



St. Boniface Diocesan High School Newsletter

June 2020

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Principal's Message

Dear Families of St. Boniface Diocesan High School,

It is hard to believe that the last few days of school are upon us! It is not lost on me that I am writing this letter with the summer equinox only around the corner! June is usually a fantastic and busy month with many events organized to celebrate student successes and their many achievements they have experienced throughout the year. However, with our new adventures of living in a pandemic it has definitely put us on a different path. As we work with the opening of Phase 2, we still know that large gatherings will not take place. Our school is dedicated to our students and have a plan in place for the 2020 graduates and those incrementing to the next grade level.

It is also a time when we ask each other about our plans for the summer. It is during these conversations that we discover some families are moving away and therefore are leaving our community. We also discover that new families are eagerly anticipating joining our school in September. We say goodbye to some staff members who gave much to the students in our school. Their dedication and passion will not be forgotten and their memories will last in our hearts. At the same time, we welcome new staff with a joy and excitement of sharing the warmth and generosity of our family with them as they embark on new career paths. It is that time where we celebrate what we had and anticipate what new adventures lie ahead.

In that spirit, we have already begun preparing for next year but this comes with some uncertainty due to the pandemic. As we look to next year, there are a few items that we believe to be of an important note to returning and new families. I would like to congratulate all the students for the fine year they've had. Also, thank you to parents and guardians for the cooperation, understanding and support they have shown the teachers, and all staff. We had a very successful first semester of the school year, COVID hit us during the beginning of our second semester that put us off course, but our staff and

students worked so hard to adapt to the remote instruction which was successful because everyone worked together.

Good luck to all as we close out the school year. I wish everyone a healthy and happy summer, filled with many blessings.

Details for next fall will be sent out as soon as we receive the guidelines from the Department of Education.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Ms. J. Robinson
Principal

General Information

Board of Directors

Mr. Larry Wandowich, Board Chair
Next meeting: June 2, 2020

Notes on Safety

A portion of Dubuc (near the gym entrance) is marked as a **Wheelchair Loading Zone**. To ensure easier entry/exit for students and visitors with limited mobility, please note and respect the listed restrictions.

SBDHS Website: www.sbdhs.net

2020-21 school calendar, newsletters, photos, alumni connections, student accomplishments and more!

School and Office Hours - Please check website regularly as these times may change due to pandemic.

School Opens 7:30 am-4:00 pm

School Office 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Student pick up: no later than 4:00 pm

Retreats, Assemblies and Masses

These are important and mandatory events for all students. Kindly become familiar with the school calendar and do not make any appointments on these dates.

Dates to Remember

JUNE 2020

June 24 Convocation (modified)

June 26 Year End Mass & Awards (modified)

June 30 Report Cards will be mailed only

Campus Ministry

Liturgical Life

On March 17 SBDHS was blessed to have Archbishop LeGatt and Fr. Le Gal offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation to our students, right before COVID-19 began to impact school activities. Many of our students and staff were able to receive this sacrament.

Fr. Phil Daley celebrated our Easter Mass on April 22 and our Marian Mass on May 13. Both services

were live-streamed via Facebook Live. Thank you, Fr. Phil! It was very encouraging to see so many from our student body logged on to participate!

Our Year End Mass is currently being planned for Friday, June 26. Details will be sent to our families once they are confirmed.

Campus Ministry

The Campus Ministry Overnight Retreat was held once again at the beautiful Light of the Prairies Retreat Center in Lorette, MB from March 5-6. It was a restful 2 days focused on connecting with others. Not only did we have fun ice breakers and an outdoor scavenger hunt, but we learned how to listen effectively and to trust each other. Our evening was both chilly by the bonfire and cozy inside during the movie. A big thank you to Mr. Le Sage and alumna, Janelle Lafantaisie for their collaboration in this annual event!

Grad Retreat – This year’s retreat looked very different! 40 plus students and staff joined our online retreat that lasted almost 2.5 hours. It was so amazing to see everyone’s faces together at the same time! Winners of the scavenger hunt were treated to a home pizza delivery (because what’s an SBDHS retreat without pizza, right?). We also invited 4 alumni to join us and share their post-graduation stories. This was the first Zoom call for Mrs. Thiessen where the participants literally did not want to hang up! What a great afternoon!

During the months of April and May, Campus Ministry students continued to meet once a week for our regular meetings using Zoom. We also formed a Morning Prayer Group that met every Wednesday morning to pray with each other and for each other. Students were also encouraged to worship online with ProjectYM Live. This weekly event gathered thousands of young Catholics online during April and May. We enjoyed wonderful singers and inspirational speakers and ended the evenings off with a discussion group.

Live Different 2020

SBDHS was very excited to host the Live Different Road Team on Wednesday March 4. Our entire school, plus the grade 8 students of Holy Cross School enjoyed a dynamic, one hour long presentation from some amazing young people! They shared personal stories, played fun games with our teachers, but most importantly, they encouraged our young people to find growth amid adversity. Following the presentation, our students had the opportunity to chat one-on-one with team members. What an experience! We look forward to having them back next year!

Athletics

These very strange times without organized sports has hopefully made everyone realize how important being physically active every day is for everyone! Obviously we do not know what the sports world will look like in September, but we have already registered for volleyball and basketball tournaments and look forward to another exciting and action-packed year of high school sports!

I highly recommend that all student-athletes continue to work on their individual skills so they are well prepared to meet the rigours of the season!

You can find many workouts that you can use on my website, along with the very exciting **[BSN TV!](#)**

Arts Department

It has been quite the adventure for the Arts during our last few months of school. Firstly, I want to thank all of the students in the Arts programs this term for their hard work and dedication during this difficult time. It is so difficult to stay motivated and feel creative during a time of unprecedented stress, but you have all come out as stronger artists and musicians as we reach the end of the term. Secondly, thank you to all of the parents and guardians who support their children's creative growth and give them the tools and space to always be creating. It is so important, now more than ever, to

support the arts and creativity in a student's academic career. We thank you.

I was heartbroken when we could not have the annual Spring Showcase and Creative Coffee House, but I know that next year is going to be our best ones yet.

No matter what tools you are given, you have the ability to create something wonderful. See you soon, Centurions!

Ms. Jennifer Walker
Art Department Head

Graduation Committee

On behalf of the members of the Graduation Committee, Mr. Richardson and Mr. Lisowski, we would like to thank everyone for their support and patience during these uncertain times. Thank you to all those who supported our Mom's Pantry and weekly pizza sales this year. Please be assured that our Committee and staff are working hard to put together the best celebration possible under the circumstances, and details will be released as soon as possible. Congratulations to our class of 2020 and thank you to all the committee members for their hard work.

Student Government

Hello students, family and friends of SBDHS,

We would like to say a big thank you for making our experience during this year at SBDHS so memorable. While this is not the end we had hoped for, we are still very grateful for all the school spirit and support shared within this community.

It has been a great school year filled with dress-up days, games, and fundraisers. We hope that everyone had as much fun participating as we had planning these events.

Our Student Government is still hard at work planning more dress-up days and activities to help us stay connected online. During these unprecedented times, we hope everyone stays healthy and knows that we are still united.

Thank you for filling our school year with spirit, camaraderie, and enthusiasm!

Wishing you all the best!
The SBDHS Student Government

Parents' Guild

In June, we take time to look back and reflect on the school year that has passed. This year certainly was one for the history books. Though we face these uncertain times due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we find ourselves appreciating even more the people we need to be distanced from and the activities we are not able to do.

One thing we will never take for granted is the volunteers who give their time to our school events, fundraisers, and Parents' Guild. These are just a few areas where our dedicated volunteers have offered their time throughout this school year and continue to do so though classes are currently suspended. A sincere thank you to you all, you are appreciated! This uncertain time has made it necessary to postpone our Wine Raffle draw which was to take place on March 25, 2020. We will provide more information once a new draw date has been secured, please stay tuned. Thank you to everyone who has donated wine bottles, given monetary donations, and sold raffle tickets for this fundraiser to ensure it is a success. Families who were not able to drop off their tickets and payment prior to the suspension of classes, more information will be forth coming. Please hold on to your

tickets. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

Please join us in September as we start the school year off with a Welcome/Mix & Mingle meeting taking place on Monday, September 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the school Library. We look forward to seeing you.

This year, St. Boniface Diocesan High School marks the milestone of their Fifty-fifth Emerald Anniversary. Our plan was to celebrate with our dear students, parents/guardians, alumni, and supporters by hosting a Fifty-Fifth Emerald Gala and Dance, on Saturday, November 14, 2020 to bring everyone together for a wonderful meal, fellowship and walk down memory lane.

Unfortunately, due to the unpredictability of the Covid-19 pandemic, the planning process to mark this momentous milestone had to come to a halt. It is with great disappointment we share with you the cancellation of our Fifty-Fifth Anniversary Emerald Gala and Dance.

The SBDHS Anniversary Planning Committee will be reconvening to brainstorm ideas in accordance with any Public Health Orders to recognize St. Boniface Diocesan's Emerald Anniversary during the new school year. If you are interested in helping in the planning and execution of this event, please contact the SBDHS Parents' Guild via email: parentsguild@sbdhs.net. Your ideas and thoughts are appreciated.

We would like to thank everyone who provided us with assistance to collaborate ideas, offered catering and decorative services in the planning process for the Gala. A special thank you to the SBDHS Alumni Committee & SBDHS Anniversary Planning Committee for your tireless creative contributions and involvement in the planning process.

Please stay tuned to our School's website and social media for forthcoming details and updates as we reassess plans to celebrate our beloved school with those who hold it dear in their hearts.

Wishing you all a safe and restful summer. We will be keeping our school and community in our prayers as the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic remains. Sincerely,

Kathy Romaniuk, SBDHS Parents' Guild, Chair

On behalf of the SBDHS Parents' Guild we wish you all a restful, safe summer!

Thank you!

St. Boniface Diocesan High School | 282 Dubuc Street | Wpg, MB | R2H
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