

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From the meeting of
October 6, 2009

EQAO Results Show Successful Trend Continues

Superintendent of Education Jane McMillan, and Principal of Curriculum, Charlotte Rouleau, presented the latest results from the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) assessments of primary and junior reading, writing and mathematics, as well as the Grade 9 assessment of mathematics and the results from the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Tests (OSSLT).

Superintendent McMillan told the Board, "CDSBEO results indicate steady improvement over the past five years in most areas with notable gains in primary and junior literacy and in secondary school mathematics."

Mrs. Rouleau outlined several Board strengths including: results for students with special needs have improved in four of the six assessments, and the number of students successfully passing the Grade 10 Literacy Test in their first attempt continues to rise.

The Grade 3 reading assessment shows an overall increase of 3% since the 2004-2005 school year, while writing shows a 12% increase, and mathematics shows a 2% increase over the same time period.

The Grade 6 reading assessment shows an overall increase of 8% since the 2004-2005 school year, while writing shows a 7% increase, and mathematics shows a 1% increase over the same time period.

The Grade 9 academic mathematics assessment shows an overall increase of 11% since the 2004-2005 school year, while applied mathematics shows a 14%

improvement over the same time period.

OSSLT results show that first time eligible students have achieved a success rate of 90%, a 4% increase since October of 2005. Previously eligible students have shown a 3% increase in success rates over the same time period.

Mrs. Rouleau stated, "EQAO promotes dialogue among educators about how to effectively assess student learning and provide successful learning strategies to help students develop skills and concepts."

Board Improvement Plan Presented

Superintendent of Education, Jane McMillan; Principal of Curriculum, Charlotte Rouleau; Supervising Principal of School Effectiveness, Kerry Lamming; Principal of Religious and Family Life Education, Jim Roberts; Principal of Special Education, Tom Jordan; and Supervising Principal of Student Success, Sheila Farris presented the Board's draft Improvement Plan for Student Learning for 2009-2010.

The plan, a result of successful collaboration between academic departments in consultation with Executive Council, presents goals divided into four pillars: Literacy, Numeracy, Pathways, and Catholic Community Culture and Caring. Principal of Special Education, Tom Jordan noted that Special Education initiatives are embedded within each of the pillars.

A focused collaborative approach is being taken by all schools and educators across

our Catholic school system. This is reinforced through student achievement meetings with the Director of Education, Superintendents of Education, departmental team members, and individual school teams.

Faith Day 2009: Go Make a Difference in the World!

Superintendent of Education, Marg Shea-Lawrence, presented a DVD highlighting the CDSBEO's Board-wide Faith Day held at Upper Canada Village on September 25, 2009. The theme of the day mirrored the Board's theme, *We walk in good company!*

The day began with the Eucharist celebrated by Archbishop Brendan O'Brien of Kingston. "In the celebration of the Eucharist, we are reminded of our call to be the body of Christ," said Mrs. Shea-Lawrence.

Director of Education, Wm. J. Gartland, led the group in a reflection which acknowledged the great work that so many of our staff and students do to make a difference in our world. He showed us the many ways that these people embody the virtues of faith, hope, love, justice, fortitude, temperance and prudence.

Guest speaker Rev. J-Glenn Murray, invited the group to "be saints" and "to make saints," and to see this as our mission as Catholic educators.

Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

We walk in



good company!

Oct. 12, 2009 - Thanksgiving

Oct. 22 - Parent Involvement Committee Symposium, Kemptonville

Oct. 26, 2009 - Special Education Advisory Committee

For more information contact 613-258-7757 or 1-800-443-4562, ext. 206.

Visit us online at www.cdsbeo.on.ca.

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Next Board Meeting

Oct. 20, 2009

J.L. Jordan Catholic
School, Brockville

7:00 p.m.