

# 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



*May the words of my mouth and the mediation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. –Psalm 19:14*

Entering the last 2 months of the school year makes one reflect upon how much we've accomplished in a short time. Some significant Division highlights from the last month:

- New RCSD Director of Education Announced
- Board of Trustees High School Student Senates
- The Blessing of Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School's Choral/Music Area
- Band Days – 41st Anniversary
- RCSD Science & Regina Regional Science Fairs

We very much look forward to the celebration of Catholic Education Week – May 2-6, 2016. In recognition of the gift of Catholic education, the week will include many activities at our elementary schools, We the Change events at each of our high schools, and the annual Moving in Faith (May 8) event.

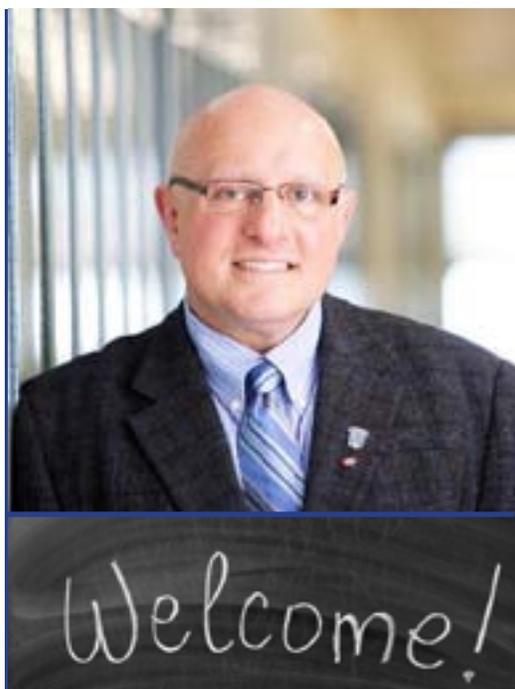
As you read through the following pages, I invite you to recognize and reflect upon how active and engaged our students and staff members are within our schools and our local, national, and international communities. While I realize not every Division achievement is listed on these pages, the Communiqué remains an important snapshot of the fact that, on a daily basis, something positive is happening in our schools. To all the staff of Regina Catholic Schools, thank you for making a difference!

God bless!



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## New Director of Education Domenic Scuglia

was selected along with 32 other administrators from across Canada. In 2009, he opened a new school – St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic High School and organised a pilgrimage to Poland to follow in the school's namesake place of birth and eventual death at Auschwitz. As a result of that experience, he introduced a summer credit program for students to study genocide using the Holocaust as the focus for understanding society's role from preventing these types of events from occurring in the future. The course is called 'We Are Witness.' He is hoping to build acceptance in Saskatchewan for the programme.

Domenic is a strong believer in providing opportunities for success for all students in all pathways grounded in Gospel values. As a school system, he believes that we have a critical role to play to provide educational opportunities

so that each child is included and has a place to learn according to their learning style. He feels we also need to support our staff and students on their journey of faith.

Sport is a passion for Domenic with a special love of rugby, and he has many rugby related accolades attached to his name, including seven years as the head coach of the York University Men's Varsity Rugby Team, two years as the President of Rugby Ontario, and the York Region Athletic Association's Pete Beach Award in 2011.

Domenic and his wife Kim have three children Allie, Andrew and Adam all of whom are incredibly supportive of his new role and move to Regina Catholic School Division. Domenic is very much looking forward to joining the Regina Catholic School Division family.

@DomenicScuglia

Domenic Scuglia is packing up and moving to Regina from Aurora, Ontario. His first day with RCSD will be Monday, May 30, 2016.

Domenic has a diverse and extensive background in education with over 34 years of experience. In 2011, his staff nominated him for the Learning Partnership award Canada's Outstanding Principal. He



## Communiqué Contributions

If you have something to add to the Director's Communiqué, we're happy to share it for you. Please send 1-2 photos and 2-4 sentences to Communications & Media Coordinator Twylla West at t.d.west@rcsd.ca. Think of it as a Twitter magazine in terms of article length. Let's share as many of our amazing events as we can!

*One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches.*  
*Galatians 6:6*



## LeBoldus Best Buddies

A very special congratulations to the Best Buddies Chapter at Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School. This chapter was named one of the Top 20 Best Buddies Chapter in the country! They won some black and gold new shirts, and the satisfaction of knowing that they really are making a difference.

The Suns' Buddies are also making a difference outside of LeBoldus, by inspiring other Best Buddies Chapters. They held a Zumbathon and danced the afternoon away with Best Buddies from St. Marguerite, led by Sharlene Holliday.

Did you know that of the 11 Best Buddies chapters in Saskatchewan, SIX of them belong to RCSD? Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High

School, Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School, St. Augustine Community School, Jean Vanier School, St. Jerome School and St. Marguerite Bourgeoys School. That's amazing! Way to Spread God's love!

*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.*

*John 15:14*



## Skyping with Sister Stephanie

The students and staff of St. Michael Community School are blessed to work with the Myriam Sisters. The Myriam Sisters visit regularly and their presence in the school community is truly appreciated. Recently, St. Michael Community School arranged to connect, via Skype, with Sister Stephanie who is currently ministering in Russia. Sister Stephanie and three Myriam Sisters in Astrakhan, Russia answered questions prepared by the students and were treated to a rousing rendition of "Go Make a Difference." The visit concluded with a special blessing from Sister Stephanie. Another wonderful, faith-filled, connected experience for St. Michael!





## Making Us Proud

Pan Yannitsos graduated from Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High school in 2010. Through the guidance of teachers Brad Breit and Dean Vendramin, Pan was able to pursue his passion in film by attending the Vancouver Arts Institute to study Film Direction and Writing. His documentary films called "The Hochelaga Cup" and "Road to Nimbo" received international recognition through nominations, awards and media coverage.

## Earth Science 30

In early April, some students from Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School took a tour of the K+S Potash Solution Mine near Bethune. The students toured with Sam Farris (shown far right), Vice President of Bethune's K+S Potash Canada site. Students were very lucky to see construction being done on the state of the art processing plant and new drill holes being made for the upcoming production year. We are very grateful for this wonderful opportunity!



**Say, "Cheese!"** Students at École St. Mary smile for the camera for the new Regina Catholic School Division ad in the Spring Leisure Guide.

## Wellness Fair

Michael A Riffel Catholic High School held a Wellness Fair in early April. Topics covered included healthy choices, Digital Citizenship/Disciplineship, Depression, and the important message behind SADD. It's a great way for the school and community to come together to share important messages.



## Moving in Faith

Registration is still open for Moving in Faith. May 15 will be a celebration of our Catholic Community, and we'd love for you to join us.

The registration deadline to get a free t-shirt is May 1. We look forward to another great response!

Mark your calendar for a fun filled day of faith and family.

[Register online now](#) ➔



## Thank You Staples!

Staples has come through for several of our community schools again. Backpacks filled with every wish on the supply lists were delivered, and

will go a long way to help our students!

In all things, give thanks. ~1 Thess 5:18



## Habitat for Humanity

On March 23, high school counselors toured Canada's second largest Habitat for Humanity building site, which is in northeast Regina. Some of our high school students learn construction on site. In the first semester, work is done on the exterior, and in the second semester, the interior. Two teachers are full time supervisors; this is organized through the Regina Trades and Skills Centre on Albert Street. It was an eye-opener to see all the real construction work our high school students are doing!



Richard Donnelly, Joanna Landry, Janna Hollinger, Rhonda Horvath, Denise Endicott, and Dave Beriault.

Regina Catholic School Teachers' Association

invites you to attend

## SUPERANNUATION 2016

Thursday, June 9, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Regency Ballroom

Hotel Saskatchewan

Regina, Saskatchewan

Everyone Welcome

Cash bar



## Regina Regional Heritage Fair 2016

Friday, May 6th

Opening Ceremonies at 9:00 a.m.

Open to the Public from 1:25-2:30 p.m.

Campus Regina Public

1069-14th Ave. E., Regina



## RSO Link Up

Four hundred of our grade 3-5 students were part of a music program called Link Up with the Regina Symphony Orchestra. Students have been learning recorder and singing in their classrooms for the past 5 months. RSO principle flute player Marie-Noell Berthelet visited each school personally. The program culminated with a concert at the Conexus Arts Centre where they joined another 1100 students to play and sing with the Regina Symphony Orchestra.

## Band Days

The 41st Annual Regina Catholic Schools Band Days was held at Dr. Martin LeBoldus Catholic High School April 10-16. Over 1000 band students from grades 6-12 took part in solo and ensemble work in front of clinician/adjudicators from Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Toronto. The week ended with a Grande Concert featuring our select grade 7/8 band, high school honor band and outstanding soloist and ensemble award recipients. The festival is possible through the tireless work of the Band Parents Association and Regina Catholic School band teachers.



Congratulations to former RCSD Trustee Nicole Sarauer on being elected as an MLA. We wish you many blessings in your future, and thank you for your time serving our School Division.





## Music & Literacy

St. Gregory hosted a "SHAKE, RATTLE, AND READ" Literacy night which incorporated music literacy. There was a reading station, AR, instrument building, movement, karaoke and much more.

The highlight was a concert by Alex Runions, rising country star nominated for seven CMA awards!

Thanks to Ms. Perrey, Ms. Richter & Mr. Redler for the fantastic job organizing another successful reading night!

## Planning Ahead

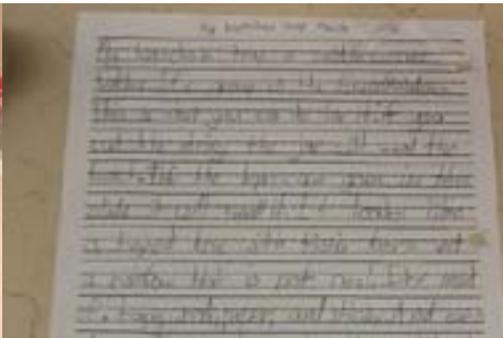
Research shows Career Education has a bigger impact in elementary school, and that for many students, high school is often too late to begin discussing potential careers. RCSD and Sask Polytechnic started the discussion with senior elementary students in April. Sask Polytechnic's student recruitment advisor Emily Weekes (shown here in Jeff Rambow's St. Matthew School class) spoke to the more than 100 career training programs offered by Sask Polytechnic. Quite a few "career seeds" were planted!



## Rockin' Mustangs

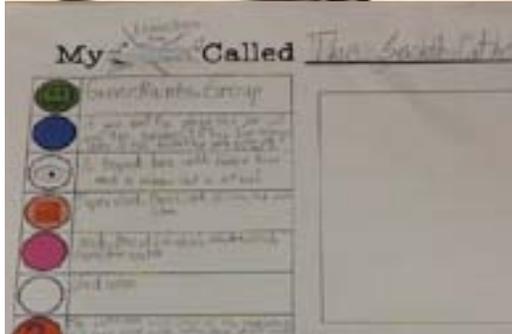
St. Marguerite Bourgeoys School welcomed recording artist Ryan Laird for a presentation about how to stand up to bullying, and following your dreams. His dream was to become a recording artist, and he is! He even convinced an air guitarist to rock out with him!





## Powerful Writing

At St. Bernadette School, Janet Jost and Colleen Kozak, Speech-Language Pathologist, introduced the "Expanding Expression Tool (EET)" to the Grade 2s 3 months ago. The EET gives students a hands-on approach to describing and defining objects. Students used the EET for oral language and writing activities. They began to add more detail into their writing as they described what the object does, looks like, is made of, etc. Sentences have turned from simple to more complex!



## Happy Earth Day!

Kim Chagnon breaks ground while Father Dan blesses the earth at St. Catherine School for a new vegetable garden. Special thanks to the Heart & Stroke Foundation for the grant that will make this possible. It's a beautiful thing to see a school full of kids excited about veggies!

*A true ecological approach knows how to safeguard the environment and justice, hearing the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. ~Pope Francis*



Congratulations to everyone at St. Francis Community School involved in their amazing production of "The Rockin' Tale of Snow White." It was a clever twist on a classic, and every student and teacher was a star!



## Hello, Pluto!

Budding scientists at Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School and Archbishop M. C. O'Neill Catholic High School got a peek into outer space with some help from NASA. Dr. William McKinnon spoke about the recent NASA New Horizons mission to flyby and study Pluto and its moons. His out of this world presentation covered technology in space, relationships between astronomical bodies, and career opportunities in space exploration.



## Amazing Improv

Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School had three competing improv teams this year: The Dinner Guests, Miller of Miller, and No Name Brand Improv. In the junior tournament the Dinner Guests placed 3rd, and No Name Brand Improv won the finals!



Regionally, Miller of Miller placed 3rd, while No Name Brand Improv placed first, and went to the Canadian Improv Games in Ottawa, where they placed 10th in the country! We are so proud!

## Distinguished Employees

A very special congratulations to all the 2015-2016 recipients of the Distinguished Employee Awards!

Del Augustine, Barb Barnes Wilcox, Holly Beitel, Blaine Gibbons, Gaetan Hammond, Michelle Jones, Sandra Mann, Ryan Montague, Monica Norris, Lesley Perrault, Jonas Prysliak, Charlene Rudderham, Jackie Smith, Teresa West, Pat Roth, and Rev. Dr. John Meehan SJ.

Please join us for the 2015-16 Distinguished Employee Awards on Tuesday, May 3 at Holy Child Parish at 7:00 pm.



## Marauders in Black

Miller Comprehensive Catholic High School robotics teams competed for the first time, and they held their own in the middle of the pack, and finished in 4th and 6th places.

Innovation and competition combined, but it was Marauders to the rescue when another team struggled and needed supplies, and Marauders who made it so that everyone could compete. Our future looks bright with the MiB!

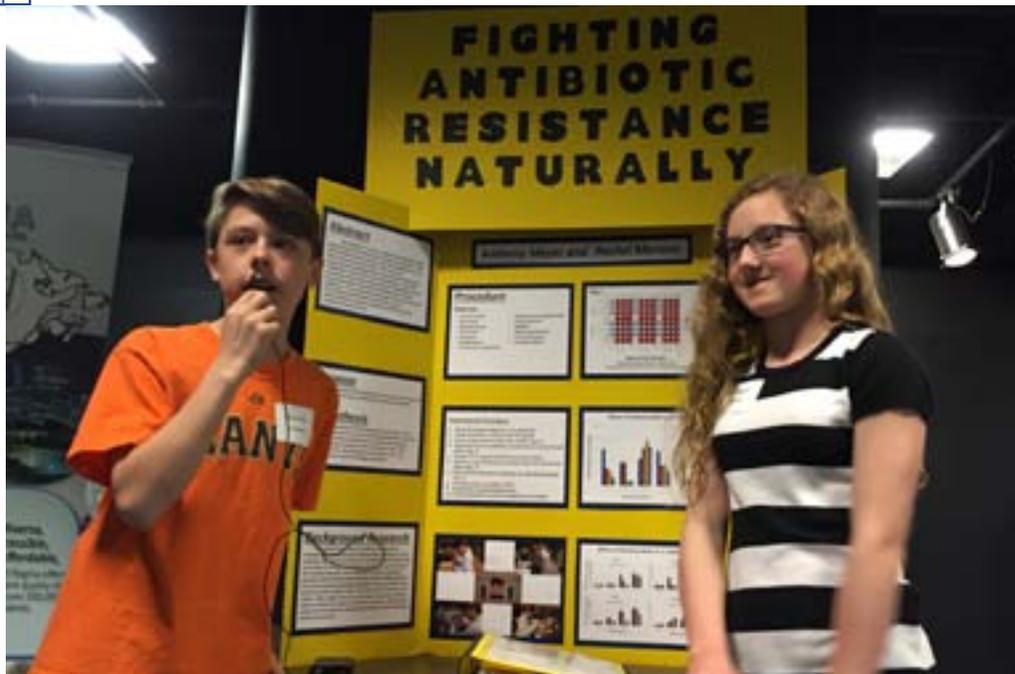
## Elementary Robotics

Like MiB, Grade 8 students from St. Marguerite, led by teacher Shawn White, were also in the annual provincial Skills Canada competition. They entered the Manubot competition where they learned, as Mr. White noted, "about managing time, stress levels, cooperation, teamwork, and how to look beyond the obvious when problem solving." They all came away from the competition with some great experiences.



## A Message from the Catholic Bishops of Saskatchewan

Thursday, May 5, 2016 will be World Catholic Education Day. Through the faith-filled foresight of our ancestors, in Saskatchewan we are blessed with a constitutional right to publicly funded Catholic Education. There theme for World Catholic Education Week in Saskatchewan is, "Catholic Education: Opening Doors of Mercy." In Catholic schools, we encourage our students to focus on answering God's call to be merciful through service to His people. Please add your voice in support of Catholic Education and recognize the week of May 1-7, 2016 as a time of prayer and thanksgiving for the wonderful gift of Catholic Education.



## Inquiry Science Fair

Young scientists who placed at their school science fair moved onto this Division wide event. Projects were presented formally, including award winning "Testing the Effect of Fertilizer on Sprout Seeds," "Tension Arterielle," "Obstacle Avoiding Robot," and "Fighting Antibiotic Resistance Naturally," by St. Matthew students shown here who are off to the National Science Fair in Montreal in May. Student scientists then enjoyed a tour of the Science Centre and an IMAX film.

## Rider Reading

On April 25, Grade 3 students at École St. Andrew welcomed Rider #57 Brendon Labatte to their classroom. The students participated in Rider Reading Month, reading at least 15 minutes a day throughout the month of March. Brendon spoke to the students, read to them and played football with them. Across Saskatchewan, 14,347 students in 648 classes participated in Rider Reading Month.



## Tweets from Pope Francis

"It is important for a child to feel wanted. He or she is not an accessory or a solution to some personal need."

"A true ecological approach knows how to safeguard the environment and justice, hearing the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor."

"Dear Young Friends, your names are written in heaven in the merciful heart of the Father. Be brave and go against the tide!"

@Pontifex