



Honouring CDSBEO 2020 Graduates

In light of the current school closures, CDSBEO secondary schools have been finding creative ways to honour the graduating class.

"All of our secondary schools have gone above and beyond to ensure that our graduates are celebrated in some special way," noted Superintendent Cameron.

"Every CDSBEO graduate will remember how important they were to us, and how the pandemic did not prevent us from celebrating their great accomplishments."

All CDSBEO secondary schools are in the process of delivering celebratory signs designed with the school and board logo, to commemorate each graduate. The signs are being delivered by school principals, grade 12 teachers, SERTS, guidance counsellors and student success teachers, who are dressed in spirit wear or graduation gowns. A protocol was provided to ensure safety during the COVID19 pandemic.

"Many schools are also including a personalized letter acknowledging special accomplishments, and some schools have put together goodie bags with special items, ball caps branded with the school logo, and even personalized COVID2020 graduation sweatshirts," explained Superintendent Cameron.

Schools are also commemorating graduates on social media channels.

"We continue to witness God's work through our employees, as they dedicate their time to ensuring that the 2020 graduating class is celebrated and remembered. We are extremely proud of our employees and all of their efforts to personally deliver these items to our graduates," concluded Superintendent Cameron.

Superintendent Cameron also acknowledged and congratulated Catholic Student Trustee Josephine Purcell, who has been accepted into the University of Ottawa's Biomedical Science program, which she will be completing in the French Immersion stream.

"Thank you, Superintendent Cameron. It is obvious that there is a lot of excitement across the Board, and special congratulations to Trustee Purcell. We are certainly very proud of you and look forward to watching all of your accomplishments as you embark on this new journey," noted Chair Lalonde.

Online Summer Course Offerings

As in previous years, the CDSBEO continues to provide various online course offerings for students. This year, 62 secondary courses are included in the program roster, including five reach-ahead courses for students entering grade 9.



Superintendent of School Effectiveness, Natalie Cameron, provided an update to trustees on the plans for summer courses, as well as the newest programs introduced this year.

The Board continues to offer a very robust selection of online courses for students in grades 9 through 12, and currently there are 880 students registered for the online summer courses.

"We currently have 62 courses being offered, and for the first time we are providing five new reach-ahead courses for students entering grade 9. These courses will allow students to get a head start on their secondary credits," explained Superintendent Cameron.

The Summer Learning Program is also being offered virtually this year and is open to students from Kindergarten to grade 8. The program aims to close learning gaps in literacy and numeracy, providing students the opportunity to connect with a teacher for two hours of synchronous distance learning.

Superintendent of School Effectiveness, Brent Bovaird, also noted that over 600 students were currently registered for the K-8 Summer Learning Program.

"We will also be offering some 55-hour credit upgrade courses and we are currently surveying our schools and guidance staff to see what the needs are in our system. The offerings will include math, science and English, and will give students an opportunity to improve their mark, if they feel they need to improve."

"It is encouraging to see the number of students who have shown an interest in summer learning programs. It is excellent that the CDSBEO is able to accommodate these students as they endeavour to learn over the summer months," concluded Chair Lalonde.