

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From the meeting of:
September 16, 2008



CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

Learning and Growing Together in Christ

Revised Fully Alive Program Presented

Principal of Religious and Family Life Education, Tom Jordan, presented the revised Grades 3 and 4 Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops' Fully Alive Family Life Education Programs to the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Jordan reviewed the development and content of the program for all grades, before focusing on the specific changes to the renewed Grades 3 and 4 programs. The student text contains updated photographs, stories, and images along with expanded sections that now include topics such as how to effectively deal with bullies.

The teacher resources include an up to date resource list, new assessment and evaluation techniques, and tools and background information that will better prepare and equip our teachers to handle the sometimes-sensitive issues covered by the program. There are also new resources for parents, including a website to access materials and information for home participation in Fully Alive. The revised Grades 3 and 4 resources are presently being used in our schools.

Mr. Jordan also presented an overview of new resources to support Grades 7 and 8 Family Life Education. This collection of resources was written and compiled by Catholic teachers, consultants, and the Education Commission of the Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops and is being distributed by the three Catholic

Curriculum Cooperatives in the province.

The resource is not a replacement for the Fully Alive programs, but rather is designed to support Grade 7 and 8 teachers who wish to offer a more contemporary perspective on topics that are addressed in their Family Life Education Program.

Mr. Jordan then presented the key concepts in the Province's Character Development Education initiative and demonstrated how the Board meets the provincial mandate through our unique Catholic Family Life Education Programs.

Sharing the Experience: Supervisory Officers Qualification Program

Each year, several CDSBEO Principals participate in the Supervisory Officers Qualification Program (SOQP). Principals Donna Balemba (St. John Bosco, Brockville), John Cameron (St. Joseph's CSS, Cornwall), and Jennifer Perkin (St. James the Greater, Smiths Falls), had the opportunity to share their experience with the Board of Trustees.

Part of the program is a leadership project - an in-depth experience designed to allow candidates to demonstrate their ability to integrate and apply their learning and experience at a system level.

Director of Education, Bill Gartland, explained further, "Each of the candidates worked closely with a mentor

from Executive Council. Each project addresses a specific need, and the finished products will serve us for many years to come."

Each principal presented a brief overview of their work.

Mrs. Balemba led a portion of a committee that examined progressive discipline in our Board. The result is a document that is now being shared with all schools. "The framework benefits the school population, while addressing specific disciplinary needs for individual students."

Mr. Cameron created an entry and exit guide for principals. It contains a series of forms and templates that a departing principal completes to assist an incoming principal. "The guide gives our administrators one complete resource for pertinent information critical to a successful transition," said Mr. Cameron.

Mrs. Perkin's project focused on Leading Student Achievement (LSA). This project is designed to support the mandate of the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat to have 75% of students achieve level 3 or 4 in the EQAO testing. LSA is an innovative and comprehensive plan for delivering support to school leaders at the provincial, Board and school levels.

Board Chair, Ronald Eamer, thanked each of the Principals for sharing their projects with the Board of Trustees. "It is a comforting feeling to know there is not a shortage of leadership within our Board. These projects will surely benefit all schools."

Meetings / Events

Oct. 3 Professional Activity Day

Oct. 9 Parent Involvement Committee Symposium, St. Michael CHS, Kemptville 5:00 p.m.

For more information contact CDSBEO Communications at **613-258-7757** or **1-800-443-4562, ext. 206**.
Visit us online at www.cdsbeo.on.ca for news from our schools, program information and much more.

Next Board Meeting:

October 7, 2008
7:00 p.m.
Kemptonville
Board Office