

MAGRATH SCHOOLS



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

WE ARE FORTUNATE TO LIVE IN THE WESTWIND COMMUNITY WHERE EDUCATION IS VALUED. AS LIFELONG LEARNERS, WE BELIEVE THAT WE MUST LEARN OUR WAY FORWARD. THE MESSAGE WE SEND TO ALL STUDENTS IS THAT THEY ARE IMPORTANT AND THEY CAN SUCCEED. AS PARTNERS IN EDUCATION, IN ORDER TO GET THE BEST OUT OF CHILDREN, WE MUST GIVE THE BEST OF OURSELVES.

DR. DOUG BENNETT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Westwind's high school completion rate is 13% higher than the provincial average.
- 77% of Westwind high school students are eligible for the Rutherford Scholarship (requiring an average of at least 75%), which is 20% higher than the provincial average.
- 90.5% of parents, students and teachers surveyed indicated that they are satisfied with the quality of education Westwind students are receiving. Many staff members and students have become involved in wellness programs.
- Westwind School Division is justifiably proud of the Raymond

High School for winning 5 Provincial Championships in Boys' Tier 1 Football, 4 A Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Girls' Rugby and Rodeo Tie Down Roping. The pursuit of excellence is always accompanied by dedicated athletics, coaches, parents and community members.



WHAT'S NEW?

- Westwind schools have benefited from the Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AIS I) for the past nine years. During that time, "AIS I" has provided additional support for a variety of divisional and school-based projects including literacy, fine arts, assessment for learning, critical thinking and character education. The project for the next three years will provide resources which will provide mentoring and coaching support at the classroom level.
- The divisional theme for 2009/2010 is "School, Home, and Community - Partners in Education."
- 53 teachers were involved in the Westwind Leadership Development Program in the 2008/09 school year. These leaders received instruction in educational leadership. A new principal was appointed in the 2008/09 school year. Mr. Brad Sabey is the principal of the Magrath Elementary School.
- Students in Raymond Elementary, Junior High and High School are

enjoying their modernized, upgraded schools.

- To address student safety issues, bus turn outs have been built in Raymond and the Cardston Elementary School.
- New school playgrounds have been set up at Magrath Elementary School and Glenwood School. We thank community members for your support.
- Westwind has received several grants from Alberta Education which will assist students to learn in an environment where innovation and 21st century tools are the norm. Current grants are helping Westwind to expand and enhance the computers available to students, introduce more high school CTS opportunities in multi-media modules, revise and update the Westwind website, and provide school and divisional leadership with support and professional development in the effective use of technology.



ENROLLMENT

- THERE ARE OVER 4140 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN WESTWIND, A 2% INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR.

PROVINCIAL ACHIEVEMENT TEST AND DIPLOMA RESULTS

- WESTWIND STUDENTS EXCEEDED THE PROVINCIAL AVERAGE AT THE "ACCEPTABLE STANDARD" IN 7 OF 9 DIPLOMA EXAMS FOR THE 2008/2009 SCHOOL YEAR. IN SOCIAL STUDIES, PHYSICS AND ENGLISH 30-1, 100% OF STUDENTS WHO WROTE ACHIEVED THE ACCEPTABLE STANDARD.
- STUDENTS WHO WROTE THE PROVINCIAL ACHIEVEMENT TESTS IN GRADES 3, 6 & 9 EXCEEDED THE PROVINCIAL AVERAGE AT THE "ACCEPTABLE STANDARD" IN 5 OF 9 CATEGORIES.





DID YOU KNOW?

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WESTWIND?

1. WESTWIND'S WEBSITE, WWW.WESTWIND.AB.CA IS WHERE YOU WILL FIND AN ABUNDANCE OF INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT, A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT OUTLINING WESTWIND'S ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS, SURVEY INFORMATION, AND IMPROVEMENT PLANS. THE WEBSITE ALSO HAS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND POLICIES.

- Westwind welcomed 13 teachers "new" to the Division in 2008/09, and is pleased to welcome 5 more for the 2009/10 school year.
 - To enhance leadership skills, Westwind trustees, senior level administrators and principals are involved in a Book Study for the 2009/10 school year. They are studying "The Six Secrets of Change: What the Best Leaders Do to Help Their Organizations Survive and Thrive" by Michael Fullan.
 - For the past 5 years, Alberta Education has funded school jurisdictions to reduce class sizes.
- Class sizes in Westwind are lower than the guidelines established by the government.
- The total number of employees in Westwind is 648, including 251 teachers.
 - Two Westwind high schools, Raymond High School and Magrath High School received the prestigious Garfield Weston Award. RHS was recognized for long term excellence in academics, and MHS was recognized as one of the top 30 high schools in Alberta in the area of improvement in academics for the second year in a row.



Do you Know Who Your School Trustees Are?

- Mr. Lance Miller, Board Chairman-Magrath
- Ms. Lori Brooks, Trustee-Cardston
- Mr. Ron Fromm, Board Vice Chairman-Raymond
- Ms. Anna-Joyce Frank, Trustee-First Nations Rep.
- Mr. Darcy Barfuss, Trustee-Mt. View/Hill Spring/
Glenwood
- Mr. Peter Scott, Trustee-Magrath
- Mr. Cal Salmon, Trustee-Cardston
- Mr. Stephen Heggie, Trustee-Raymond
- Ms. Connie Nelson, Trustee-Stirling

