

Principal's Message

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Principal

Mr. Darren Sweeney

Assistant Principal

Mr. Darrell Regehr

Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Edgar Schmidt

Board Chair

Mr. David Colburn

Ward C Trustee

Mr. Christopher Spencer

Dear Parents,

February is the month that many kindness type of occasions are observed or celebrated. Valentine's Day and Random Acts of Kindness Week are two of the more predominant ones. Whenever Valentine's Day rolls around I think, "Why do we have to choose a day to celebrate caring about other people?" Inevitably, I answer my own question, realizing that in our busy lives, caring about people is the first, and easiest thing to be neglected.

Even though February has past and the kindness occasions are behind us, I can assure you that caring and kindness will still remain a focus at Meadowlark Christian School. I am proud to work with the staff and students at Meadowlark Christian School and see acts of compassion and kindness on a daily basis. I also appreciate the many acts of kindness that the parents of the school community regularly offer.

The kindness and caring that I am referring to is not of the Hallmark card variety. It is about listening to a despondent child who is struggling with peer or family issues. It's about a grade six student helping a kindergarten student who is just beginning to read. It is about volunteering countless hours to a school activity that may be the bright spot in life for a young person. It is about coming into the school and helping your child's classroom teacher. It is about serving on school council or other parent groups and giving up hours of your personal time. It's about a teacher staying late, or giving up their personal lunch time to help students who are having difficulty with their academics. It's about volunteering to coach an athletic team even though the teaching workload is weighing you down. It's about spending countless hours to plan a mission's trip so that students can be blessed to serve others in a foreign country. I could go on and on, but the most important idea that must not be forgotten is that on a daily basis, acts of compassion are occurring within the walls of MCS.

We all know that Maya Angelou was correct when she said, "If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded." Working together and supporting each other is an ideal vehicle for moving toward our goal of helping all students succeed in their educational program.

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

Sir Winston Churchill

Mr. D. Sweeney

LEARNING through academics **LIVING** in Christ **LEADING** by serving others **LOVING** with strength of character



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Campus Crusade For Christ (Breakthrough Prayer Ministry)

We are a group of parents at Meadowlark Christian School who are members of Campus Crusade For Christ (Breakthrough Prayer Ministry), which is dedicated to encouraging and supporting schools through prayer. Anyone is welcome to join us for prayer Tuesday mornings at 9:00 , upstairs in the staff room, to pray for the students and staff.

If you are interested in finding out more or have any prayer requests please give Carol Milner a call at 780-470-3659 or email at milners@airsurfer.ca

Get to know your Ward C Trustee, Christopher Spencer:

<http://www.epsb.ca/trustees/ctrustee.shtml>

Hot Lunch

The next hot lunch is Opa! on March 15.



Compassion Child Month

Compassion Child Month was a success! K - grade 3 raised \$470.96, grades 4 - 6 raised \$491.21 and grades 7 - 9 raised \$191.86 for a total of \$1154.03. MCS sponsors three children through Compassion Canada; each Division sponsoring one child. The funds raised will support our MCS Compassion children. Great job MCS!

Congratulations

Brianna Braun and Nick Aikema both entered poems from their Language Arts portfolio into a writing contest by Creative Communications. Both had their poems accepted, and as a result, will have their poems published in an anthology alongside pieces written by young people from across Canada! Congratulations, Nick and Brianna, for your literary achievement!

Hoop Camp

The thirteenth annual edition of Hoop Camp will be taking place at West Edmonton Christian Assembly on **July 9-13**. This camp is for girls and boys ages 8-13 years who enjoy basketball and want to improve their skills in a fun and encouraging environment. It is going to be another fantastic camp... you won't want to miss it! Registration forms are available across from the main office, on SchoolZone under 'School News', at www.weca.com or by e-mailing Kent Krikke at kent.krikke@epsb.ca.

Register soon!!

MCS Foundation Tax Receipts

If you have any questions regarding tax receipts please contact Sandra Di Cesare at the school. (780) 483-6476 or Sandra.Dicesare@epsb.ca

Cheques Payable To:

Please check correspondence information any time fees are required, to ensure that cheques are made out to the correct payee. Failure to do so will result in the cheque being returned for correction before it can be processed. When you are paying fees for Registration, Alternative Program or Mexico Mission, cheques must be made payable to **MCS Foundation Ltd**, not Meadowlark Christian School or MCS. Most other cheques for field trips, bus fees, and fundraising are made payable to **Meadowlark Christian School**, not MCS. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Progress reports available on SchoolZone

SchoolZone has become the delivery method of choice for providing school information to parents and students. Log in to SchoolZone regularly to check for new items such as monthly newsletters, Provincial Achievement test results, HLAT results, IPP's, Progress Reports, school news, and homework. And remember, your parent login provides greater access to SchoolZone items than the students login does.

Spotlight on Literacy Overview

The District's Literacy Steering Committee has collaborated with Communications to create a series of one page information documents entitled Spotlight on Literacy. These monthly documents will provide parents and the community with information about the District's focus on literacy for the 21st century learner. Topics for the Spotlight on Literacy series are based on key ideas in the [K-12 Literacy for 21st Century Learners Guiding Document](#). A new topic will be introduced during the first week of each month in the following order:

- March – Oral Language
- April – Critical Thinking
- May – Digital Literacy
- June – Creativity

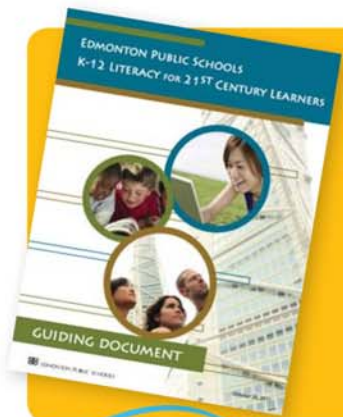
The first Spotlight on Literacy document can be [accessed here](#).

Spotlight on Literacy

At Edmonton Public Schools, we recognize what it means to be literate in the 21st century. Literacy doesn't *just* take the form of reading and writing anymore. Today, literacy also involves helping students build a wide range of skills and abilities. We're focused on ensuring the knowledge they acquire now creates a foundation for their future success. We live in a dynamic world that offers amazing opportunities to learn, progress, and innovate. We want to see our students make the most of these opportunities.



© Alberta Education. Draft Graphic of "Competencies of the 21st Century Learner", *Inspiring Action on Education: A Discussion Paper*, June 2010, Page 9. <http://engage.education.alberta.ca/uploads/1006/20100621inspiringac186934.pdf> (Accessed February 2011)



Did you know?

Our school district has created a K to 12 Literacy for 21st Century Learners Guiding Document. It helps to outline the big picture – explaining how we're working to support literacy learning for students of all backgrounds and abilities. Talk to your child's teacher or principal to see how a focus on literacy is coming to life in your school.

Next Steps

In the coming months, look for information sheets to learn more about the role you can play in helping your child gain important skills and knowledge, so that they can realize their full potential.

Extraordinary Supports for Extraordinary Students

A special workshop designed for parents/caregivers of children within Edmonton Public Schools who have a severe disability.

Thursday, March 15, 2012
7:00 to 9:00 pm

Centre for Education, McCauley Chambers
One Kingsway Avenue
(Blue building with Free underground parking, across from the Royal Alexandra Hospital)

Panel Presentation from 7 to 8 pm

- Family Supports for Children with Disabilities
- Disability Tax Credit
- City of Edmonton (recreation/programs/camps)
- Parent Presentation

Presentations will be followed by a question & answer session, refreshments and resource tables.



To Register:
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LWTBYJK>
or call Kim at 780-429-8040 by Fri. March 9th.

This free workshop is for adults only.

Co-hosted by Edmonton Public Schools Partners in Education and Inclusive Learning Services.

Note: The Centre for Education is a scent sensitive building, and we appreciate your efforts to avoid the use of perfumes and colognes

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* Important information regarding the Pre-enrolment process

The pre-enrolment process at Edmonton Public Schools helps you plan for the upcoming school year, and gives schools the chance to make plans based on the number of students they will expect to welcome in the fall.

Please consider the following when making choices for the 2012-2013 school year:

- Collect information about the schools and programs that interest you.
- If you need help finding your attendance area school and the programs it offers, call the Planning department at 780-429-8122.
- Get a feel for different schools by visiting them during their open house events.
- To learn more about our schools, the programs they offer, and their open house dates, visit our website at www.epsb.ca.
- If your child is continuing at the same school, please fill out a passport provided by the school principal.
- Children who are four years of age on or before March 1, 2012 may register in Kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year. Please contact your attendance area school to find out about registration, open houses and Kindergarten orientation.

The pre-enrolment deadline for all schools is April 16, 2012 unless you are applying to a school with entrance criteria (Crestwood, Grandview, Old Scona & Victoria). The deadline for applying to a school with entrance criteria is March 7, 2012. Visit planning.epsb.ca/enrolment/pre-enrolment for further information regarding the pre-enrolment process.

Look for your child's pre-enrolment passport to be sent home in March.

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Education Forum

Hosted by the Edmonton Public Schools Board of Trustees

When: 7 p.m. • Wednesday, April 4, 2012
Where: Centre for Education, McCauley Chambers, One Kingsway, Edmonton
Featuring: Candidates from five political parties
Moderator Lesley MacDonald

Reception with candidates to follow.
Free underground parking (north side of building)

Can't make it but still want to contribute possible questions?
www.tinyurl.com/ElectionsForum

Live forum webcast:
www.livestream.com/edmontonpublicschools

To RSVP, please contact: Kim McEwan at 780-429-8040 or kim.mcewan@epsb.ca before **March 30**.

Note: Photographs may be taken at the event, which may be used on the District's website and in other publications.

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Young Authors! in Grades 4, 5 & 6

March 1 & 2, 2012

Teachers' Convention -

Satisfy your desire to write with 3 authors and an illustrator at this 2-day day camp.

March 26 & 27, 2012
Spring Break - Pursue

your passion for writing with 3 authors and an illustrator at this 2-day day camp.

Junior High Students
March 28 & 29, 2012

Spring Break - Expand your writing skills with the help of 4 local authors at this 2-day day camp.

For information or to register
The Bennett Centre

Phone 780-468-1439 or 1-800-664-6630
www.bennettcentre.epsb.ca - see camps for printable registration form.

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OUR DOORS ARE OPEN!

Come in & discover what makes our schools distinct!

Edmonton Public Schools serves the unique strengths, needs and interests of over 80,000 students through regular community school programming and more than 30 alternative programs. Choosing a school or program is an exciting and important decision, and there's no better way to find the right fit for your family than to visit an open house.

Find the school for you at:
OPENHOUSE.EPSB.CA

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Bright futures begin here*

Open House Dates

Edmonton Christian High School

March 5 - 6:30 - 8:30

Jasper Place High School

AP/IB Information Evening

February 8 - 6:30 pm

Open House

March 8 - 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Lillian Osborne High School

(2019 Leger Road)

IB Information Evening

February 2 - 7 - 9:00 pm

Open House

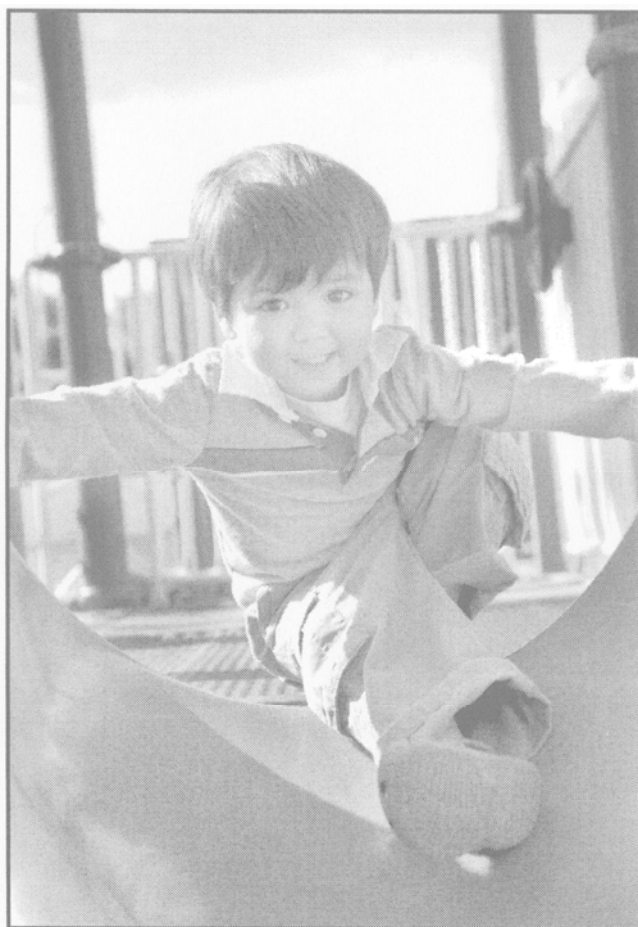
February 23 - 7 - 9:00 pm

Ross Sheppard High School

March 7 - 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Victoria School of the Arts High School

February 28 - 6 - 8:00 pm



OPEN HOUSE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2012 7-8pm

- Christian Program
- Kindergarten to Grade 9
- Proven strong academic results
- Excellent sports program

NOW ACCEPTING
KINDERGARTEN
APPLICATIONS
Some spaces also
available in Grades 1-9

*T*MCS

Meadowlark Christian School

9825-158 Street, Edmonton, AB
www.k-9christian.com • 780-483-6476

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Teacher's Convention no school for students </div>		
4	5 JH Journal Games Relays & Individuals (Butterdome)	6	7	8	9 Progress report posted to SchoolZone	10 Elem & JH AB Indoor Track & Field Championships (Butterdome)
11 Elem & JH AB Indoor Track & Field Championships (Butterdome) Daylight Savings Time begins	12 School Council meeting 7 pm	13	14 Open House - 7 pm	15 Parent/ Teacher Inter- views (2:30- 7:00 pm) Hot Lunch	16 PD Day - no school for stu- dents	17
18	19	20	21	22 Mexican Fiesta	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 80%; margin: auto;"> Spring Break </div>					

Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendars

March 24 - April 1 - Spring Break
 April 5 - Commissioning Service for Missions Trip - 2:30 pm
 April 6 - Good Friday - no school
 April 7-21 - Grade 9 Missions Trip
 April 9 - Easter Monday - no school