

# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From the meeting of:  
**March 18, 2008**



## CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

Learning and Growing Together in Christ

### Communities of Peace

Superintendent of Education, Dr. Donaleen Hawes, shared with the Board of Trustees how the CDSBEO is implementing Bill 212, the new Safe School Legislation.

“Our staff remains committed to keeping our schools as welcoming, caring safe places,” said Dr. Hawes. “We hope that our students are influenced by the Catholic values we teach and that they think clearly, act wisely, and live responsibly while caring for one another’s well being.”

The Catholic Code of Conduct has undergone a period of revision and development as have the Board’s bullying prevention and intervention plans. “Our goal is to strengthen our Catholic communities, and to create communities of peace that are founded in faith, love and respect. We wish to bring our students a sense of hope and belonging while working through forgiveness and reconciliation methods that preserve the dignity of every person,” said Dr. Hawes.

Progressive discipline plays a key role in the implementation of the new legislation. Our framework for progressive discipline is Called to Care, Called to Action, and Called to Rebuild, as disciples of Christ. “Our students need to learn from a very young age that we need to care for and about every other person, we are

all responsible for our own actions, and that we must help or get help if someone needs it. These values form the basis of this framework,” said Dr. Hawes.

The Gospel values of compassion & forgiveness, along with the concept of the restoration of justice, will be integral whenever any type of discipline or suspension is considered. In addition to in-school programs, the Board will provide Alternative Behaviour Learning Environment Programs (A.B.L.E.) to students who receive a long term suspension of more than six days. These programs allow them to continue their education at a different site, while suspended from their schools. Dr. Hawes told the Board that it is key that strengths, assets, and needs are identified for students.

Director of Education, Bill Gartland, thanked Dr. Hawes and her team for her hard work. “The approach you have taken to implementing Bill 212, in building these communities of peace, clearly has been rooted in our Gospel values and exemplifies what Catholic education stands for.”

### Softgrid Pilot Projects Yielding Results

Manager of ICT, James Proulx, offered an update on the Board’s Microsoft Softgrid deployment project, which is designed to rapidly deploy software to Board computers.

“Traditional methods of updating software across our Board were simply too slow,” explained Mr. Proulx. “A technician would have to go to each school and use an imaging process to install the software on each individual computer.”

Softgrid operates from a central location and sends the programs to the computers electronically. “What used to take months, now takes just hours. We recently updated a commonly used program at one of our secondary pilot sites. It took us just two hours for the software to be completely installed on 1,200 computers,” said Mr. Proulx.

Currently, Softgrid is managing 80 different software titles for the test schools which include, Holy Cross in Kemptville, Sacred Heart of Jesus in Lanark, and all Board secondary schools.

Mr. Proulx added that the installation provided additional opportunities for the schools in question. “We were able to address several wiring issues in these schools as we ensured that they were ready for the system. We also are looking forward to switching to a system, which will facilitate Softgrid’s abilities,” said Mr. Proulx.

The goal is to have the system in place Board-wide in the next eight months. At that time, the switch will be made to one domain, and all networks will be optimized.

Mar. 21 Good Friday Meetings / Events  
Apr. 27 - May 2 Catholic Education Week Mar. 24 Easter Monday

**Next Board Meeting:**  
April 1, 2008  
7:00 p.m.  
Holy Cross Catholic School,  
Kemptonville

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