



# Highlights

from the March 27, 2017 Board Meeting

## St. Paul Catholic School Musicians

Thank you to the musicians from St. Paul Catholic School for opening the meeting with O Canada.



## Healthy Workplace Award



Congratulations to the Durham Catholic District School Board on receiving the Healthy Workplace award from Durham Region Health Department. "DCDSB has shown dedication to health and wellness programming at their workplace," said Annette Mollon, Public Health Nurse. "I am happy to present the Healthy Workplace Award in Gold with Honours for the topic of mental health," she said.

## Ultimate Potential Math Program



Staff members at Monsignor Pereyma Catholic Secondary School were acknowledged on the recent recognition of Ultimate Potential (UP) Math as an Apple Distinguished program. Chris Cuddy, Principal, and Leanne Oliver, Teacher, shared a presentation on the program which is helping students meet their ultimate potential in Math with a focus on five core themes:

- Visionary Leadership
- Innovative Learning and Teaching
- Ongoing Professional Learning
- Compelling Evidence of Success
- Flexible Learning Environment

## Durham Catholic Children's Foundation



Ryan Putnam, Superintendent of Business and Chief Financial Officer provided an update on the Durham Catholic Children's Foundation which included an overview of the allocation of funds for schools, secondary school graduate bursaries, and emergency circumstances. He also shared dates and information for the Foundation's upcoming annual events which include the annual Community Run for Hope, Gala and Golf Tournament, directing sponsors and participants to the newly launched website at [www.durhamcatholicfoundation.ca](http://www.durhamcatholicfoundation.ca).



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## Update from John Rinella, Chair of the Board



We were pleased to hear in recent news that Reverend Monsignor James Hannah, Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Toronto was granted the title of “Chaplain of His Holiness” by our Holy Father, Pope Francis. On behalf of the Durham Catholic District School Board, I extend our sincere congratulations on being recognized for his tremendous contributions to the Church.

Thank you to Board staff and the Special Education Advisory Committee for organizing a special event earlier this month: Connecting With Our Children and Teens: Promoting Positive Mental Health. Events like this demonstrate the importance we place on supporting the parents in our communities and beyond.

I would like to invite all members of our Durham Catholic learning community to participate in a special milestone celebration this month at St. Patrick Catholic School for their 25th anniversary. Please join us on Tuesday, March 28, 7:00 pm at the school.

If you have not yet purchased your tickets to the Foundation Gala on May 5, remember to do so before April 7 for a chance to be entered into the Early Bird prize draw for Blue Jays tickets and gift basket donated by Edge Imaging. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.durhamcatholicfoundation.ca](http://www.durhamcatholicfoundation.ca).



In addition, families can sign up for the Community Run for Hope at the Foundation website. The Run takes place on Sunday, April 23 starting at Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School. I look forward to seeing fellow Trustees there along with many families and friends of Catholic education in support of the Durham Catholic Children's Foundation. [Register online.](#)



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## Update from the Director of Education



Welcome back, I hope everyone had a restful March Break as we continue to deepen our Lenten journeys through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Thank you to Deacon Dominic for organizing our prayer services here in the Chapel of St. Francis of Assisi throughout this Lenten season. Thanks also to school chaplains, staff and our parish communities for joining our students and families in our schools in prayer and other Lenten activities.

On Thursday, our Grade 10 Students will write their Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). May we all light a candle and say a special prayer this week; and may our students find strength in the power of these prayers as they have been guided by wonderful teaching staff in their educational journeys to lead them to this point in academic achievement.

Thanks to our school communities for supporting many causes and awareness days this month: Down Syndrome Day, Epilepsy Month, World Water Day, and Earth Hour – to name a few.

We look forward to celebrating Autism awareness on Monday, April 4, a cause that is very close to our hearts here at the Durham Catholic District School Board where celebrating inclusion is an important part of our daily practice.



As we welcome spring and move into the month of April, we look forward to celebrating Holy Week and Easter Sunday with our families, parish communities, colleagues and friends. God bless everyone this Easter.



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## Motions

- That the Durham Catholic School Board receive as information the Regional Bell Time Study prepared by Durham Student Transportation Services (DSTS).
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the recommendations of the DSTS Regional Bell Time Study, effective September 2017.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as information the Foreign Student Fees 2017/2018 Report dated March 27, 2017.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board establishes Foreign Student Fees in the amount of \$12,500 for an elementary student and \$13,750 for a secondary school student for the 2017/2018 school year.

## Announcements

Kathy LeFort, Vice-Chair of the Board, made the following announcement:

## Retirements

Name	Current Position	Effective
Kimberley Mastromartino	Teacher, Catholic Education Centre	June 1, 2017

**Minutes of the March 2017 Board Meeting will be posted on the Board website as part of the agenda for the next Regular Board Meeting of Monday, April 24, 2017.**