

BOARD MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS

June 2018



Hamilton-Wentworth
Catholic District School Board
Believing, Achieving, Serving

Architect and principal appointed for new St. Patrick School

Trustees, on May 15th, awarded the design project for the new St. Patrick Catholic Elementary school to Svedas Architects Inc., which designed St. Gabriel School. The request for proposal was issued following a Ministry of Education capital funding announcement on March 13th which awarded the HWCDSB \$11.1-million for a 383-pupil place St. Patrick replacement school. The new facility will include an onsite childcare and EarlyON child and family centre. In a later report, Adrienne Coletto was appointed Principal of St. Patrick CES, effective September 2018.

St. Brigid Closing Mass

A Closing Mass for St. Brigid Catholic Elementary School will be held on Monday, June 25 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church, 440 King Street East. A reception will follow immediately after the Mass in the St. Brigid school gymnasium at 24 Smith Avenue.

Student Trustee passing of the torch

At the Board meeting of June 5th, Chairperson Patrick Daly thanked outgoing Student Trustee Mikayla D'Agostino for her active service of the past year. "She has been an outstanding ambassador for Cardinal Newman Catholic Secondary School and, indeed, our entire system," said Daly. D'Agostino, a Grade 12 student and Student Council President at Cardinal Newman CSS, was elected Student Trustee by her fellow student council presidents to serve as the student voice on the 2017-2018 Board of Trustees. Presenting D'Agostino with a plaque, Daly said he had no doubt she would be successful in her future endeavours. "I would encourage you, knowing your commitment to Catholic education, to try to find ways where you can continue to serve because there's absolutely no question in my mind that we need outstanding and dedicated young Catholic leaders like you, now and many years to come." In later business, Melaina Malcew, a current Grade 11 student at Cathedral High School was appointed incoming Student Trustee for 2018-2019.

Update provides overview of budget planning process

A budget update, presented by Associate Director of Corporate Services Paola Pace-Gubekjian on June 5th, provided an overview of the budget planning process as well as budget considerations involved in the preparation of the 2018-2019 budget. School boards in Ontario are required to adopt a balanced budget. Factors that help to inform the budget include feedback from an online budget priorities survey, Multi-Year Strategic Priorities, Ministry of Education's 2018-2019 Grants for Student Needs, enrolment, and legislative requirements/contractual obligations. A final recommended budget will be coming to the Board on June 19th.

Robotics supports STEM development in students

The HWCDSB's robotics program continues to provide opportunities for students to experience hands-on learning in STEM. Kindergarten to Grade 4 students were able to develop basic engineering and programming skills through *FIRST* LEGO League Jr. (FLL Jr.), a non-competitive

program that this year taught students about water consumption. A total of 288 students participated at expos at their respective schools. *FIRST* LEGO League (FLL) is geared to Grade 4-8 students and uses a theme-based challenge to engage students in research, problem solving, beginning coding, and engineering. The program ran in 27 schools involving 270 students and 60 teacher/mentors. Four teams were selected to compete at the Ontario Provincial Championships on January 28th. The secondary program, called *FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC), challenges high school teams to design and build a robot in six weeks. Students work on real-life engineering challenges while developing teamwork skills, self-esteem and time management skills. This year, the HWCDSB had five registered FRC teams for a total of 350 students, 8 teacher mentors, and 35 engineers/adult mentors. Each competed in a minimum of two regional events over the season with three advancing to the Worlds on April 25-28 in Detroit.

Accommodation and school condition projects

A surplus four-pack of portables will be relocated from St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School to St. Matthew Catholic Elementary School to provide additional student capacity. The four-pack will be in place for September 2018. In other projects, seven older roof top HVAC units at St. Jean de Brébeuf Catholic Secondary School will be replaced through 2017-2018 School Condition Improvement funding.

Schools update laptop computers

The Board will invest upwards of \$150,000 for the purchase of 400-500 Lenovo 300e Winbooks to replace aging laptops in elementary and secondary schools. The units will be purchased in the current budget year and are part of the approved operating budget.

French as a Second Language (FSL) & DELF program update

Student achievement data indicate that students are achieving at Levels 3 and 4 in oral, reading and writing assessments in both Core French and French Immersion. Grade 7 French Immersion students reported the highest achievement in writing at 95%, with Grade 8 students performing at 89%. Pass rates for secondary Core French and secondary French Immersion students ranged from 95 to 100%, and 96 to 100%, respectively. Professional learning activities for teachers focused on evidence-based strategies to enhance students' FSL skills. New resources were also purchased for Grade 7-10 Core French; in French Immersion, the Board implemented a plan to update resources in a number of curriculum areas. Support for struggling students is provided through French Homework Help and French Immersion tutors. This year, 68 Grade 12 students successfully completed the Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française (DELF), an internationally recognized certificate that demonstrates proficiency in French. In 2017-2018, 10 FSL teachers received DELF training to administer and mark the DELF exam.

ESL and ELD programs and services support English language development

The framework for the Ministry policy (K-12) for *English Language Learners (ELL) and English Literacy Development (ELD) Programs and Services 2007* addresses the diversity in Ontario's classrooms and outlines program requirements to help promote academic success for ELLs. New students to the HWCDSB undergo an initial assessment of reading comprehension, student writing, oral communication and mathematical knowledge and skills. Results are measured against a STEP model to determine progress, from beginner level (STEP 1) to a functioning level of proficiency (STEP 6). The level of support varies from 2 periods of direct support per week to none. Another resource used to support the achievement of ELLs is the Observable Language

Behaviours (OLB) STEP resource, which allows teachers to make the curriculum more linguistically accessible. This year, 8 teachers from 5 high schools participated in the ESL STEP project. Currently, 881 elementary and 906 secondary ELLs are enrolled in the HWCDSB. ELL EQAO assessments show sustained and/or improved results in reading, writing and math.

Indigenous Education supports achievement & cultural development

A number of activities have been identified by the HWCDSB to support *Ontario's Indigenous Education Strategy 2007*. These include cultural teachings around the Sacred Medicines, Grandfather Teachings, Four Directions, Eagle Feather Teachings, smudging traditions, Indigenous Games, and Indigenous Commemorative Awareness Days such as Treaties Recognition Week, Red Shirt Day and the "Every Child Matters" campaign. At Cardinal Newman, Grade 11 World Religion students participated in 24 sessions with a cultural facilitator which focused on residential schools, self-identification and marginalization. The NYA:WEH program at Cathedral continues to thrive. Findings show that through culture-based activities, students are able to develop a more positive sense of identity and pride of community and culture. Currently there are 115 elementary and 87 secondary students who have self-identified.

Supplementary secondary Religion curriculum resources now available

Supplementary religious education resources for Grades 9-12, developed by the Institute for Catholic Education, will be available to school boards in print-ready format in May. The resources align with the new religious education curriculum. Staff will be in-serviced in the new materials in early June. The supplementary curriculum resources will be implemented in September 2018.

Board purchases Grade 5 *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ* religion resources

The HWCDSB has purchased the newly developed Grade 5 *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ* religious education print and 5-year digital subscription package. Grade 5 teachers will be in-serviced on the resources on June 22nd. To date, the board has purchased the full print and digital district implementation package for Grades 1 to 4. The resources are approved by the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (ACBO) for use in Ontario Catholic schools as part of the Religious Education curriculum. Grade 6 resources will be released in May 2019 with Grade 7 and Grade 8 packages to follow in May 2020 and May 2021, respectively.

Student & Staff Awards & Recognition

Congratulations to the following students and staff on their recent accomplishments:

- Khadija Hosseini, a Grade 12 Cardinal Newman CSS student, was presented with the Edge Spirit Award at the Charity of Hope Awards Gala on March 23rd
- Meira Morphet, a Grade 11 student at St. Mary CSS, was named Ancaster Mill Volunteer of the Year 2017 at the Ancaster Community Awards on April 10th
- Lucia Marchionda, a Grade 12 student at Cardinal Newman CSS, was named Stoney Creek's Chamber of Commerce Junior Citizen of the Year for 2017 at the 51st Annual Community Achievement Awards on May 17
- Francesca Bruccoleri, a Grade 12 student at Cardinal Newman CSS, was selected for an educational bursary by the Comunità Racalmutese, to be presented at the 30th Anniversary Festival at All Souls Church on June 24th
- Christopher Lamont, a Grade 7 student at St. Margaret Mary CES, won a "Silver Excellence Award" and a "Youth Can Innovate Award" at the Canada Wide Science Fair in Ottawa on May 18-20th

- Anthony Saturnino, a Grade 7 student at St. Margaret Mary CES, won a “Bronze Excellence Award” at the Canada Wide Science Fair in Ottawa on May 18-20th
- Claudio Silvestri, a teacher at St. Thomas More CSS, was presented with the McMaster University football program’s 2018 High School Football Coaching Achievement Award at the 21st Annual McMaster Football Gale Dinner on April 26th
- Marisa DiCenso, Principal at Regina Mundi CES, was presented with a Distinguished Service Award by the Catholic Principals’ Council of Ontario (CPCO) at a Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony in Toronto on April 20th
- Claudia Sambuco, a teacher at Cardinal Newman CSS, was presented with the Hamilton Jewish Federation’s Sharon Enkin Award for Excellence in Holocaust Education at the 20th Annual Student Symposium on the Holocaust at Mohawk College on April 30th
- Frank Rizzuti, a Department Head at Cardinal Newman CSS, was inducted into the Hamilton Soccer Hall of Fame at Michelangelo’s Banquet Centre on May 11th
- St. Thomas More’s STM Legal Knights captured a gold medal for the third consecutive year at the annual Ontario Bar Association/Ontario Justice Education Network Hamilton Championship at the John Sopinka Courthouse on April 30th

Congratulations also to the following students and staff who received awards at the annual ‘Yes I Can’ Awards Dinner hosted by the Council for Exceptional Children – Hamilton-Wentworth Chapter 289 on May 10th:

President’s Award to a CEC Member

- Maria Trotta, Vice-Principal, St. Eugene CES

President’s Award to a Teacher of the Year

- Anna Boyle, SERT, St. Michael CES

President’s Award to an Educational Leader of the Year

- Karen Moyer, Principal, St. Luke

Academic Awards

- Titus Brown, Cathedral High School
- Adriana Costa, St. Brigid CES
- Owen Disabatino, St. Joachim CES
- Cayllum McLelland, Cardinal Newman CSS
- Robert Mowatt, St. Marguerite d’Youville CES
- Domenic Tassone-Joe, St. Ann CES (Hamilton)
- Kira Wilby, Guardian Angels CES
- Sophia Yorulmaz, St. Patrick CES

Employment Awards

- Alyssa Alves, St. Thomas More CSS
- Michael Crow, Bishop Tonnos CSS
- Gabriela DeLuca, Cardinal Newman CSS
- Chasson McKerracher, Cardinal Newman CSS
- Matthew Mossuto, Bishop Ryan CSS

Arts Awards

- Malichi Smith, St. Joseph CES
- Nathaniel Tolentino, Bishop Ryan CSS

Community Service Awards

- Michele Pugliese, Bishop Ryan CSS
- Rachel Stone, St. Mary CSS
- William Tucker, Bishop Ryan CSS

Technology Awards

- Sebastian Carrara, St. Teresa of Avila CES
- Shekinah Connor, St. Augustine CES
- Noah Parchem, St. Thérèse of Lisieux CES
- Ralph Ternida, Sacred Heart of Jesus CES
- Angelina Younan, St. Michael CES

Self-Advocacy Awards

- Nicolas Fricano, Immaculate Conception CES
- Aliyah Porcic, St. Ann CES (Hamilton)
- Jacob Reeve, St. Eugene
- Nino Versace, Sts. Peter and Paul CES
- Amo Yaco, St. Teresa of Calcutta CES

Extra-Curricular Awards

- Sarah Jacobs, St. David CES
- Erika Tullo, St. John Paul II CES