

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From the meeting of:
October 7, 2008



CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

Learning and Growing Together in Christ

Director Presents Board-Wide Goals

Calling it the result of a collaborative effort, Director of Education, Bill Gartland presented his goals for the 2008-2009 school year to the Board of Trustees.

"What I am sharing with you this evening is the result of our Executive Council working with our departments and schools to determine and establish goals for the 2008-2009 school year," said Mr. Gartland.

The Ministry of Education's prime areas of focus are the following: reduced gaps in student achievement, higher levels of student achievement, and increased public confidence. "As a Catholic community, we have added promoting our Catholic faith to this list," said Mr. Gartland.

Mr. Gartland explained that to promote our Catholicity, the Board will continue to support, nurture, and deepen our faith within our Catholic communities. The primary indicator of success will be that our Catholic schools will be vibrant communities, that promote and celebrate our Catholic faith. "The Catholic Education Coalition plays an instrumental role in this process, and we will continue to support it so that it thrives at the regional level," said Mr. Gartland.

The Board will meet its goal to reduce gaps in student achievement by

working confidently to assist students who face barriers to learning through many endeavours including the continued development of current programs, such as the tutoring initiatives. "In doing so, we will provide numerous opportunities for staff and students to focus on equity and excellence," added Mr. Gartland.

To reach higher levels of student achievement, the Board will continue to focus on strong literacy and numeracy skills as a foundation for academic achievement. Our goal continues to be an increase in numeracy and literacy performance.

"It is very important that we continue to maintain a high level of public confidence," said Mr. Gartland. "Schools are the heart of our learning and faith-filled communities. We will continue to develop methods of communication with our parents, our parishes, and our diocesan partners so that they all know of the good work we are doing."

Board Chair, Ronald Eamer, thanked Mr. Gartland and Senior Administration for the comprehensive outline. "It is clear that good work will continue to occur for the 2008-2009 school year," said Mr. Eamer.

Collaborative Project Presented

A new resource for the Eastern Ontario Catholic Curriculum Cooperative

(EOCCC), authored by three CDSBEO departments was outlined for the Board of Trustees.

Affirming Catholic Themes through Mentor Texts to Enhance Student Writing was a group effort by the Curriculum, Religious and Family Life Education and Special Education departments to respond to the requests of classroom teachers for meaningful mentor texts and student writing opportunities.

The project's three writers, Christine Campeau (Special Education), Tammy Clune (Curriculum) and Paula Wheeler (Religious and Family Life Education) chose mentor texts that address such Catholic themes as faith, hope and dignity of the human person which are featured in the Curriculum Support for Catholic Schools resource CD.

Using material developed by education theorist Ruth Culham, writing lessons were created to help explore identified features of the mentor texts. When possible, subject matter was linked with other subjects to provide opportunities for rich learning.

This project has been recently published by the EOCCC and will be made available to elementary schools across the Board. Along with the published project, the three superintendents of the departments involved purchased a number of the mentor texts to accompany the project when it is sent to schools.

Meetings / Events

Oct. 29 Special Education Advisory Committee, Kemptville Board Office
Nov. 1 Tenth Anniversary Gala Celebration, Cornwall

7:00 p.m.

Next Board Meeting:
October 21, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
St. Columban's
Catholic School
Cornwall, Ontario

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.

Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario: Box 2222, 2755 Highway 43, Kemptville Ontario, K0G 1J0