



**Board Monthly Calendar**

The board monthly calendar has been posted to your Google Docs and will be updated as events unfold and/or change throughout the year.

**Faith Café**

Faith Cafés took place in all of our schools in preparation for Christmas as part of our Advent journey. In addition, Central Office staff participated for the first time in Faith Café. These gatherings provided a time to ask questions, have fun, enjoy coffee, listen together, learn about faith, and connect with others. Here are the dates and times of our 2015 Faith Cafés:

- Monday, December 7th: St. Dominic Elementary School (3:40 pm)
- Monday, December 7th: Notre Dame High School (3:40 pm)
- Tuesday, December 8th: Holy Family Catholic School (3:40 pm)
- Thurs. and Fri., December 10-11th: Notre Dame Elementary School (at lunch)
- Thursday, December 10th: Dr. Bernard Brosseau School (3:40 pm)
- Monday, December 14th: Central Services (at lunch)
- Tuesday, December 15th: Assumption Junior/Senior High School (3:40 pm)
- Wednesday, December 16th: Holy Cross Elementary School (lunch)



**Sharing the Faith**



Sharing the Faith took place on December 1st and 2nd this year. We were grateful to have Father Jacob join participants for this session. The focus of Sharing the Faith was Cornerstones of Faith. Participants reflected on a *Faith that is Distinctly Catholic* while exploring the Nicene Creed. Groups came up with questions during the evening and then each group decided on a burning question. Burning questions were sent to our Bishop and he is responding to them on the Diocese website. This is an innovative way of taking the learning beyond the session. Sharing the Faith offers an opportunity for staff to consider scripture and prepare their hearts and minds for masses in Advent.



**Christmas Parades**

This year the District entered floats in the Christmas parades in both Cold Lake (November 27th) and Bonnyville (December 5th). This was the first time in about ten years that Bonnyville has held a parade. The focal point of the float was a playhouse donated by Thinkwerx and the float also featured banners donated by Thinkwerx. The children's playhouse is being raffled off with proceeds going to our project with Habitat for Humanity; the draw will be on December 11th. The winning entries from the District's Gingerbread Colouring Contest were featured on the float. During the parades, staff distributed candy and information cards about Habitat for Humanity. The weather was mild during both evenings so there was a record turnout at each event. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the season and highlight the District.





**Giving Tuesday**

Our District was pleased to partner with the Lakeland Credit Union on Giving Tuesday (December 1st) this year. Our Habitat for Humanity project is the recipient of this fundraising. Giving Tuesday is the first Tuesday after Black Friday and Cyber Monday and it marks a day of charity and giving just before Christmas. The District would like to thank the Lakeland Credit Union branches in Cold Lake and Bonnyville for partnering on this campaign. They would also like to thank all of the LCSD schools and Central Office for participating in this initiative.

LCSD collectively raised \$1943.00  
 The Lakeland Credit Union branches raised \$1606.20  
 Online donations: \$1790.00  
**Total raised to date: \$5339.20**



**Food Drives**

There are a number of food drives and social justice initiatives going on across the District to help those who are less fortunate this Christmas season. Our staff and students show a great deal of compassion in helping those who are less fortunate. Many of us are getting in the giving spirit and one of the most impactful ways people can help their community is by making a donation to the food bank. Two initiatives that the District would like to highlight are the food drives that have taken place in two of our high schools. Both Assumption Junior/Senior High School and Notre Dame High School collected food and money for the local foodbanks. The students in Bonnyville collected enough food to fill a bus and the students in Cold Lake collected over 40 boxes of food. Both schools also collected cash donations. While finding solutions to hunger is a complex undertaking, the support of community food banks is a huge step in ensuring we can relieve hunger today.



**Susan Aglukark**

Susan was at the Bonnyville Centennial Centre (C2) for two sessions on Monday, December 7th. Her first session was at 10:00 am for students in grade 2 to 6. Her afternoon session started at 1:00 pm and was for students in grade 7 to 12. Students from Lakeland Catholic Schools in Bonnyville, Cold Lake, and Waskatenau attended this highly anticipated event. A number of special guests attended including elders, students and staff from Kehewin Cree Nation, Cold Lake First Nations and Elizabeth Metis Settlement. Susan's sessions included a mix of talks and songs. Because things changed for indigenous people so rapidly, they are in a constant struggle to both catch up and keep up with modern day society. We were incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to host an artist of this caliber right here in Bonnyville.



**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**