye during a game, but popped it right back in!



Watch this August for our "Welcome Back" campaign. We're letting the whole city know what Regina Catholic Schools are all about on buses, the radio, digital billboards and more! Thank you to all the students who smiled and posed for special photos!

Aboriginal Youth Awards

Congratulations to all RCSD recipients of the 18th Annual SaskTel Aboriginal Youth Awards of Excellence 2016!

From Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School: Jessie Kay, Calista Moser, Skylar Deschambault, and Luvena Stocken.

From Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School: Javin Ames-Sinclair and Chantelle La Rocque.



Key Turning

Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School grade 12 student Issac Pelletier not only helped build a home for Habitat for Humanity, he also spoke at the key turning ceremony on June 14. Working with TASCAP, the Trades and Skills Apprenticeship Program, Issac spoke about the experience of learning trade skills, building relationships on site, the support they received throughout the experience and how good it felt to be giving back to the community.



St. Pius X School presented a very big cheque to the Canadian Red Cross to help support Fort McMurry following the devastating wildfire. Dress up days, hat days, and a staff-run teaching resources garage sale collected \$2857.15. Way to go Patriots!

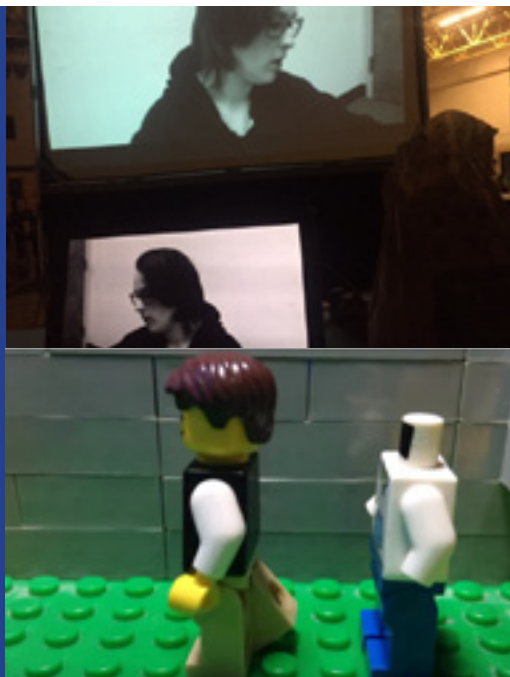


OFF

The O'Neill Film and Photo Festival showcases work from Communication Media and Photography Classes, as well as entries from other projects.

Special thanks to all judges and supporters of this year's event.

Congratulations to all the winners and participants, including first place video "Morning Routine" by Hanz Gaudia, and first place photo "Bonded" by Merrick Kowalski, both pictured to the right.



Meeting the Minister

In a show of Saskatchewan style hospitality, Minister of Education Don Morgan welcomed our incoming Director of Education Domenic Scuglia to the province. Minister Morgan greeted our new leader in the newly refurbished Choral Room at Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School at a small media event in June.



The St. Timothy School CSCC has worked very hard for four years holding numerous fundraisers and applying for grants to cover the cost of a new playground. Then, the hard working parents also rolled up their sleeves and built the new structure! Great job!



Stronger than Hulk

Move over Batman! Out of the way Superman! Jesus is the superhero of choice at St. Gregory School, where a superhero theme led the way over the course of the school year. The fastest, strongest, smartest superhero around? Jesus of course!

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:17

Junior Achievement

Student businesses from Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School (Auntie Anne's Perogies) and Dr. Martin Leboldus Catholic High School (Dancing Perogies) were recognized at the Junior Achievement of Saskatchewan Business Hall of Fame and Awards. Both were nominated for several awards. Miller's Auntie Anne's Perogies company won the award "Most Improved Company".



Austin Keen represented Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School and Regina Catholic Schools with confidence and professionalism as the Co-Master of Ceremonies for the evening.



Letter of Thanks

Dear Rob:

This is just a short note to express our gratitude to your organization for the support offered to Marian Centre during the last "Moving in Faith" event. We received the amount of \$1,563 from the public attending the marathon that day. Please extend our gratitude to the staff and volunteers who were involved in this initiative.

Sincerely, Hugo Isaza
Director, Marian Centre.



New Canadians

Recently a few Archbishop M.C. O'Neill Catholic High School students were sworn in as new Canadians. We are extremely proud of these young people and are grateful that they have chosen to call Canada home. Congratulations to Romel S. (far left), Tristan D. (left), and Kyhmer Z, April Z, and Mhel Z. (below) on their Canadian Citizenship!



Track and Field

The two day Elementary School Track Meet was a great success with bright sunshine and plenty of warm weather. Congratulations to all schools, particularly:

Small Schools Champions
St. Peter

Small Schools Most Improved
St. Marguerite

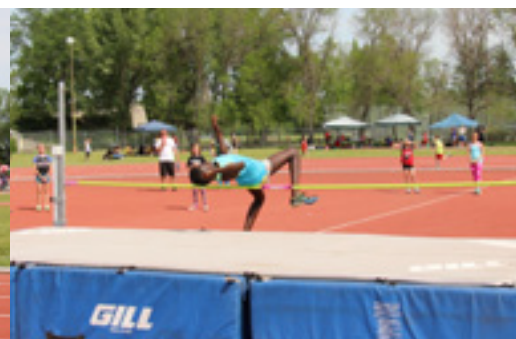
Large Schools Champions
St. Angela Merici

Large Schools Most Improved
St. Theresa



Six New Records!

St. Mary's Hope Adebogun broke the Midget Girls High Jump record with a jump of 1.34m, topping 1.33m from 1997. Junior Girls Long Jump winner was Reyzel Aquino of Sacred Heart with 4.89m, topping 2012's record of 4.83m. The Junior Girls Shot Put record was set by Rachel Vanderhooft of St. Gabriel with a throw of 10.87m, beating 1986's 10.75m. Juleah Duesing of St. Gabriel set a new standard of 12.73 seconds in Senior Girls 100m, beating 12.80 seconds from 1977. Kailee Woitas of St. Marguerite broke the Senior Girls Long Jump record with a jump of 5.01m. The previous record of 4.83m was set in 2002. St. Gabriel's Senior Girls 4x100m relay team set a new mark of 53.39 seconds, passing the previous mark of 53.77 seconds which was set in 2000.





Speedy Racer

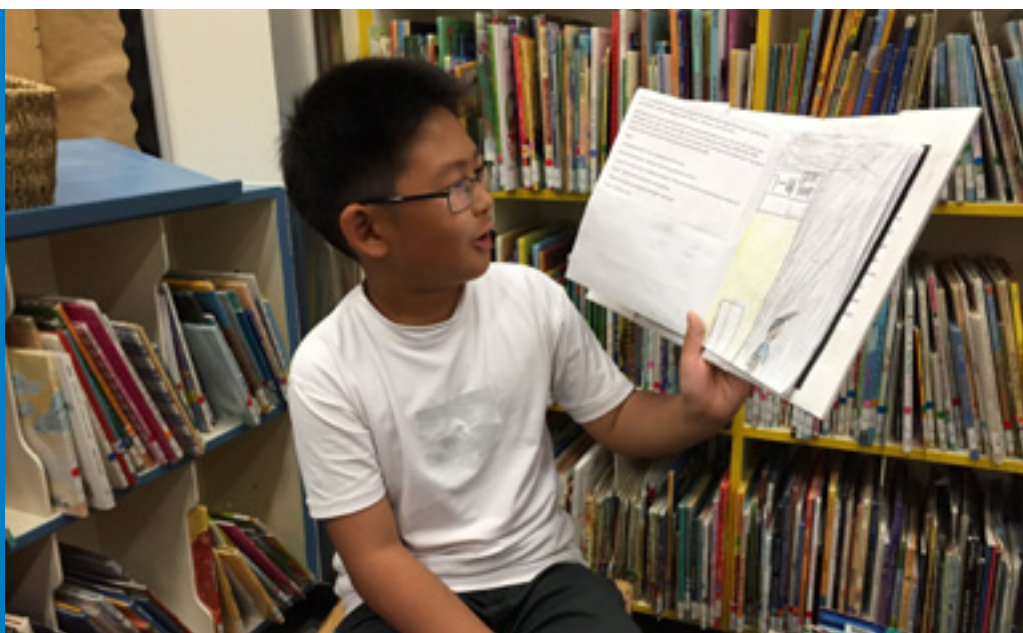
Nigel Torres is a grade 5 student at St. Francis Community School who participated in his first Parasport race. He raced in his mountain board over 1km which has been a great accomplishment as he started at managing 200m. The last leg of the race, Nigel led all the athletes to the finish line. Nigel is a true example that when you have a goal, and strive to improve, you can accomplish anything. There is a world of opportunity ahead for this dedicated, hard working, positive student. Congratulations and all the best in the future Nigel.

Your coach, teacher, biggest cheerleader,

Mrs. Pamela Schaffer

Young Authors

Grade 5 students at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys School took real life experiences and turned them into books! Not only did they do a fabulous job of the books, they also got to share their talents by reading their books to the Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes. Literacy is looking good! Pictured right is Xiangyu (Evan) Li, engrossed in reading to his Kindergarten buddy.



St. Marguerite Bourgeoys students rehearse for their production of *The Wizard of Oz*.



Deshaye 50th

Deshaye Catholic School celebrated 50 years of Catholic Education on May 28th with a BBQ and carnival. Over 800 people attended this important day. Special thanks to our CSCC for all of their work, Deacon Joe Lang for blessing the school, Lisa Polk RCSD Trustee for bringing greetings, the school choir for performing and to Mr. Rob Currie, Director and Mr. Sean Chase, Superintendent for attending this special day.



Safety First

The Service & Hospitality Safety Association is a great partner with Regina Catholic. They have been presenting to Grade 6 Career Ed classes for 3 years. Shown here from St. Joan of Arc are Tammy Appel's and Yvonne Sirdar's classes. Thanks also to Paula Ramdez and Joanne Nelson from St. Catherine, Kari-Anne Ellery from St. Angela, and Rhiannon Hillman from St. Dominic for having the SHSA present to their classes.



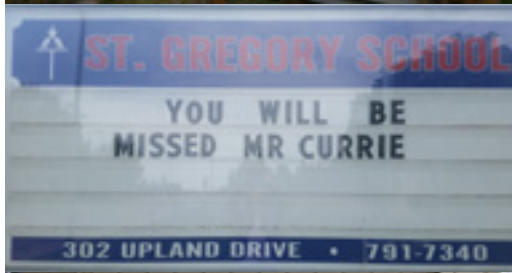
Tweets from Pope Francis

"The future of society requires the fruitful encounter between young and old."

"In this age lacking in social friendship, our first task is that of building community."

"The Saints are not supermen, nor were they born perfect. When they recognized God's love, they followed it and served others."

@Pontifex



Au Revoir M. Currie

When a leader is easy to follow, everyone wants a hand in saying farewell. From singing, to cards, to school signs, and several big parties, the Regina Catholic School Division wishes all the best and many blessings to Rob Currie as he moves on.

"School is one big family... where, together with our mothers and fathers, our grandparents, our teachers and friends, we learn to help one another, to share our good qualities, to give the best of ourselves, to work as a team and to pursue our dreams." ~Pope Francis

Rob, thank you.



Archbishop M.C. O'Neill High School

