

# LINE

# ROCKY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Learning, Loving, Living for our Lord



## Mission Statement

Rocky Christian School is an interdenominational community of Christian believers dedicated to developing and pursuing excellence in Christ-Centred education.

Visit our website at [rockychristian.wrsd.ca](http://rockychristian.wrsd.ca). There you will be able to find:

- Latest news from the school and calendars of coming events
- Newsletters (past and present)
- All of the current forms needed for school use
- Hot lunch and Moo Club forms
- School Council information

Like!! us on Facebook for all current information

## Vision Statement

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the home, church and school will work together to equip students to live lives that honour and serve God and contribute to society in a positive way.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Please be sure that you stop by the office to sign in and pick up a "Visitor" tag before you go to any other part of the school. We are responsible to show proof that we can account for everyone in the building.

Please try to remember to phone the office when you know your child is going to be absent or late. This saves me from having to phone you to check up on them.

You can also email me at [marie.aasman@wrsd.ca](mailto:marie.aasman@wrsd.ca)

Please be sure that you obey the **No Parking** signs on the front of the building.

**THANK YOU.**



## LEARNING CURVE BY ROB DUIKER

### **Choice and Commitment**

What are we to make of this idea of school choice? Recently, we were all asked to complete an Alberta Education survey on School Choice. If you have not completed it already, please do so.

I have to admit to being a little uncomfortable with this language of choice. More often than not, people who consider themselves to be pro-choice do not favour school choice. On the other side of the coin, school choice advocates do not consistently favour a woman's right to choose to have an abortion. To be consistently pro-choice appears to be a rare thing.

In my grade 8 & 9 Bible class, we discuss the spirits of the age. A Spirit of the age is loosely defined as the way things are. But more than that, spirits of the age shape our thinking and being. One of these spirits of the age is a tension between commitment and choice. For example, since I have made a lifelong commitment to my wife, I do not choose another wife. If I am quite committed to my community, I am less likely to go shopping in the city. Commitment can have the effect of reducing your choices.

In this age of consumerism, people are more likely to consider everything to be a choice. And by choice, we mean personal preference. In recent years, things that we could not have imagined to be a matter of choice we now think of as areas where we have a right to choose. While gender might be an obvious example, there are more everyday things to consider. It was common back in the day (whenever that was) to sit in the living room with your family and watch TV together. Today each family member can watch the show of their choosing. Personal listening devices have made the sharing of music less necessary. You now have a right to choose your own music. Today students choose not to play on the school sports teams because they have chosen against it. Back in the day, every student in a small school was on every team. Personal choice is a factor in eroding commitment to the group. So I'll say it again, I am uncomfortable with the notion of a right to choose.

Sometimes I will talk to students about "the hand they're dealt." They were born into a certain family with a certain family history and ethnicity. They are born into a certain country; born with certain abilities, and in many cases, blessed to be born within a Christian family. All of these form a part of their identity. It is a God-Given identity. It is not a matter of choice. It is something they must commit to.

Imagine playing a game of cards, but all the cards are blank. You get to draw pictures, letters, and numbers of your choosing. In other words, you get to decide the hand you are dealt. If you want four aces, that's your choice. It is a matter of choice in a world where everything is seen as a matter of choice, except perhaps the school your children will attend.

I would prefer that we do not think a Christian school to be a choice. Rather, I see it as a commitment. It is a school that acknowledges that some people have a Christian identity and require a school that honours that identity. It is a school that is committed to that identity. And we commit to that kind of education for our children. This year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Rocky Christian School and we celebrate the commitment of the pioneers that built it. We celebrate the commitment of the parents who send their children to Rocky Christian School today, and we celebrate the commitment of God's people who worship in churches throughout Rocky and Clearwater County, who have a vision for Christian Education that extends to our great grand-children.

Christian Education. It is more of a commitment than it is a choice.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL/BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**



Thank you to all who came out to our Fall General Meeting on the 20th. It was a good night with some great discussions.

Our next board meeting will be **December 16th**, however, due to the busyness of December, there will be no school council that evening. Our next school council meeting will be on January 20.

We are having a family skate night on **December 13th** at 7:00 pm @ the Christensen Centre. Coffee and hot chocolate are being donated and the kids room is being rented. So come on out for some fellowship and fun, even if you don't skate!

### **The Mystery of the Manger It's the Gospel Truth!**

A Children's Christmas Musical

Created by Celeste Clydesdale

Arranged by David T. Clydesdale

Please join us on Thursday, December 19 at 7:00 pm at the Lou Soppit Community Centre for our Christmas musical, The Mystery of the Manger.

Invite your family and friends for a wonderful retelling of the Christmas Story.

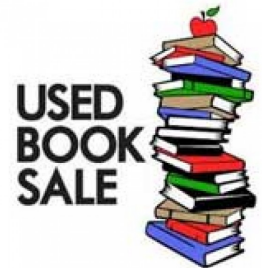


### **REPORT CARDS & PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

Report cards are coming home today, and Parent/Teacher interviews have been scheduled for Wednesday, December 4 and Thursday, December 5. If you are unable to make your scheduled appointment, please call the office to make other arrangements. You are encouraged to attend parent/teacher interviews as it helps to have both the teacher and the parents on the same page when it comes to your child's academic progress.



Our librarian, Mrs. Klooster, is continually updating the books in our library. To make room for new books, some of our older inventory needs to go. From December 2 - 6 there will be tables of books that can be purchased for \$0.25/book. Be sure to stop by when you are here for your parent/teacher interviews.



## THE LOST & FOUND BIN

Your stuff misses YOU too.

Our lost and found bin is near bursting at the seams. Be sure to stop and check out the items on the tables downstairs and reclaim any familiar items.

**Hot Lunch  
Turkey Dinner,  
Tuesday, December 3**



**Thank You ~** to everyone who helped support Operation Christmas Child by filling up shoeboxes. We delivered approximately 30

shoeboxes to help children around the world experience the joy of Christmas and the love of Jesus through your generosity.

### BAND CONCERT

Please join us on Wednesday, **December 11** @ 7:00 pm for our Grade Six—Nine band concert. Come hear some old Christmas favourites...and maybe a new song or two as well.



### RCS CATERING CLUB UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❑ We have the Nazarene Church Christmas Party coming up on **December 13th**.
  - ▶ Volunteers are needed for prep during the day as well as for serving/clean up.
- ❑ We have an upcoming wedding to cater on **February 22**.

If you are able to help out with either of these events, please call the school office or Jessica Hoeksema @ 403-846-6585. This is a great way to mark off some of those volunteer hours while getting to know/working with other families from our school.

### CHRISTMAS SWEATER DAY

**DRESS IN YOUR FAVOURITE  
CHRISTMAS SWEATER -  
BEAUTIFUL OR UGLY - ON  
DECEMBER 17.**



### SHARING THE JOY

As the Christmas season approaches, we like to have our students share the love of Jesus through singing and music. Our K - 5 Choir will be singing at Westview Lodge at 1:00 pm and at Clearwater Centre at 1:45 on December 3. Our Grade 9 Band will be playing at Clearwater Centre at 1:30 pm on December 12, and the grade 8/9 Band will be playing at Westview Lodge at 1:00 pm on December 13. You are welcome to attend any of these performances as well.

# SHINE YOUR LIGHT

## TALENT NIGHT - SILENT AUCTION

Thank you to everyone who came out on November 1 to take part in our dessert/talent night and silent auction. This was another event planned to help celebrate 50 years of God's faithfulness to our school. The desserts were wonderful, the talent was amazing, and the auction items were a great success! Once all donations and auction proceeds were counted, the event brought in \$6977.00!!

The students participating in the talent show worked very hard, which was evident in their performances. The judges had a tough decision ahead of them when it came time to choose the winners, but choose they must. The first place winner was Victoria Irodenko, a grade four student who sang a wonderful hymn, and our second place winner was Carson Mayer, a grade three student who played a fantastic piece on the piano. As a judge, Mr. Duiker couldn't place, but he did entertain the crowd with his rendition of Elvis' "Teddy Bear".

**What a Community Building night we had!!**



**First Place**

**Victoria Irodenko**



**Second Place**

**Carson Mayer**



**Mr. Duiker and his back-up singers**



**Live entertainment by Six Track**



**Kindergarten - Grade 3  
Choir**



**ROCKY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**  
**December 2019**



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Facebook: [RockyChristianSchool](https://www.facebook.com/RockyChristianSchool)

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 <b>Hot Lunch</b>	4 Kindergarten Day <b>Parent/Teacher Interviews</b>	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 <b>Grade 6 - 9 Band Concert</b>	12	13 <b>Family Skate Night</b>	14
15	16	17 <b>Christmas Sweater Day</b>	18	19 <b>The Mystery of the Manger ~ 7:00 pm</b>	20	21
22	23	24	25 Have a Blessed Christmas!!	26	27	28
29	30	31				