



One and the Same: Equity and Inclusive Education in the CDSBEO

Superintendent of Education Marg Shea-Lawrence presented to Trustees an update on the CDSBEO's Equity and Inclusive Education strategy, which will help give all students the opportunity to reach their highest potential.

"Recent studies show some groups, such as recent immigrants, children from low-income families, Aboriginal students, and students with special education needs, may be at risk of lower achievement," said Mrs. Shea-Lawrence.

The Ministry of Education envisions an inclusive education system in Ontario where all are welcome and respected, every student is supported and inspired to succeed, and all members feel safe in their school community.

The Board has formed a Board Equity and Inclusive Education Committee which will develop a policy this fall. New professional development will be offered to administrators and differentiated instruction in-service for classroom teachers will continue.

The new policies and practices will affirm the ways in which our Board supports positive learning environments so that all students can feel encouraged, and be successful. "CDSBEO schools endeavour to support all students and make them feel welcome in their learning environment," said Mrs. Shea-Lawrence.

Operational Review Completed by Ministry

The CDSBEO was one of the school boards from across the province chosen to participate in an Operational Review.

Operational Review Teams made up of external consultants from Price Waterhouse Coopers LLP, and Ministry of Education staff, spent three days in February conducting the review and will return in one year to follow-up.

The results show that the CDSBEO's student achievement has improved in many areas since 2002-2003 and the Board has been recognized for adopting many leading practices from an operational point of view.

The Ministry of Education states that the review is meant to increase public confidence and to identify strengths and areas for continual improvement.

The review focused on the following areas: Governance and School Board Administration, Human Resource Management, Financial Management, and School Operations.

The review process was carried out in several phases including: Pre-Field Work, Field Work, Reporting, and Follow-up. Ministry officials also met with the Chair of the Board, the Director of Education, and other staff.

Senior administration is now analyzing the report and will prepare an action plan in response to the Operational Review Team's recommendations.

Catholic Student Trustee Highlights Eventful Year

Catholic Student Trustee Chris Walasek reported to Trustees on his term in the position.

Mr. Walasek explained that the Student Senate has been an advisory body to him over the year. The group, made up of students from all CDSBEO high schools, shares best practices when it comes to successful initiatives. "I have been encouraged and inspired by their efforts. We support one another and draw on each others' experiences to help our endeavours become successful."

A highlight for Student Trustee Walasek was Acts of Random Kindness (ARK) month in February. "We encouraged all students to perform acts like signing petitions, holding doors for people, or donating time for those in need. The ARK month was an incredible success and I am so proud to have been involved in its inception," said Chris.

Mr. Walasek also reported on the Senate's role as leaders at the annual Just-Us Youth Summit. The Senate helped organize the event with the Social Justice Committee and provided leadership and guidance for students throughout the day.

We walk in



good company!

June 30, 2010 - Last Day of School
August 31, 2010 - Board-wide Faith Day
August 31, 2010 - Board Meeting, Kemptville Board Office



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Next Board Meeting
June 15, 2010
Kemptville
Board Office