



## Dr. Roberta Bondar School

1580 Strathcona Dr. SW Calgary, AB T3H 5B1 | 403-817-3564 f | 403-777-8373 | drrobertabondar@cbe.ab.ca

### Principals' Update – May 16, 2016

#### **Greetings Dr. Roberta Bondar Families!**

We are delighted to be welcoming you and your children to the Dr. Roberta Bondar School community. This is our first Principals' Update; we are hoping to send information to you on a regular basis to keep you informed as to the progress of our new school. Bonnie Caldwell, Assistant Principal and I will send this to you via email and have it posted on the CBE website, in the Schools - Building and Modernization tab, under Dr. Roberta Bondar School, as well as on our own school website. The Dr. Roberta Bondar School website should be up and running shortly. We have also set up a Twitter account (drrobertabondar@cbe) and we hope you will follow us as we send updates and other exciting news.

#### **“A School within a School”**

As you may already know, we will be opening our school on September 6, 2016, as a K-4 school, on two sites. This means we will be a “school within a school” where we create Dr. Roberta Bondar classrooms of Dr. Roberta Bondar students with Dr. Roberta Bondar teachers. The important relationships between the teachers and the students, and the students with their classmates will be established and intact for the entire school year. It is critical our teachers know their students well to ensure they are able to effectively program and personalize the learning for each student. The students will be building friendships with other students in their class and in the school. When the new building is completed in January 2017, all Dr. Roberta Bondar students will move with their teacher and classmates to our new school building. We will continue progressing, learning, and celebrating in our amazing, new school! The students who reside west of 85th Avenue S.W. will start in September at the Jennie Elliott School site and all other students will start at the Olympic Heights School site.

#### **Student Planners**

Students in Grades 1-4 will have school planners/agendas as part of a variety of communication tools to support a dialogue between school and home. We encourage students use the planners to support growing their organizational skills as well as offer a glimpse into their school day. The planners will contain important information such as phone numbers, our address, and important dates in the school year.

We will be having a **STUDENT PLANNER ART CONTEST** and the successful submissions will have their artwork on the front and back cover of our planners! We are looking for students to share their thoughts, voice, vision, hopes and dreams for our new school in a drawing using the template provided. This week we will be gathering all Dr. Roberta Bondar students at Jennie Elliot, Wildwood, and Olympic Heights and presenting the activity so that they may work on their submission over the next few days. Submissions will be due: May 24<sup>th</sup>. We are asking for parents' help in informing children of our upcoming get-together so that students will be aware to come when we call for the Dr. Roberta Bondar students to assemble as a group. We look forward to seeing what students' ideas and hopes are regarding our new school!

### **Open House – June 15th 6:30 – 7:30 Olympic Heights School**

Please join us on June 15th to learn about our wonderful new school, provide us with your thoughts and ideas as to the vision of the school, ask questions and meet with the new staff. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

### **Construction Update**

Have you had a chance to drive by our school site? We are excited to see the outside walls and know our school is on schedule to open up in January 2017. For more information check <http://cbe.ab.ca/schools/building-and-modernizing-schools/Documents/Construction-Project-Status-Report.pdf>

### **Staffing**

Bonnie and I are pleased to welcome Linda Millions, Administrative Assistant to our team. She started with us on May 4<sup>th</sup> and is at the Olympic Heights School site with me. She would be pleased to hear from you, answer some of your questions, register your child(ren) and help you with volunteer clearances. She can be reached at 403-817-3564 (press option 5) or [lmillions@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:lmillions@cbe.ab.ca). We have already hired 6 outstanding teachers and are looking forward to the continuation of the staffing process and welcoming the rest of our staff. This will take place over the next few weeks through a system-based posting process.

### **Before and After School Care**

A before and after school care program will be offered by a third-party operator in our school. The CBE Leasing Department is working with various providers regarding the possibilities for arrangements of childcare programs in several new schools. Although a before and after care program is being planned for our school, it will take some time

before it will be fully operational. There is a thorough licencing process each provider must comply with so that children remain safe, therefore it will not be possible to meet those requirements prior to our school opening in January. We will keep you informed as more information becomes available. It is recommended that you make alternative child care arrangements until we are able to offer a before and after school care program.

### **Contact Information**

I would be more than happy to meet with you or chat with you. Our offices located at Olympic Heights School and I've already had the pleasure of connecting with a number of parents. Please feel free to drop in or book an appointment. I can be reached by phone 403-817-3564 (press option 5) or email [ismulholland@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:ismulholland@cbe.ab.ca) .

Laine Mulholland  
Principal, Dr. Roberta Bondar School

Bonnie Caldwell  
Assistant Principal, Dr. Roberta Bondar School