



*Keeping you informed on the life and activity of your local Adventist school*



**Hot Lunch** - This week, hot lunch will be burgers, salad, and a dessert. Please send your money (\$4.00) to the school by Wednesday.

**Parents, please take note:** The teachers have noticed that students are coming unprepared for class. Homework is not being completed. Please monitor your child(ren) and ensure that they are coming to school prepared for their classes each day.

**New PD days** - The North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists will be implementing a new Bible Curriculum in September 2017. On **March 27 & 28, all SDA elementary schools will be closed** to allow all teachers the time for their training of this program. We apologise for any inconvenience this might cause you. Please see the accompanying letter from the Ontario Conference Office of Education.

**Scholastic Orders** - Scholastic order forms were sent home last week. Parental judgement is needed. Some books that are offered may not fit with what you believe. The school does not endorse the books available. Please choose wisely. This month's orders

are due on **Wednesday 15th February**.

**Senior Kindergarten and Grade 8 Graduation Photos and Student Re-takes** are scheduled to take place **TOMMORROW** on **Wednesday, 15th February**. **Graduates, please remember to bring your white, school dress shirt to wear under the gown.**

**Skating** - Our next and final skating session is scheduled to take place **TOMMORROW** on **Wednesday 15th February**. Please note, this year all students are required to wear helmets.

**Heritage Fair** - Grandview's Heritage Fair will take place **Thursday 16th February**. Parents are welcome to come and view the Grade 4 - 8 projects from 3:00 to 3:30 pm.

**Citrus** - Our next pick-up date is **Sunday 5th March**. Orders will be taken until **Friday 17th February**. Enjoy the delicious navel oranges, grapefruit, and mandarins and at the same time support the school!

Please turn over

## looking ahead...

**February 2017**



- 15: Scholastic Orders due
- 15: Parent-Teacher Interview Forms Due
- 15: Grad photos / student retakes
- 15: Skating
- 16: Grandview Heritage Fair
- 20: Family Day Holiday—No School
- 21: Parent - Teacher Interviews - No School

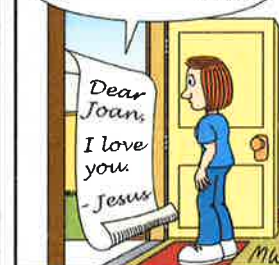
### LOVE LETTER

JOAN, I HEARD ABOUT YOUR TROUBLES AND I'D LIKE TO HELP! I COOKED YOU A MEAL! IF YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE, PLEASE LET ME KNOW!



### A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT, JOAN?



You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

— 2 CORINTHIANS 3:3 NIV



**Grandview  
Adventist Academy**  
*"Educating for Eternity"*

# notes & news

**Report Cards/Parent-Teacher Interview Forms** - Report Cards, along with Parent-Teacher Interview Forms, were sent home on **Friday, 10th February**. Please indicate your desired interview time and **return by Wednesday 15th February**. Please also remember to sign and return the bottom portion of page 3 & 4 of the report card, as well as the envelope it was sent home in.

**Parent Online Survey** - Thank you to all those that took the time to complete the parent online survey for our upcoming whole-school evaluation. It is much appreciated. Student surveys have also been completed.

**Excellence in Education Awards 2017** - You are invited to nominate your school principal or teacher for an Excellence in Education Award. Details and forms can be found at <http://catnet.adventist.ca> under Resources or by calling the SDACC Office of Education at 905.433.0011

**Bus Cancellation/School Closure** - Unfortunately, inclement weather brings along with it the possibility of school closures. Please note that if Hamilton Public or Catholic Board cancels school buses, **SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED**. Please check CHCH (television), 680News and 900CHML as well as our website for school closures. Once we have been informed by the bus company, a member of staff will call you to let you know that school will be closed.

February's character trait is **HONESTY!** **Honesty** means giving the correct idea or impression, keeping your word, honouring your commitments and returning what you borrowed. **Honesty** can also mean doing your own assignments and being real or genuine. Proverbs 12:17 says: 'an honest witness tells the truth, but a false witness tells lies'.

Choose to be **honest**, just like Jesus.

**Be a social media ambassador for your school, Grandview Adventist Academy.** It's simple! Like our page on Facebook or follow us on Twitter and then share/retweet, like, or comment on our posts. You may also wish to consider leaving a positive review on Google or Yelp. Thank you for helping us share the good news about the quality education available at Grandview!



# SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Ontario Conference

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Oshawa, Ontario  
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Phone (905) 571-1022  
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February 8, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Greetings to all. In an effort to improve and enrich the Bible Curriculum in our schools, new and innovative approaches are studied and implemented. In September 2017, the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists will be implementing a new Bible Curriculum in all of our elementary schools in North America. This new curriculum has been proven to bring the Bible alive to students, engaging minds and hearts as they seek to develop a relationship with God. This is the *Encounter Bible Curriculum*, designed primarily for Adventist elementary schools. The high school version of this curriculum has already been implemented in Grades 9 and 10 of our schools in North America.

Ms. Lanelle Cobbin, the principal writer of the elementary curriculum, will be coming in from Australia to provide this critical training to our teachers in three locations: Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia. The date for Ontario are set for **March 27 – 28, 2017**. On those two days, all full-time elementary teachers will be in Oshawa for the training. Elementary schools will be closed on those two days to allow the teachers the time for their training.

We regret any inconvenience this might cause you, but please support us in this endeavor. The education of our children and the teaching of the Scriptures in ways that will make a difference in their lives are of utmost importance.

Accompanying this letter are other materials with further explanations of the program.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Yours truly,

Donald McIntyre  
Superintendent of Schools  
Ontario Conference Office of Education

Dan Carley  
Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Ontario Conference Office of Education



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN CANADA  
ÉGLISE ADVENTISTE DU SEPTIÈME JOUR AU CANADA

**National Headquarters**  
**Siège Social**

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**NEW**

## **NAD K-12 BIBLE CURRICULUM**

**Coming to all Adventist elementary schools in Canada September 2017**

"The primary purpose of the *Adventist Encounter Curriculum* is for all our students, elementary and secondary, to have a solid, deep, and personal knowledge of the truths of the Bible (Seventh-day Adventist fundamental beliefs); to respond to Christ's invitation to live in a lifelong, vibrant relationship with Him; and be passionate about the salvation of others. Never in our world's history has there been a greater time to make this the focus of our young people in the Seventh-day Adventist church. In response to this call, the *Adventist Encounter Curriculum* is a seamless curriculum that is intentional about exploring big-picture, biblical concepts with the goal of making a difference for eternity." (NAD *Encounter* overview brochure)

**Description:** The new *Adventist Encounter Curriculum* offers a fresh approach to teaching Bible. Teachers are provided with content units and a wealth of additional resources designed to engage students and reach both their heads and their hearts. Students use the Bible as their textbook and are provided with opportunities to develop a relationship with God and to put their beliefs into practice by sharing their faith and serving others.

**Implementation:** Currently, the *Adventist Encounter Curriculum* is being taught in Grades 9 and 10 in academies across the North American Division. Grade 11 will be available during the 2017/2018 school year and Grade 12 in 2018/2019. The SDA Church in Canada will be implementing the full elementary program (Grades 1-8) next school year (2017/2018) in all of our elementary schools.

**Training:** In preparation for the Fall 2017 implementation, training will be provided for all elementary teachers in Adventist schools across Canada at three locations: Ontario (March 27-28), Alberta (April 18-19), and British Columbia (May 2-4). Lanelle Cobbin, the principal writer of the elementary curriculum, will fly in from Australia to provide this important training. She will also be training lead teachers from the eight other unions in the North American Division at three sessions in the United States.

We invite your support and prayers in this most important endeavor. Nothing is more important than the education of our children, and "the teaching of Bible should have our freshest thought, our best methods, and our most earnest effort" (Ellen White, *Education*, p. 186).

For more information on the *Adventist Encounter Curriculum*: <http://encounter.adventisteducation.org/>

Betty Bayer  
Director of Education

**ENCOUNTER**  
ADVENTIST CURRICULUM



## Encounter: Helping Students Know God

*A new curriculum brings spiritual transformation to both students and teachers*

**By Nina Atcheson and Arne Nielsen**

**H**ave you noticed the trend to reject, or perhaps it's more of a subconscious dismissal of, the Bible as an authority on life's questions? An unspoken assumption pervades - perhaps the Bible isn't so relevant after all. Well, maybe not to the issues I'm dealing with. Culture is different now. People change. The issues we face are unlike those in the times of the biblical writers, so using good sense and reason, I'll find my way through life, despite the Bible's claim to be my personal lamp (**Ps. 119:105**), and God's gracious offer to enlighten the darkness before me (**2 Sam. 22:29**).

To offer an alternative worldview, one that is founded solidly on the Bible as truth, requires intention; a purposeful approach – especially for the youth in our schools who we hope will become “thinkers, and not mere reflectors of other men’s thoughts” (Education, p. 30).

In the summer of 2015, the North American Division Office of Education (NADOE) began rolling out a new Bible curriculum. Using the Bible as the textbook, the Adventist Encounter Curriculum seeks to help the students in our schools develop a tangible, vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ; to have a deep and personal knowledge of the truths of the Bible and Seventh-day Adventist beliefs and apply them to everyday situations; and be passionate about the salvation of others.

Advice from the Spirit of Prophecy has helped guide the development of this curriculum: “Parents and teachers should constantly seek for improved methods. The teaching of the Bible should have our freshest thought, our best methods, and our most earnest effort.” (Education, page 168). Through rigorous pedagogical practice and the use of 21<sup>st</sup> century learning techniques such as collaboration, problem-solving, digital literacy, higher order thinking, and creative expression, students are encouraged to use the Bible as their guide book to grow in today’s world. Students are led to think deeply, to make practical applications of their learning, and to, as Mrs. White recommends, “see the force of truth for themselves” (CT, p. 434). Kent Rusk, pilot teacher of *Encounter* and Associate Superintendent of Schools shares: “I am convinced that *Encounter* is God’s answer to how we’ll reach students in our Bible classrooms. We have realized that merely teaching our children about God is not enough. We want to reach them where they live, with the saving message of a living, loving, involved Father God. The Encounter Bible Curriculum is enabling our teachers to do just



## Chilean Seventh-day Advent 'Hacksaw Ridge' Showings

Adventist broadcast network, l



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**In This Issue**

that.”

From Kindergarten through 10<sup>th</sup> Grade, the Adventist Encounter Curriculum was initially developed by the Australian Union Conference and New Zealand Pacific Union Conference in response to their schools’ needs for a curriculum that honored the Great Commission—to “go, make disciples.” The NADOE was in the process of updating some of its curricula, and consideration was given to the possibility of adapting *Encounter* to the NAD context. After a thorough pilot of the Encounter Curriculum over a two year period, involving thirty pilot teachers across each union in the NAD, a decision was made to use the pilot feedback to review and update the curriculum under the guidance of the NADOE Encounter Steering Committee. The curriculum has been examined by the Biblical Research Institute and they have expressed support for its sound biblical approach.


Dennis Plubell, Vice President for Education, North Pacific Union Conference was involved in the pilot process, “I still remember clearly sitting in five different classrooms in five different locations across the NAD where units of the *Encounter* curriculum were taught on a pilot basis. It was evident that this was far different than the Bible class I took in academy. The engagement of students in deep discussions in all classrooms did not resemble a



**“With the Bible as the textbook, a plethora of good resources and helpful teacher**

textbook-based curriculum. With the Bible as the textbook, a plethora of good resources and helpful teacher guides based on proven learning strategies, it was evident that students were being led to 'encounter God.'” Following this, the decision was made to develop Grades 11 and 12 so that a complete, seamless curriculum could be shared with all Adventist schools in the Division. Currently, Grades 9 and 10 have been rolled out, and Grades 11 and 12 will be subsequently released in the coming years, along with the elementary curriculum.

The high school *Encounter* curriculum consists of from 5–10 teaching units per grade. Each unit consists of a detailed teacher plan, which includes a variety of age-appropriate creative activities, short videos, object lessons, in-depth Bible studies, group activities, discussion questions, assessment options, and worship moments that seek to build the student’s knowledge, faith and relationship with God. Each teaching unit also comes with a Resource Kit which includes various items such as posters, DVDs, books, and other unit-specific resources. The variety of material and learning activities seeks to engage all learners from all backgrounds and knowledge bases. Betty Bayer, Director, Office of Education, Seventh-day



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Adventist Church in Canada and chairperson of the Encounter Elementary Committee shares some feedback from teachers in her union about the material: “Teachers have found the units and accompanying resources to be “planning friendly” and, even more importantly, that their students have been powerfully engaged.” “Their learning experience is so much richer than it has been in the past and the connections that they are making are that much stronger as well,” said one teacher. “My students love the hands-on, group, and responsive activities,” said another teacher. “They really seemed to develop a close and authentic relationship with their Creator. There were so many times I could just strongly sense the Holy Spirit working on their hearts.”

Jud Lake, Professor of Preaching and Adventist Studies, Southern Adventist University, has reviewed the curriculum and shares: “Teachers will especially appreciate the whole-person lesson plans that impact students intellectually, emotionally, and behaviorally. Accordingly, students will learn not only how to read and understand the Bible, but how to apply its lessons to everyday life. From a creative application of Bloom’s taxonomy to the nine intelligences, this curriculum applies the latest learning theory and strategies to the academy Bible classroom. Teachers will find it a pleasure to use this material and students will discover that learning the Bible is fun. Through *Encounter* the secondary Bible classroom will achieve its ultimate objective—transformed teenagers who are authentic Seventh-day Adventist Christians. Adventist education will never be the same!”

With the help of the Holy Spirit and guidance from their teacher, *Encounter* encourages students to search for truth in the Bible for themselves and to be able to explain and defend their faith to others. Jim Ingersoll, Associate Director of Secondary

Education in the Southern Union testifies of the impact of this. He shares, "The *Encounter* Curriculum has proven to have an indelible and life-changing impact on students in the Southern Union. What we have witnessed is a spiritual renewal for students who are learning that the Bible has something to say to them personally. As this curriculum continues to roll out for all four grades in academy I believe we will see an ever-growing understanding by our students of what God has done, is doing, and will do for them."

The NADOE and each of the nine unions have invested in running many two-day training in-service events for all Bible teachers before they teach this new curriculum, to have a thorough understanding of new pedagogy and methodology that will make a real difference in the classroom. At these training events, teachers not only hear again the purpose of Adventist education, and the methods and approach of the *Encounter* curriculum, but they are personally challenged to spend more time with Jesus in His Word - for we cannot share with others what we do not have. As we abide in Jesus, we are able to model His love to others. Deborah Daniel, Bible teacher at Columbia Adventist Academy, Oregon shares: "This curriculum has such an emphasis on developing a personal, real relationship with Jesus, it is impossible to teach it without ensuring that I am experiencing such a relationship with Him myself. Teaching *Encounter* challenges me to make sure I take the time to grow my own relationship with Jesus so I can lead my students in authentic worship of Him."

Teachers and administrators have enthusiastically shared how their students are responding to the *Encounter* curriculum—that it is changing the way their students are responding to the truths of the Bible, the call to walk in a close relationship with Jesus Christ, and the call to share the Adventist

message of hope and wholeness to those around them. Joyce Fortner contacted us to share her experience as the principal at Little Rock Adventist Academy. “Just want you to personally know that this program is awesome! Our students have been spiritual moved and blessed. We have ended the year with the Sabbath unit. Our Communion was so meaningful for the students, and their preparation of the Sabbath sections was so detailed and done so well that the local pastors have asked them to present them for the 11:00 Hour.” Linda Vigil, Bible teacher at Maplewood Adventist Academy shares: “My students say they like the *Encounter* curriculum because they explore biblical topics and beliefs through interactive and hands-on activities, plus the assessments allow them to creatively express themselves according to their learning styles. Watching the students react to class information and activities is really exciting as we discuss, laugh, and even cry together. This curriculum challenges me in new ways to personally know Jesus more intimately and to share that with my students.”

It is a huge, humbling responsibility to be called to lead our young people to Christ as their personal Savior. The precious hours in the Bible classroom cannot be wasted! Elder Edward Zinke, former president of the Adventist Theological Society and previous associate director of the Biblical Research Institute of the General Conference, has given guidance on the content of the curriculum and notes, “The *Encounter* curriculum is Christ centered and Biblically founded. It is designed to lead students to a closer personal relationship with Christ. I thank Nina for her work, and am grateful that my grandchildren will have the opportunity to study this curriculum.”

For more information on the Adventist Encounter Curriculum and to view a sample teaching unit, go to <http://encounter.adventisteducation.org/>

