

NEWS RELEASE FROM THE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

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Subject: New Prescott Construction
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New Catholic School in Prescott Will Unite Catholic Community

Kemptville, ON – The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario has received funding for the construction of a new Catholic elementary school in the town of Prescott, under the Ministry of Education’s Prohibitive to Repair (PTR) Capital program.

Board Chair Ronald Eamer said the funding is welcome news. “We are very pleased to see the Ministry has recognized the need to replace our schools in Prescott. This project has been one of our long term priorities and it is wonderful to see our efforts to secure this funding will result in a beautiful new Catholic school for our students.”

The new \$5.9 million facility will be built on the site of the current St. Joseph Catholic School at 420 McAuley Road. Upon completion, the building will house students from current Prescott Catholic schools, St. Joseph and St. Mark, located at 560 Edward Street.

Grenville Trustee Brent Laton said the community has been hoping a new facility would be built for a long time. “The two schools are already a wonderful example of a Catholic community approach to learning. Moving students into one building will allow for a closer-knit community, further strengthening the ties between home, school and parish. We feel truly blessed because that’s what our parents have wanted, and that’s what our Catholic community has been hoping for.”

Director of Education Bill Gartland stated, “As Catholic educators, we strive everyday to deliver the best possible Catholic education to our students. Having this new facility in Prescott is going to help achieve that goal and be a positive contributing factor to student success for many years to come.”

St. Mark and St. Joseph Catholic School Principal Kathy Laushway said it is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen and grow as a family. “I am so happy that we can finally bring all of our students together under one roof. Our staff is committed to ensuring that our students undergo an easy transition and that parents are informed and involved as the process unfolds.”

The Board is committed to keeping the impact the construction will have on students to an absolute minimum. Superintendent of Education Mark Musca stated, "Student safety will be the top priority as the project moves forward. As with any large scale undertaking, there will be regular debriefings and continuous assessments to ensure that students' safety is not compromised during construction. Our Board remains dedicated to providing excellent Catholic education to all of our students under any conditions. This construction ensures that our students in Prescott will have a comfortable, welcoming environment in which to learn."

For more information, please contact CDSBEO Communication Officer Bob Perreault at 613-258-7757 or 1-800-443-4562 ext. 206.

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario operates 40 elementary and 10 secondary schools across 8 counties. The CDSBEO offers excellence in Catholic education through provincial-leading programs to approximately 15,000 students.