



Highlights

from the November 27, 2017 Board Meeting

Archbishop Denis O'Connor Catholic High School Choir



Thank you to the student choir from Archbishop Denis O'Connor Catholic High School for opening the November 27, 2017 Board Meeting with their vibrant vocals singing O Canada followed by a harmonic acapella performance of Walking in a Winter Wonderland.

Regional Arts and Media Program



The Regional Arts and Media Program implementation team presented an update on the new initiative expected to launch in September 2018 at All Saints Catholic Secondary School. Over 400 students participated in the clinics that have been offered to help prepare for the application and audition process which is open November 27 to December 20, 2017 at www.dcdsb.ca/amp.

CS&P, the architect firm involved in the renovations for the school, presented the vision for the design and architecture of the facility, highlighting the new arts wing for the school, theatre, state-of-the-art media arts room, sound and video recording room, seminar room and other space that will be dedicated to the arts.

Healthy Water Award



St. Joseph Catholic School was acknowledged for their recent recognition with the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Award. With the help of Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) and other corporate, private and individual supporters, the school developed a bioswale to collect stormwater runoff that filters ground water, which in turn helps protect the local watershed.

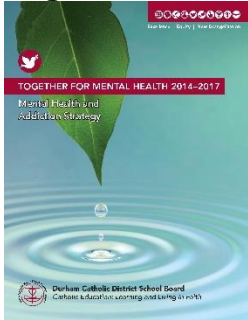
Congratulations on this exemplary call to service and caring for God's creation.



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Together for Mental Health



Janine Bowyer, Superintendent of Education and Diane Mullane, Mental Health Leader, presented DCDSB's renewed [Together for Mental Health Strategy 2017-2020](#). Reflecting stakeholder feedback, the document builds on the board's previous mental health strategy, indicating progress and data from the first three years, with a continued focus on faith, everyday well-being practices, as well as the link between staff and student well-being. The Together for Mental Health 2017-2020 strategic priorities include:

1. Consolidating organizational conditions for school mental health
2. Building mental health literacy and capacity
3. Implementing evidence-informed mental health promotion and prevention practices, strategies and programming
4. Supporting specific populations
5. Partnering with the community

Financial Update



Ryan Putnam, Chief Financial Officer and Superintendent of Business Services presented the 2016-2017 financial position of the Board. Financial results for the year were neutral relative to the budget, meeting the Ministry's recommendation that school boards maintain a minimum of 1% in reserve for unexpected situations. Areas of financial focus moving into 2018 include:

- 2017-2018 Revised Estimates
- Annual CFO Financial Overview
- Enrolment and Utilization Report
- Updated Long-Term Accommodation Plan
- Multi-Year Capital and Technology Programs



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Year-End Report from John Rinella, Chair of the Board



Chair Rinella thanked the Board of Trustees for putting their faith in him to assume the role of Chair of the Board. As the final meeting of his term as Chair, he thanked all staff of the Durham Catholic District School Board, along with administrators, Catholic education leaders, fellow Trustees, ratepayers, partners and members of the religious communities, for their dedication to our unique school system.

Chair Rinella welcomed the learning opportunities the year has presented for him as an advocate for Catholic education and in his commitment to the Board. He extended his thanks for the work of our Catholic education community, acknowledging that “we have collectively written many new pages in providing equitable 21st century learning opportunities, while maintaining the integrity of our faith-based schools, classrooms and parish connections.” In preparation for the the final stretch of the Board’s *Discovery 2020 Strategic Plan*, he noted a few of a few highlights from this past year.

- the decision to establish a Grade 7 to 12 Regional Arts & Media Program at All Saints Catholic Secondary School;
- new Learning Commons that continue to be renovated in our schools offering equal access and equal opportunities for all students;
- expansion of child care centres;
- new academic partnerships with post-secondary institutions for international student and new partners in establishing community hubs;
- an ongoing commitment to Catholic charities, including the growth of the Durham Catholic Children’s Foundation;
- increasing focus on student safety and well-being as part of the model for student achievement; and
- a continued focus on excellence in academic programming with increased levels of success as indicated in the evaluation and assessment of student achievement;
- and most importantly, keeping the Teachings of the Gospel as the central theme in everything we do from the classrooms and offices to this Board room.



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Update from Anne O'Brien, Director of Education



Director O'Brien thanked staff for organizing Remembrance Day Masses and other activities this month, such as Treaties Recognition Week, honouring the importance of treaties and to help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and treaty relationships. Bullying Prevention Awareness Week was also acknowledged in our schools, connecting to the theme of Serving My School Community with Acts of Kindness. The Director noted that many other special celebrations and new partnerships were celebrated, in keeping with the theme of Serving in Partnership in our *Discovery 2020 Strategic Plan*. Among these include King's University College, enhancing the Board's commitment to offering quality 21st century learning experiences for international students, and providing seamless pathways into Catholic post-secondary education in Ontario. The Board also celebrated Community Innovation Lab's Grand Opening at Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School and she extended thanks to trustees and staff at the Community Innovation Lab, Durham Catholic District School Board and Ontario Trillium Foundation involved in forming this partnership.

Director O'Brien provided an update on Transportation Services regarding the job action notification from Durham Student Transportation Services (DSTS) for First Student Ajax and First Student Brooklin. Director O'Brien also spoke about the Executive Compensation Consultation on the Board website.

The Director advised that the Inaugural Board Meeting will take place at the Catholic Education Centre next week on Monday, December 4. She acknowledged the commitment and dedication of John Rinella, Chair of the Board and Kathleen LeFort, Vice-Chair for 2016-2017. "It has been an incredible year in Catholic education with many important decisions made by our Board of Trustees, who are always mindful of the best interest of our students," she said.



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Motions

- That the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the 2016/2017 Audited Financial Statements for the year ended August 31, 2017.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as information the Honoraria for Board Members for December 1, 2017 to November 30, 2018.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the report on the Regional Arts and Media Program implementation.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the French Immersion and Extended French Programs Report.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the report of the 2016-2017 outcomes of initiatives related to the Numeracy Action Plan.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the 2017-2020 report on Together for Mental Health.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as information the report entitled Long Term Accommodation Plan 2017-2021 Update.

Announcements

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

Appointment to Elementary Vice-Principal Roster

Effective immediately:

Name	Current Position
Kate Remiz	Student Services Coordinator for Assistive Technology

Appointment to Secondary Principal Roster

Effective immediately:

Name	Current Position
Shannon Brady	Vice-Principal, Notre Dame CSS
John DiVizio	Vice-Principal, Archbishop Denis O'Connor CHS



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Retirements

Name	Current Position	Effective
Rosemary Dufresne	Teacher, St. Paul CS	January 31, 2018
Robert Ouellette	Teacher, Elementary	May 31, 2018
Annette Stokes-Harris	Teacher, All Saints CSS	January 31, 2018
Geralyn Thornhill	Teacher, St. Marguerite d'Youville CS	December 31, 2017

Minutes of the November 2017 Board Meeting will be posted on the Board website as part of the agenda for the next Regular Board Meeting of Monday, December 18, 2017.