

Highlights from the Regular Board Meeting of September 23, 2019



**DURHAM CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
Learning and Living in Faith

Monsignor Philip Coffey Catholic School Choir

Thanks to the Monsignor Philip Coffey Catholic School choir for opening the meeting with O Canada and a performance of This Little Light of Mine, followed by prayers and Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory.



Retirement Notice from the Director of Education



John Rinella, Chair of the Board, informed trustees of Anne O'Brien's decision to retire from the role of Director of Education for DCDSB, effective December 31, 2019. Upon retiring from the Durham Catholic District School Board (DCDSB), she will continue to support Catholic education at the provincial level as Director of Education for the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA). "Over the last several years, the board has celebrated

many significant themes in evangelizing our faith through Witness, Service, Community, Joy and Hope. As a steward of Catholic education and advocate for equity and inclusion, Anne exemplifies all of these themes, and has played a pivotal role in keeping the Catholicity in our schools," the Chair said. "On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank Director O'Brien for her service and wish her continued success in supporting Catholic education across the province," he said.

Leadership Awards



Don Walker, representing the Catholic Education Foundation of Ontario (CEFO), presented DCDSB students with the Father Patrick Fogarty Award. This award recognizes students across the province for their academic achievement, involvement in school or community initiatives, and for embracing the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations.

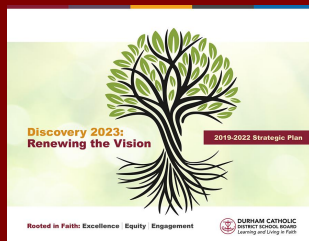


Chair Rinella accepted the Michael Carty Award on behalf of the Inter-School Student Leadership Summit and Social Action Project: We Are Hope for the World. This award recognizes the board's initiative to improve, develop and enhance Catholic Education in Ontario.



The Ontario Council for Technology Education (OCTE) presented the Technological Education Leadership Award to Paul Fraser, retired DCDSB teacher. This award recognizes individuals who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to the promotion and furtherance of Technological Education at a school, board and provincial level.

Presentations



[Click here to view the plan.](#)

Discovery 2023: Renewing the Vision

Director Anne O'Brien and staff presented the board's new three-year strategic plan, *Discovery 2023: Renewing the Vision*. Members of the Senior Administrative Team provided trustees with an overview of the plan which is guided by the board's commitment to Excellence, Equity and Engagement. The board's renewed priorities will drive Board and School Improvement Plans in keeping with the Ministry of Education's priorities and *Renewing the Promise: A Pastoral Letter to Catholic Education*. The board's key priorities are Witnessing Faith, Teaching and Learning, Celebrating Inclusion and Well-Being, Expanding Pathways and Managing Resources.

Summer Learning

Gerry O'Reilly, Superintendent of Education and Ms. Sarah Dowling, Principal Coordinator of the Summer Rays Learning Program, provided an overview of activities and outcomes from summer 2019. The Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) provided funding for the program, now in its 6th year of implementation at the board, supporting 120 of the board's youngest learners. Operating from three locations at Monsignor Philip Coffey CS and St. Kateri Tekakwitha CS in Oshawa, and St. Bernadette CS in Ajax, the program supports student achievement in Literacy and Numeracy, reducing summer learning loss with ongoing assessment, personalized instruction, and experiential learning opportunities. [Learn more about the program.](#)



Updates

John Rinella, Chair of the Board thanked trustees, student trustees, staff and

Anne O'Brien, Director of Education thanked Father Keith Callaghan and all who participated



guests for attending the meeting.

He thanked staff who continued to support the system in the areas of Facilities Services, Human Resources and

Administrative Services, Communications, Information Technology and summer teaching / administrative staff.

The Chair noted the upcoming celebration of all DCDSB staff and trustees at the upcoming System-Wide Mass on Monday, October 7.

Chair Rinella thanked the Director and Supervisory Officers for presenting the new strategic plan, *Discovery 2023: Renewing the Vision*. "It is appropriate that in our Year of Hope, we have this opportunity to celebrate our renewed commitment to our strategic priorities as we embrace the actions that emerge from this plan," he said.

The Chair congratulated students and staff for a successful start to the 2019-2020 school year, wishing everyone a faith-filled Year of Hope.



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in the board's annual Opening Mass before the first Regular Board Meeting of the 2019-2020 school year.

The Director noted the launch of her annual school visits with Chair

Rinella, welcoming secretaries and custodians to the new school year. She expressed her gratitude for their dedication to keeping DCDSB schools safe, clean and operational on many levels.

Director O'Brien acknowledged many significant days and events that have been celebrated through September, including Safe and Accepting Schools Week, World Suicide Prevention Day and IT Professionals Day. She also noted other meaningful days of appreciation and recognition over the next several weeks:

- Orange Shirt Day
- Franco-Ontarian Day
- Rowan's Law Day
- World Teachers' Day
- Custodial Workers' Day
- Chaplains' Day
- Early Childhood Educators' Day
- National Principals' Month.

"The list of celebrations and notable groups we acknowledge is limitless – and that is a testament to the people who make our unique school system a special place for our students to learn and live in faith," the Director said.

Motions

- That the Durham Catholic District School Board accept with regrets and best wishes the retirement notice of Director of Education, Anne O'Brien effective December 31, 2019.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Revised Schedule of Board and Committee Meetings for the 2019/2020 school year.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the report entitled Class Size Compliance and Staffing Update 2019-2020.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive for information the Ministry of Education 2019 Capital Project Funding Submission report dated September 23, 2019.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receives, for information the Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School and Monsignor John Pereyma Catholic Secondary School Boundary Report dated September 23, 2019.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board approves the proposed boundary revisions for Monsignor John Pereyma Catholic Secondary School in principle as outlined in the report dated September 23, 2019.
- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the report entitled Long-Term Accommodation plan 2019-2023 Updated dated September 23, 2019.

- That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file the CODE: Summer Learning Program 2019 report.
 - That the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan - Discovery 2023: Renewing the Vision.
 - That the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information correspondence from Durham Catholic District School Board to Minister of Education dated September 11, 2019.
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Announcements

Tricia Chapman, Vice-Chair of the Board, made the following announcements:

Retirements

- Louis Collins, Teacher, St. André Bessette CS, August 31, 2019
- Jamie Ferguson, Teacher, St. Isaac Jogues CS, June 30, 2019
- Les Jagoda, Teacher, Monsignor John Pereyma CSS, July 31, 2019
- Leslie Walsh, Teacher, Notre Dame CSS, August 31, 2019

Resignations

- Danielle Pilon, Elementary Teacher, August 31, 2019
- Daniel Soares, Elementary Teacher, August 30, 2019

Minutes of the September 2019 Board Meeting will be posted on the board website as part of the agenda for the next Regular Board Meeting of Monday, October 28, 2019.