



Highlights

from the September 24, 2018 Board Meeting

St. Patrick Catholic School Choir



Thank you to the student choir from St. Patrick Catholic School for opening the September 24, 2018 Board Meeting with their vibrant vocals singing O Canada in French. In light of Franco-Ontarian Day on Tuesday, September 25, students added a punch of green and white to mark the celebration.

Student Trustee Affirmation of Faith



The Durham Catholic District School Board (DCDSB) welcomed Julia Cara and Sofia Zamorano to their first official Board meeting as Durham Catholic Student Trustees. Student Trustees Cara and Zamorano stood before Trustees, Senior Administrative Council and other meeting attendees and recited the Student Trustee Affirmation of Faith.

Summer Learning 2018



Gerry O'Reilly, Superintendent of Education and Ms. Sarah Dowling, Principal Coordinator of the Summer Rays Learning Program provided a summary of activities across the Durham Catholic District School Board.

The Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) provided full funding for DCDSB's 2018 Summer Rays Learning Program. This summer DCDSB supported 160 of the board's youngest learners through the program which was offered in

Oshawa, Whitby and Ajax. The program supports student achievement in Literacy and Numeracy, reducing summer learning loss with ongoing assessment, personalized instruction, and experiential learning opportunities. Students also participated in Robotics, using Lego kits, motors and basic software for students so they could build their own movable machines. [Learn more about the program.](#)



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Durham Catholic District School Board to Celebrate 50 Years



Anne O'Brien, Director of Education shared a presentation on the board's 50th commemorative year, featuring the multiple plans and activities to take place throughout the year in honour of this special milestone. Some of the community activities include:

- PA Day Mass at the Catholic Education Centre with Cardinal Thomas Collins
- All Staff PA Day Mass and Celebration
- 50th Day of School Celebrations
- January 50th Anniversary Celebration
- Family Picnic
- Kiosk highlighting the history of Durham Catholic schools and Distinguished Catholic Alumni

A History of the Durham Catholic District School Board



Historian Dr. Robert Dixon shared a preview of the Durham Catholic District School Board over its 50-year history. Dr. Dixon is developing a book on various milestones and achievements of the board. The book will be available to the community in June 2019.

A Year of Joy

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Psalm 100:1



Rosemary Leclair, Superintendent of Education introduced the Year of Joy as a theme for 2018-2019, which is based on Pope Francis' Joy of the Gospel – *Evangelii Gaudium*. Superintendent Leclair shared the symbolic artwork from Psalm 100 created by Brother Michael O'Neill McGrath, which represents the Holy Trinity (and the Holy Family) and the holy spirit; along with the land and waterways of Ontario.

Students, staff, parishes and families are invited to share in the Year of Joy with special prayers, liturgies and activities throughout the year.



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Update from Tricia Chapman, Chair of the Board



The Chair of the Board welcomed Julia Cara and Sofia Zamorano to their first official Board meeting as Durham Catholic Student Trustees. “We are blessed to have our student voice at the table, sharing perspective as you take on this leadership role representing your peers and students of the future,” she said. The Chair thanked all school staff for their warm welcome this month as she visited secretarial and custodial staff at every school across the board with Director Anne O’Brien. “As I reflect on this amazing preview of the exciting year ahead, it is clear that students and staff are fully exploring the theme of Joy and highlighting our 50th anniversary year,” Chair Chapman said.



The Chair also recognized the collaborative efforts by staff on the completion of the new Learning Commons at Archbishop Denis O’Connor Catholic High School in Ajax, and Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School in Oshawa, thanking everyone involved from planning to completion of these state-of-the-art, 21st century learning spaces.

Throughout the school visits, Chair Chapman noted that our Catholic virtues and values were seen in action in multiple ways. Terry Fox, ShareLife and our Foundation activities have given meaning and purpose for students and she thanked all families for demonstrating love, joy and kindness through these important charities.



On Tuesday, October 23 at 6:30 p.m. students and staff will celebrate all Durham Catholic schools for their EcoSchools certification. The Chair invited all Trustees to attend the event to recognize ecoschool leaders as dedicated stewards of creation. Also on a note of stewardship, Chair Chapman thanked all staff who continued to support the school system in the areas of Facilities Services, Human Resources and Administrative Services, Communications, Information Technology and summer teaching / administrative staff over the summer months.



The Chair commented on the sense of celebration and nostalgia that has been established with the anniversary photos and banners around the schools and Catholic Education Centre. She wished everyone a successful school year with God’s blessings for a wonderful faith-filled 50th anniversary and Year of Joy.



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Update from Anne O'Brien, Director of Education



Director O'Brien welcomed everyone to the Year of Joy and the board's 50th anniversary year, highlighting a transformational year for faith formation through [*Renewing the Promise – A Pastoral Letter for Catholic Education*](#).

The Director of Education thanked everyone who gathered for the annual Opening Mass followed by the first Regular Board Meeting of 2018. She extended special thanks to Father Laszlo Nagy, Pastor at Holy Family Catholic Parish for celebrating the Eucharist; and the choir for sharing their talents. She also thanked Dr. Bob Dixon for sharing his passion for history and his interest in the 50-year journey of the Durham Catholic District School Board to be chronicled in a book later this year.

Director O'Brien was delighted to visit staff for the school year startup with Chair Chapman, welcoming all to the Year of Joy, and expressing appreciation for the significant role they play in schools. She invited all staff and Trustees to the upcoming System-Wide Mass to launch the Year of Joy on Monday, October 1 at 4:30 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Parish in Whitby. This day is in honour of World Teachers' Day which is formally recognized on October 5; National Custodial Workers' Day on October 2; and National Principals' Month throughout the month of October.

While other designated days will be celebrated across the board over the next several weeks, such as Franco-Ontarian Day, Orange Shirt Day and Early Childhood Education Appreciation Day, Director O'Brien highlighted Rowan's Law Day on September 26, 2018. On this day, new concussion safety legislation will be in effect to protect athletes and educate coaches about the dangers of head injuries. This law is the first of its kind in the country and was named [Rowan's Law](#), in memory of 17-year-old Rowan Stringer who died from rugby injuries.

Director O'Brien acknowledged correspondence from the Durham Region Health Department, recognizing 21 Durham Catholic schools for receiving gold, silver or bronze level Healthy School Awards. This recognition highlights a commitment to a Healthy Schools approach in the prevention of chronic diseases and injury. Congratulations to all award recipients.

The Director acknowledged and thanked staff, community partners and friends who continued to support the Durham Catholic Children's Foundation through various activities. Thank you to the organizers of the 5th Annual Fore-the-Kids Golf Classic. Together over \$29,000 was raised for the board's most vulnerable students. "We look forward to building on this momentum in support of this and other important charities," she said.



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Motions

- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the report entitled *History of the Durham Catholic School Board*.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file the CODE: Summer Learning Program 2018 report.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the report entitled Long Term Accommodation Plan 2018-2019 Update dated September 24, 2018.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Revised Schedule of Board and Committee Meetings for the 2018-2019 school year.

Announcements

Monique Forster, Vice-Chair of the Board, made the following announcements:

Appointment to Elementary Vice-Principal Roster Effective August 30, 2018:

Name	Current Position
Lindsey Neubauer	Elementary Teacher, St. André Bessette CS

Appointment of Interim Elementary Vice-Principal Effective August 30, 2018

Name	Current Placement	New Placement
Lindsey Neubauer	Teacher St. André Bessette CS	Interim Vice-Principal St. John Bosco CS

Appointment to Elementary Principal Roster Effective: August 30, 2018

Name	Current Placement
Lisa Stewart	Vice-Principal, St. Hedwig CS

Appointment to Permanent Probationary Elementary Principal Effective August 30, 2018:

Name	Current Placement	New Placement
Lisa Stewart	Vice-Principal St. Hedwig CS	Principal St. André Bessette CS



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Appointment to Elementary Principal Roster Effective September 25, 2018

Name	Current Placement
Joni MacLean	Vice-Principal, St. James CS

Appointment to Elementary Vice-Principal Roster Effective September 25, 2018

Name	Current Placement
Jennifer Principe	Program Support Teacher, St. André Bessette CS

Elementary Vice-Principal Transfers Effective August 30, 2018

Name	Current Placement	New Placement
Kathleen Fredericks	Vice-Principal, St. Bernadette CS	Vice-Principal, St. Isaac Jogues
Sara Lelievre	Teacher, St. Isaac Jogues CS	Vice-Principal, St. Bernadette CS
Elizabeth Torok-Orban	Vice-Principal, St. John Bosco CS	Vice Principal, St. Hedwig CS

Elementary Principal Transfers Effective August 30, 2018

Name	Current Placement	New Placement
Valerie Cappuccitti	Principal, St. Bridget CS	Principal, St. Isaac Jogues CS
James Tremblay	Principal, St. André Bessette CS	Principal, St. Bridget CS

Appointment to Secondary Vice-Principal Roster Effective August 30, 2018

Name	Current Placement
Dan Allen	Teaching and Learning Consultant, DCDSB



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Appointment of Interim Secondary Vice-Principal Effective August 30, 2018

Name	Current Placement	New Placement
Dan Allen	Consultant, DCDSB	Interim Vice-Principal St. Mary CSS

Appointment to Secondary Principal Roster Effective September 25, 2018

Name	Current Placement
Christopher Gardner	Vice-Principal, Monsignor John Pereyma CSS

Secondary Principal Placement (Acting) Effective August 30, 2018

Name	Current Position	New Position
John Di Vizio	Vice-Principal Archbishop Denis O'Connor CHS	Acting Principal Archbishop Anthony Meagher Continuing Education

Resignations

Name	Current Position	Effective
Alanna Burtch	Teacher, Elementary	July 16, 2018
Pauline Galea	Teacher, Elementary	September 9, 2018
Matthew Penney	Teacher, Elementary	August 29, 2018
Angela Villanti	Teacher, Elementary	June 30, 2018

Retirements

Name	Current Position	Effective
Michele Bouchier	Secondary Teacher	November 30, 2018
Jacqueline Dusenbury	Teacher, Father Leo J. Austin CSS	October 31, 2018
Michael J. Long	Teacher, St. Paul CS	June 30, 2018
Paul Podesta	Principal, St. André Bessette CS	June 30, 2018

Minutes of the September 2018 Board Meeting will be posted on the Board website as part of the agenda for the next Regular Board Meeting of Monday, October 29, 2018.