



Trustee News

CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

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Ronald Eamer, Chair (Cornwall-Glengarry)
Nancy Kirby, Vice-Chair (Lanark)
Todd Lalonde (Cornwall-Glengarry)
Brent Laton (Grenville)

Karen McAllister (Stormont-Dundas)
Robin Reil (Leeds)
Sue Wilson (Prescott-Russell)
Rebecca McEvoy (Catholic Student Trustee)

Virtue Education Curriculum Launch

In response to the Ministry of Education's Character Development Initiative, Finding Common Ground, the Board has launched the Virtue Education component of the Religious and Family Life Education Curriculum. The Department enlisted the assistance of students and Chaplaincy Leaders to help find a way to express the Virtues in a student-friendly format. The result is a set of seven posters that have been distributed to schools across the Board.

Board schools have responded enthusiastically to the program and have found unique ways of displaying the posters. Some schools have had the posters enlarged and have hung them in the gym or cafetorium, others have framed posters for their hallways, and some have hung the posters in every classroom. The Board looks forward to the continued use of these posters and further development of our Virtues Program.

Board on the Road

During the month of May, the Board has been welcomed by several schools who have hosted regular Board meetings. This tradition gives Trustees an opportunity to see firsthand the positive things happening in our schools. The host schools include, St. John Catholic High School in Perth and Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School in Cornwall.

The Trustees would like to thank the host schools; we are very proud of all of our students' accomplishments.

Restorative Justice Education

Restorative Justice is an initiative launched collaboratively by the Board's Special Education and Religious Education Departments, which offers training to students and staff on ways to facilitate restorative conversations, interventions, classroom circles and formal conferences.

Implemented partly in response to Bill 212, Restorative Justice is a whole school approach that works to foster empathy, understanding and compassion among our students. This helps learners to make good choices, resolve conflicts and to forgive others.

Catholic Education Week

The CDSBEO marked the beginning of Catholic Education Week with the traditional Board-wide Mass, now in its seventh year. This year, the Board was honoured to have the Most Rev. Brendan O'Brien, Archbishop of the Kingston Archdiocese, celebrate the Mass. Board schools used this special week to highlight the distinctiveness of Catholic schools through various special events.

Bus Driver Appreciation Day

This year on Monday, June 1, the Board will celebrate Bus Driver Appreciation Day. The Board encourages all students, staff and parents to recognize their bus drivers on this day for the valuable role they play in the lives of our learners.

Cuernavaca Mission Trip

Mission Trips provide an extraordinary opportunity for students to learn firsthand what life is like for the poor of developing nations. Participants are immersed in local culture and are given the chance to experience aspects of family life, the economy, and situations faced by workers.

This year, ten teachers and forty-three students from seven high schools across the Board visited Cuernavaca, Mexico, partaking in two service projects that assisted local families in building a home. Students found the trip to be an inspiration to pursue ways to continue to help make a difference from home. The Cuernavaca Mission Trip is an annual opportunity for CDSBEO secondary students which takes place during March Break.

Notable

- St. Mary CHS student Chris Walasek was elected by the Student Senate as the Catholic Student Trustee for 2009-2010. Mr. Walasek will be sworn in at the August Board meeting. The Board would like to thank Rebecca McEvoy for her contribution as the 2008-2009 Catholic Student Trustee.
- The Second Annual Good Samaritan Trust Fund Golf Tournament and Silent Auction will be held on Monday, July 6, 2009 at the Prescott Golf Club. Please visit www.cdsbeo.on.ca for more information.

Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 16 (Kemptonville Board Office)

Visit our website at www.cdsbeo.on.ca for information, news on school events, bus cancellation updates, Board Meeting Highlights, or to visit our Trustee section under *Board Information*.