

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From the meeting of:

**May 6, 2008**

At St. Francis Xavier Catholic School,  
Brockville



# CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

Learning and Growing Together in Christ

### Keeping Graduation Night Safe

Superintendent of Education, Mark Musca, informed the Board of Trustees of initiatives to help ensure that graduation festivities are safe for students. "Alcohol is the biggest risk," said Mr. Musca. "Our schools often invite representatives from organizations such as *Mothers Against Drunk Driving* to speak about the dangers that accompany alcohol use."

Mr. Musca identified that it is often the parents of young drinking and driving victims who speak to students about the consequences of underage drinking and how the resulting loss of life affects family.

Often, dramatizations are performed to help get the point across. One production took place in Russell where St. Thomas Aquinas CHS hosted its first ever graduation. As a prerequisite to attend many of the festivities, students watched a reenactment of a fatal drinking and driving accident "Our students were clearly moved by what they were seeing," said Mr. Musca.

Prior to graduation, CDSBEO students are often reminded of key messages that have been delivered to them over the course of their education, including that no one needs alcohol to have a good time, that they should never get in a vehicle with a driver who has been drinking, and that even one drink can affect their driving. "We pray that these important lessons have been well learned by all," concluded Mr. Musca.

### Celebrating Our Schools: Parent Involvement Committee Releases DVD

The Board now has a new, informative DVD that was produced by the Religious and Family Life Education Department with the support of the Parent Involvement Committee.

Director of Education, Bill Gartland, stated, "This DVD celebrates our schools, and shares the good things that we are doing with our Catholic partners."

The DVD tells the story of Catholic Education in Eastern Ontario and it explains how the CDSBEO is dedicated to nurturing the Heart, Mind, Body and Soul of each and every student.

Current programs are outlined in detail within the production. Several notable accomplishments and many initiatives from across our eight counties are also highlighted.

"The message of our Board's dedication to teaching our students through our Gospel values in every way are clearly expressed in this DVD," said Mr. Gartland. "Our Board has so much to be proud of, and this is an outstanding way to showcase what we have accomplished, while also explaining the programs that we have in place."

### St. Francis Xavier Catholic School Hosts Board

Principal Linda Callaghan and St. Francis Xavier Catholic School staff welcomed the Board of Trustees and Senior Administration by hosting the Board Meeting on May 6th.

Mrs. Callaghan described the history of the school - from its beginnings in 1856 to current day, and of the programs that have helped St. Francis Xavier CS gain recognition as a School on the Move, by the Ministry of Education.

The Board was also treated to three songs from the production of *Annie Jr.*, led by Grade 5's Little Orphan Annie herself, Emalee Shepherd, under the direction of teacher, Tracy O'Brien.



Annie Jr. Star Emalee Shepherd performs  
*Tomorrow* for Trustees and Senior Administration

May 19

Victoria Day

### Meetings / Events

May 27

Special Education Advisory Committee - Kemptville Board Office

7:00 pm

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](http://www.cdsbeo.on.ca) for news from our schools, program information and much more.

### Next Board Meeting:

May 20, 2008

7:00 p.m.

Kemptville Board  
Office