

# St. Mary's Catholic School: 2013-2016 School Education Plan

## Responding to Faith and Provincial Goals

School Community Faith Goal: Many Parts, One Body In Christ

EICS Outcome: Continuing our focus on the *Characteristics of a Catholic School* we recognize, establish, nurture and grow in our partnerships with parish, home, and school.

### Question Guiding Team Inquiry:

- As a Catholic School, what should our school look like? What Catholic characteristics make St. Mary's unique for our students?

### Specific Goal Statement:

- St. Mary's will develop an atmosphere of Sacramentality, Spirituality and Tradition through servant leadership and collaborative ministry. Where our faith is not just permeated but openly shared on many levels.

### Our Strategies and the Incorporation of Division Strategies (Our Actions)

- Students, Staff, Parents and our St. Mary's faith community will be invited and encouraged to participate in the spiritual life of the school. Example, Inviting parents to not only join our assemblies and celebrations, but also as mass celebrants, readers, music ministry.
- Permeate faith into all subjects within the school with faith-based classroom support from our Chaplain and community Priest.
- Confirm Priest visits to the religion classes and school celebrations/events. Investigate other visitation opportunities (ex. talk to the kids during lunch, offer faith retreats, etc.)
- Daily school wide prayer including lunch hour and end of day.
- Staff and student morning (Monday and Friday) reflections and prayer.
- School divine liturgies and seasonal celebrations according to the liturgical year.
- Newsletter and website addition of Chaplain page.
- Permeate our school sacred spaces with icons (crucifixes, prayer tables in all classrooms, signage, etc.). Update prayer tables with proper colour according to liturgical year.
- All Religion students are required to complete service hours as part of the religion program.
- Promote Catholic Education to our faith community within the churches.
- St. Mary's will have an active connection with our two churches in the Vegreville area (St. Martin's Catholic Church and Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church). The school will alternate school-wide masses within the community.
- Encourage staff to participate in Faith-based Professional Development.
- Support the work of the REAL Foundation in creating strong faith experiences for students.
- Include school upcoming events in parish bulletin and parish events in our school newsletters.

### In Year Indicators of Success:

- Quantitative and qualitative (survey) in an ongoing effort to both, increase the number of students, parents and staff satisfied with the Catholic Culture within the school. *It has been two years since we have completed our Catholic Culture survey with our school community.*
- Active student, parent, staff, priest involvement at celebrations and school masses.

Previous results:

Performance Measure (based on division survey results)	Results (2011)			Overall Average
	Students	Parents	Teaching/Support	
Percentage of students, parents and teachers who are satisfied with the religious celebrations at the school.	83%	87%	100% /100%	92.5%
Percentage of students, parents and teachers who are satisfied with what students are learning in Religion classes at school.	77%	81%	82% /90%	82.5%
Percentage of parents who believe that their children are growing as a Christian as a result of their involvement in Catholic Education.	78%	86%	88% /100%	88%

**Expected End of Year Result:**

- Our school will continue to be a place where Christ is present. We are expecting our updated survey results to support our Specific Goal statement.

School Community Learning Goal

Goal One: Success for every student

Provincial Outcome: Students achieve student learning outcomes.

**Question Guiding Team Inquiry:**

- How can we support every student within the school to be successful within their learning program and future academic/career goals?

**Specific Goal Statement:**

- St. Mary's will consistently achieve above the Provincial 3 Year Average on PAT: Excellence and Diploma Exams (Acceptable and Excellence) by June 2016.

**Our Strategies and the Incorporation of Division Strategies (Our Actions)**

- All Teachers will focus on implementing the division-wide strategy on teaching content literacy in all subject areas. *Teacher and student feedback indicate a high number of students struggling with question comprehension and decoding.*
- Identify PAT and Diploma areas of strength, areas for growth, action plan(s) for growth and targets for each subject area. Analysis is to be achieved and facilitated through inter-departmental cooperation where all department Teachers Grade 7 to 12 are aware of the plan for growth and action plan(s).

- Ensure students are counseled to be streamed into proper high school course level as per prerequisites. For example, presently few students have Science 20 prior to taking Science 30. Most grade 12 students are taking the academic stream (30-1) and not exploring the potential of taking a (30-2) minimum requirement of their chosen University faculty.
- Increase AFL and DI strategies for improved student success. The school RTI model and IPP's will be consistently be updated and referred to for all students to succeed.
- Support teacher Professional development to ensure that all staff is equipped to offer consistent excellence within the subject. For example, encourage Teachers to become PAT and Diploma area markers and to administer field tests.
- Consistent monitoring of attendance and punctuality in all classes.
- Insure all Special Needs Students receive appropriate accommodation to maximize student success.
- School Success Coach via MODEL Project to work with students at risk.
- Improve the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies that include off campus opportunities such as Work Experience, RAP and Green Certificate.
- Implement My Blueprints and career cruising as a program to assist all students in career and program planning. • Organize and host post-secondary career day.

#### **In Year Indicators of Success:**

- All Teachers receive literacy professional development. With a focus on ESL benchmarks and question decoding.
- All Teachers will implement 3 - 4 Literacy strategies by the end of each semester.
- 100% of core Teachers will implement the plan for growth and action plan of the department as indicated in the PAT/Diploma subject area review.
- Counsellor and Administration will work with every high school student to ensure proper course enrollment and or future career/post secondary planning is in place.

#### **Expected End of Year Result:**

- Improve the overall percentage of students consistently achieving above the Provincial 3 Yr Average for PAT and Diploma Exams. (Acceptable and Excellence).
- October 2013 – Accountability Pillar results identify PAT: Excellence as an issue for our school (Current result: 14.4%, Previous 3 Yr Average: 20.2%, Alberta previous 3 Yr Average: 19.9%). We have noted a substantial improvement in our PAT and Diploma results last year in all subject areas.

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target	Evaluation		
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Overall percentage of students in Grades 3, 6 and 9 who achieved the acceptable standard on Provincial Achievement Tests (overall cohort results).	91.7	95.1	85.0	69.0	84.4	Maintain	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
Overall percentage of students in Grades 3, 6 and 9 who achieved the standard of excellence on Provincial Achievement Tests (overall cohort results).	13.9	19.6	15.0	25.9	14.4	20.0	Low	Maintained	Issue

- Improve the overall percentage of students and parents consistently satisfied with our student's preparation for lifelong learning and the world of work accountability measure. A recent drop in our result has been noted strategies to address this are in place.
- Current Work Preparation: 75.0% - 3 Yr. Average: 84.1% - Provincial 3 Yr Average: 79.9%.

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target	Evaluation		
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Percentage of teachers, parents and students who are satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.	84.6	83.8	86.4	87.0	83.6	Maintain	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Percentage of teachers and parents who agree that students are taught attitudes and behaviours that will make them successful at work when they finish school.	86.4	86.5	77.8	88.1	75.0	80.0	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable

## Goal Two: Quality teaching and school leadership

**Provincial Outcome: Teacher preparation and professional growth focus on the competencies needed to help students learn. Effective learning and teaching is achieved through collaborative leadership.**

### Question Guiding Team Inquiry:

- How do we work together as a team to empower our staff, students and parents within our learning community?

### Specific Goal Statement:

- St. Mary's will get 75% of our students, staff and parents more engaged as leaders within our school by June 2016.

### Our Strategies and the Incorporation of Division Strategies (Our Actions)

- Re-organize and restructure our student council to become a student leadership group. Empowering our students to become leaders making an active contribution to the school culture and community.

- Empower our staff to take leadership roles within the school and division with administrative support.
- Encourage staff with leadership roles (Coordinator, Facilitator, Counsellor and Principal Designate) to build capacity by becoming educational and curricular leaders within the division.
- Promote Leadership by enhancing our distributed leadership model (Staff, Students, Parents).
- Focus on team building and relationship building between the staff, parents and students.
- Strengthen and encourage staff professional development (Teachers, Secretary, Librarian, Business Manager and Educational Assistants).
- Expand the use of our Professional Learning Communities and reach out to our Professional learning network within the division(s) to support of staff's professional growth.

### **In Year Indicators of Success:**

- Improved student, staff and parent morale as they feel engaged in the decision making of the school.
- Staff will utilize available professional development funds and share their learning with all staff on a consistent basis.
- Student leadership will take ownership and operate/manage in-school dances, fundraisers, pep-rallies and student events.
- Parents are active and visible within the school supporting a variety of student fundraisers and student events.
- Parents are actively taking on leadership roles with the School Council and planning events.

### **Expected End of Year Result:**

- Improve the overall percentage of parental involvement within the school to above the Provincial 3 Year Average.

Current Parental Involvement: 73.5% - 3 Yr. Average: 74.3% - Provincial 3 Yr Average: 79.8%

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target	Evaluation		
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Percentage of teachers and parents satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.	73.8	74.0	74.7	74.3	73.5	80	Low	Maintained	Issue
Percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the overall quality of basic education.	90.1	87.9	86.9	90.1	87.9	Maintain	High	Maintained	Good

- With active student, staff and parent engagement a variety of Accountability Pillar measures will continue to be Good to Excellent on the School Accountability Pillar results such as Safe and Caring, Citizenship, School Improvement. Parental Involvement will improve as parents and students feel engaged in the decision making of the school.