



St. Boniface  
Diocesan

Newsletter

June 2022  
Issue 3

***THAT'S A WRAP***

**"It always  
seems  
impossible  
until it's  
done."**



## **UPDATES & SCHOOL NEWS**

We want to share with you all highlights. Stay up to date with our newsletters.

## **REGISTRATION 2022-23**

We are still accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. Apply now online through our website. We look forward to another academic year with your family.

# REGISTRATION 2022-23

Looking for a new opportunity to help your community?

**BECOME A CENTURION TODAY!**



## Why choose St. Boniface Diocesan High School?

We have smaller class sizes averaging 20-25 students per class. This is beneficial to the students as it builds closer relationships with their teachers and fellow peers. SBDHS offers university preparation and academic guidance for students on their journey through high school. SBDHS has accredited university courses available; such as Calculus 1500, Applied Computer Science 1805, and English 1001 with the program "University Now". Students have the opportunity to advance themselves while still in high school. We are a smaller school of 180 students and it has been

proven that students perform well in smaller class settings.

We are a private school that strives to offer a good balance between academics and religious teachings by creating an environment where everyone is safe and welcome. SBDHS works hard at providing their students with excellent education.

Our courses are designed to challenge and engage the minds of our students. Come learn with us and figure out your strengths, ambitions, and interests within an environment of faith.

At SBDHS there is always a new learning opportunity to check out!



# PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Dear Families of St. Boniface Diocesan High School,

It is hard to believe that the year has come to a close for our time together! June is always a fantastic and busy month with many events organized to celebrate student successes and their many achievements they have experienced throughout the year. We were so very pleased that we were able to celebrate all under one roof this year. 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. It is in these conversations we learn of changes on staff. 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 this time I want to wish Miss Meiklejohn and Ms. Mayer all the best in their future endeavours, we appreciated all the work you did with our students and wish you nothing but great success and happiness. 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. We welcome Mr. Hanlon-Dearman and Miss Oliver-Hanna to our teaching staff. It is that time where we celebrate what we had and anticipate what new adventures lie ahead. We are always looking to grow our school community and we appreciate when we hear that we were referred by a former or current student. We want to continue to thank you all for always being positive and supportive of our school, we cannot grow without you and we are definitely better with you!

In that spirit, we have already begun preparing for next year. 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.

And lastly, my time at SBDHS has come to a close as well. I have been truly blessed with getting to know so many young men and women of tomorrow that my heart is full. Saying goodbye is never easy as most of us know but cherishing the memories of our time is most valuable. I cannot say enough about this school community. I will miss each one of the students. If we have learned anything from the past few years is the most important thing in our life journey is the relationships we have. I also was blessed with a tremendous staff community, we have certainly grown over the past years and added new members to help our school align with the Catholic teachings and continue to the mission and vision of the school. My heart is full! But God has called me to another community and might have even given me a little more time in my schedule to complete my Masters. So I thank you all for your support over these past six years and hope our paths cross one day and please say hello if they do.

Good luck to all as we close out the school year. I wish everyone a healthy and happy summer, filled with blessings. In the words of our Valedictorian, Von H. "I hope the future's so bright, that you gotta wear shades" ~Timbuk 3~

Always Yours in Catholic Education,

Ms. J. Siska  
Principal



# **YEAR END DEPARTMENT HEAD WRITE-UPS**

## **The English Language Arts Department**

The English Department is excited to have completed another great year. We were very happy to have Ms. Proulx join us this year and we look forward in the future to further incorporating literary experiences from a variety of cultural perspectives, particularly the Indigenous perspective. Have a safe and restful summer.

**Ms. Olson, Ms. Proulx, Mr. Lisowski**

## **The Religion Department**

The Religion Department has worked very closely with Campus Ministry this year in coordinating the spiritual development of our students. We were excited to have Mr. Resendes return to our school as the Coordinator of Campus Ministry with his energy and enthusiasm and we look forward to incorporating more Christian Service opportunities into our programming next year. God Bless and have a good summer.

**Mr. LeSage, Mr. Lisowski, Mr. Resendes**

## **Mathematics Department**

The Math Department would like to congratulate all of our students on a successful year and we wish them all the best as they prepare for their final exams.

"Happiness multiplies the more we divide it"

**Ms. Kula**

## **Athletic Department**

It was another exciting season of Centurion Athletics and it was so good to see everyone back after a two year pandemic hiatus! I would like to thank the coaches, staff, and parents who put in a lot of time to make our program so outstanding! A special thanks to our graduating athletes who have contributed so much to our school! Stay active so you can lead a healthier, happier and more intelligent life! Anyone interested in helping our Centurion Athletics program by coaching please contact Mr. Scott.

**Mr. Scott**



# YEAR END DEPARTMENT HEAD WRITE-UPS

## The Science Department

The 2021-2022 school year saw a return to normal classes and the science department had a great year. All Grade 9 and 10 students participated in the 35th annual school-wide science fair – held for the first time since the pandemic – and there were many creative and innovative projects! Science students successfully completed their courses in both semesters and a number of Grade 12 students graduated with the “Tri-Science Certificate” for completing three science courses at the 40S level. We want to wish all the returning students a restful and safe summer. See you all in September!

**Mr. Geoff Richardson**

## The Visual Arts Department

Hello SBDHS! I hope everyone enjoys a happy and safe summer break. This past school year, we were able to present two separate theater productions in December. These included: "The Happiness Project" and "The Fried Koubassa". Hopefully, in the Fall semester, we will be able to present live theater productions. If you are able to offer assistance to work the AV equipment, please notify the school office. Stay tuned for the production date. I look forward to being able to teach out of the Performance Arts room in September; there will be some new and exciting changes to be seen in that room. In the Visual Arts department, students enjoyed learning how to use different mediums such as: pencils, ink, charcoal, watercolour, acrylic paint and oil pastels. I look forward to the 2022-2023 school year, to see what we are able to produce. In Photography, students learn the elements of photography and compositional techniques. We learned about so many different photographers, learned how to create all kinds of photographs such as: blind photography, portraits, double-exposure portraits, nature photographs and more. Stay tuned for some new and exciting projects for the 2022-2023 school year!

**Ms. Proulx**

# ST. BONIFACE DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOL

## REGISTER NOW

ACCEPTING  
APPLICATIONS FOR  
2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Please visit our website  
to register [www.sbdhs.net](http://www.sbdhs.net)



# CAMPUS MINISTRY YEAR END MESSAGE

## The Campus Ministry

It has been an amazing year back at St. Boniface Diocesan Highschool! Thank you to all the staff and students for the warm welcome back and to making this an amazing year.

Campus Ministry has been busy this year! We have been graced this second semester with a return to a familiar normalcy as restrictions loosened. So it was great to be able to host lots of events throughout the year. One of the highlights from both semesters were the two overnight retreats, the Advent-Christmas and the Lent- Easter overnight retreats which provided all students that signed up opportunities to dive deeper into these great days in our liturgical year, while also building friendships and work together in some great challenges. A first this year was being able to have all four Catholic highschools gather at our school for Thinkfast, the social justice themed 24 hour fast initiated by Development and Peace. It was a great chance for students to meet other people from the Catholic highschools who have similar interests in Social Justice.

As things grew back to a particular calmness, we were able to gather once again as an entire school at Holy Cross Parish for our school masses. Seeing everyone fill the church once again was a remarkable sight to see. We gathered for both the Easter Mass, Marian Mass with our Marian Statue procession, and our Year End Mass at St. Boniface Cathedral. How grateful we are that we no longer need to zoom our school masses!

A new gathering this year was the weekly Tuesday Faith Talks. This afterschool gathering was a great opportunity for students to engage with church teaching in a discussion based format. We were able to discuss lots of relevant issues as topics often emerged out of things happening in the world or online. Some topics have included, "Why is the bible still important?" , "Does religion matter in 2022?", "Who will be saved?", " The Purpose, and my Purpose in life" and much more.

This has just been a small glimpse into the amazing first year as Campus Minister is at SBDHS. It has been amazing getting to know everyone in every grade. I want to wish everyone an amazing summer and a great job for all the hard work you have done. Remember that even throughout the summer, that we can live out our school theme this year: "Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God!" (1 Corinthians 10: 31). The heart of our lives as disciples of Jesus is to glorify his name, and to love everyone around us.

Have a Great summer!

**Mr. Michael Resendes**



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTS OFFICERS, AIMS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SEPTEMBER

Exciting news from the SBDHS Board of Directors as it appoints its executive officers for the upcoming school year. Leading the charge for 2022/2023 will be Sylvester Oyamienlen (Board Chair), Ela Kotula (Vice-Chairperson), Lisa Saunders (Secretary) and Sr. Susan Wikeem (Finance Chair). Our new officers are supported by a strong complement of trusted, diligent Board members including Fr. Carl Tarnopolski, Lumena Cabral, Anjelica Salas and Clark Sinnott – as well as new incoming Principal Jeff Le Sage. Many thanks to outgoing Principal Jaime Siska who has done incredible work at the school, made an enormous impact in students' lives and led administration in providing excellent Catholic education in our school. Jaime has been a light and inspiration to the Board these past years and we wish her well in her new endeavors. The Board's committees have been hard at work fulfilling their objectives. The Executive Committee helped oversee initiatives like next year's tuition increase, bursary distribution and strategies for the Board's mission and work. Meanwhile, the Nominating and Government Committee recruited three potential new Board members for the fall (applications being considered), while the Human Resources Committee oversaw the hiring process for our principal designate, Mr. Le Sage. The Marketing and Communications Committee provided the Open House promotional video, newsletter assistance and guidance – and will work on the school's external engagement strategies in the fall. Finally, the Finance Committee created a new long-term vision for budgeting, managed financial reports, and happily reports a balanced budget for the year. Many thanks to our dear SBDHS families and students for their ongoing dedication to our school and adherence to Catholic education, and sincere gratitude to our SBDHS staff and administration for all you do. Enjoy an amazing summer and God bless.





# ALUMNI/ OF THE MONTH



Kimberly Wills  
Class of '17

Kimberly is currently attending the University of Manitoba working towards her Bachelor of Science with a major in computer science. She will be a fourth-year student starting this upcoming September. For the summer, she will be working part-time for the Government of Manitoba as a web developer. It will be a remote position, but she will be back to in-person schooling at the University of Manitoba this fall. Kimberly has many highlights of being a student at SBDHS but her greatest highlight was all the people she got to know both her friends and classmates as well as the staff members. Some of her other highlights include playing Monopoly in accounting class, the projects in Chemistry on redox reactions, Mr. Scott's gym classes, and the St. B spirit days/retreats. Kimberly feels that St. B shaped her to grow her confidence and encouragement with the environment. St. B helped Kimberly have the knowledge to develop study skills so that she could successfully start University after graduation. All her teachers during her time at SBDHS helped to inspire her and motivate her to become the person she is today. Kimberly, is very grateful for having the opportunity to attend such a great school.

**BE THE NEXT TO SHARE YOUR STORY**



## Truth and Reconciliation Update – June 2022

For those who might not be aware, after the uncovering of unmarked graves in May 2021 the Manitoba Catholic Schools Truth and Reconciliation Advisory Committee was established to further promote truth and reconciliation and continued learning between our Catholic schools and the Indigenous community. Made up of educators and parent volunteers of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous backgrounds, this committee has worked hard throughout the past year to listen to the needs of educators, implement important projects, and provide support for this journey toward reconciliation.

Our first accomplishment was developing a land acknowledgment for the Manitoba Catholic Schools homepage that acknowledged the ancestral lands of the Indigenous peoples in which we now live, work, learn, and play on. While many schools have developed their own land acknowledgements unique to their school communities, the one developed by the Advisory Committee offers schools guidance in the way we must respectfully acknowledge the homeland of Indigenous peoples.

Our biggest task this year was developing a survey for educators within the school community that anonymously asked where people felt they were at on their journey. This included asking what knowledge or formal training educators may already have, how comfortable or open they felt their school was towards the topic of reconciliation, and what areas they felt they needed the most support in. Overall, this survey helped us identify key areas of focus and determined the direction the advisory committee would take going forward.

From here, we developed a blog site for our school community where educators could pose questions, share resources, or even ideas for the Advisory Committee to review. Through this blog, those within our Catholic Schools community can share the literature their students are responding well to, or classroom speakers that provided valuable insight. All in all, the blog is set up to be a safe space for educators to learn from each other and share their experiences while also receiving the continued guidance of the Advisory Committee.

Overall, there has been an overwhelmingly positive response within the community for the work being carried out by the Advisory Committee, and the encouraging feedback we have received has helped shape and develop what our next steps going forward will be. We must point out however, that we have had many schools be champions within our community at setting up their own committees and developing their own forms of learning into several aspects of their school lives through P.D days, smudging ceremonies, classroom activities, and more. We thank you for all the hard work that you are doing in promoting truth and reconciliation both in and out of our classrooms.

As a requirement of the archbishops, all employees in Manitoba Catholic school over the past two years have completed the online program 4 Seasons of Reconciliation that was developed in partnership with the First Nations University of Canada. This program will continue to be required for all new employees and will also be available for others in school communities to complete.

Going forward, our focus for next year is to address some of the key areas identified by educators in the survey to best support the needs of our school communities. If you are interested in joining the Manitoba Catholic Schools Truth and Reconciliation Advisory Committee next year which meets monthly, please feel free to contact Robert Praznik, Superintendent at [mcsadmin@archwinnipeg.ca](mailto:mcsadmin@archwinnipeg.ca) for more information.

May God bless you with a happy and healthy summer!

Miigwech, Thank you

The MCS Advisory Committee for Truth and Reconciliation  
Robert Praznik, Superintendent

## Donate to St. Boniface Diocesan

The St. Boniface Diocesan High School Bursary Fund is key to maintaining the access and diversity of our student body and is part of the legacy of our SBDHS roots.

We invite you to share our vision of education for young students in spirit, mind, and body. Your generosity, from a small donation to a large endowment, will enable SBDHS to remain a center of educational excellence for young students. Please visit our website to donate.  
[www.sbdhs.net](http://www.sbdhs.net)







***Educational Tours***

# TRAVEL

Are you ready for a trip of a lifetime? Our Educational Tour is booked for Spring Break 2023! Do you want to travel with us to Paris, Rome and the Riviera? Now is the time to get registered!

We believe travel is for everyone. When students go beyond the classroom it brings education to life, unlocks new potential, and opens a world of possibilities.



# NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH



## LEARN LIKE LIVE



Cheerful National Indigenous History Month! – Wishing you a remarkable Month of June! We cannot thank the Indigenous people enough for their contributions to this country! Let us all rejoice and celebrate their rich culture, heritage, and achievements! Please join us in joining hands in thanking the Indigenous people who have made tremendous offerings to our country! St. Boniface Diocesan is celebrating National Indigenous History Month learning, liking and living. We want to learn something new and positive about Indigenous Canadians, we would like to support or share Indigenous peoples achievements and live while understanding that reconciliation is a road that both Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people in Canada are walking.

The Month of June is National Indigenous History Month a time for all Canadians Indigenous, non-Indigenous, and newcomers to reflect upon and learn the history, sacrifices, cultures, contributions, and strength of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people. It is also an opportunity to recognize the strength of present-day Indigenous communities. Please join us this month in celebrating Canadian Indigenous History!





St. Boniface Diocesan High School has a NEW INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM! We are excited to announce that we have partnered with the Canada Homestay Network. SBDHS international high-school students (strictly following gov't travel & health protocols) are excited to come to SBDHS for our great education programs & outdoor life. Children in families who host international students learn to meet inter-cultural challenges with open minds & learn to advocate for people who may be vulnerable.

If you've ever considered hosting an international student in your home, now is the time to apply! Learn more & apply at:



<https://whyihost.canadahomestaynetwork.ca/>





**We are  
looking to  
expand**

POSITION:  
Board Member

 **APPLY NOW:**  
more information below



InformNet, Manitoba's online high school, is holding an online summer session from July 4-29, 2022. This is open to all students in Manitoba who have not successfully completed a course(s) during the regular academic year or wish to improve their passing grade. The Manitoba government is covering the \$210 per course fee for current Manitoba high school students

St. Boniface Diocesan High School is seeking members of the community to join our board. The Board of Directors of SBDHS is missioned by the Archdiocese of St. Boniface to provide governance and policy direction to the school's administration and uphold the Catholic mission and values of the school. If you are a parent/guardian or alumni, please contact the school for more information.

## Calling all Grade 9-12 Students

your education, your choice.  
Don't forget to register for the 2022-2023 school year!

**APPLY NOW ONLINE AT [WWW.SBDHS.NET](http://WWW.SBDHS.NET)**





## Parents' Guild Helpers Needed

### **Parents' Guild Executive Members**

Mrs. Jacquelyn Kelly  
**Chairperson**

Mrs. Dorothy Herr  
**Staff Representative**

Mrs. Ning U.  
**Secretary**

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Being on the guild does not mean volunteering hours of time (but you sure can if you like). The meetings are once a month and generally run under an hour. If time is not on your side we would even love you to volunteer your ideas.

We embrace everyone from different walks of life with different ideas and opinions. Any bit of participation is welcomed. We have executive positions open and if that's not for you, why not become a member at large and get in on the voting process? Or just be present to hear what's going on in the school!

With fundraising events being a bit slower this year due to the pandemic, it's a great year to try us out. I encourage you all to come and see for yourself how important it is for the school and our kids, to have us as parents, involved with their home away from home. May God keep you healthy and safe and watch over our school.

**Jacquelyn Kelly**  
**Chairperson**



# GRADUATES CORNER 22'

Class of 2022, you are moving on to a new and exciting chapter in your life. SBDHS wishes you all the best for the future that lies ahead.

Congratulations on your Graduation.

Behind you are all your memories, before you are all your dreams, around you are all who love you, within you all you need. -Aditi Kumari

"Let God grant what is in your heart and fulfill all your plans".  
-PSALM 20:4



2022 VALEDICTORIAN  
VON HANESIAK



CLASS OF  
2022



# GRADUATES CORNER





# AROUND SBHDS





# AROUND SBHDS





# FARWELL TO MS. SISKA

Dear Ms. Siska,

Over the past 6 years, your inspirational leadership has shaped each student's education at St. Boniface Diocesan High School. Your guidance has created an environment in which students and teachers have been able to succeed. It is with great sadness we must now say goodbye. Thank you for your excellent leadership. We wish you the best as you continue to grow on your career path.

Sincerely,  
SBDHS Staff





@SBDHSWPG



@SBDHSWPG



@SBDHS/WPG



@DIOCESANST