

January 9, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As outlined in my letter of December 15, 2022, criminal charges of sexual interference have been laid against David Alexander Giroux, a teacher at St. John Catholic High School.

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario remains deeply concerned about the victim and about the impact this situation has on our students and school community and wants to ensure that you are aware of resources, systems and protocols that are in place.

Our school counselors are continuing to work with the students and staff. They can be reached through the school administration.

Please find below additional information about systems and protocols for child protection and sexual abuse prevention that have been developed and put in place from 2019 to 2022 by our Board:

- Duty to Report: Children in Need of Protection, Anti-sex Trafficking, and Cyber Protection Training for school staff
- Workplace Violence & Harassment Prevention Training for all staff
- Annual police criminal reference and vulnerable sector checks and offence declarations for all staff
- Professional Activity Day with Kevin Cameron on trauma-informed practices for school staff
- Professional Activity Day Ontario College of Teachers Sexual Abuse Training for teachers
- St. John CHS staff meeting with Kevin Cameron for trauma informed support
- Duty to Report: Reporting Children in Need of Protection Administrative Procedure review with staff, administration, and trustees
- Duty to Report legal presentation to principals
- St. John CHS Community Response Table with school, students, and community at large with video resources for students, families, and staff
- Classroom presentations to students from student support worker, administration, and community partners
- Canadian Centre for Child Protection - Kids in the Know training for St. John CHS staff and all school board employees, including central staff
- Children's Aid Society training to principals
- Completed training of all St. John CHS teachers and school staff in either Ontario College of Teachers Sexual Abuse Training or Commit to Kids Program through the Canadian Centre for Child Protection

In addition to the above school and board level systems and protocols, the Ontario College of Teachers as of January 3, 2022, requires members to successfully complete a [sexual abuse prevention program](#). David Giroux had already been removed from the school before completing this program became a requirement for teachers.

As a reminder, If you have information you wish to report, please contact [Family and Children's Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville](#), at 613-498-2100 or the OPP Perth Detachment at 1-888-310-1122.

We would also ask that you bring any information or concerns to the attention of Principal Deanne Strong or Vice-Principal Steve Dolan. They can be reached at 613-267-4724 at the school or by email at Deanne.Strong@cdsbeo.on.ca and/or Stephen.Dolan@cdsbeo.on.ca.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions. I can be reached at 613-258-7757 or by email at director@cdsbeo.on.ca.

I will continue to provide updates to you as information becomes available.

Yours truly,

Laurie Corrigan
Director of Education