

BOARD MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS

May 2018



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

Cathedral artificial turf field named after former football coaches

Trustees, on April 30th, approved the naming of the new artificial turf sports field at Cathedral High School after Thomas J. Gallagher and John J. McPhee in recognition of their significant contributions to Catholic education, including their service as volunteer coaches of the Gaels football team. Tom Gallagher was a HWCDSB trustee from 1988-2000. John McPhee was principal of Cathedral from 1975-1981 and 1985-1990. Chairperson Patrick Daly indicated it was “an honour for the Board to name the new playing field in tribute to two giants in the history of Cathedral High School and Catholic Education throughout our community.” The field will be unveiled in Sept 2018.

Catholic Education Week: *Renewing the Promise*

Catholic Education Week kicked off on May 7 with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Douglas Crosby at Cathedral High School attended by student and staff representatives from all schools and board sites. System activities included a food drive, the annual OECTA Elementary and Trustee sponsored Intermediate Scripture Reading Event, and the Director’s Awards for elementary students. The theme, “Renewing the Promise,” invites those in Catholic education to reflect on God’s presence in the world and our shared responsibility with regard to the precious gift of publicly funded Catholic education.

Graduates give thanks for Catholic Education at Board-wide Graduates’ Mass

A system-wide graduates’ mass celebrated by Bishop Douglas Crosby was held for graduating secondary students on May 16 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary’s Pro Cathedral and served as an opportunity for students to reflect on their journey in Catholic education and celebrate its culmination with their classmates in a Eucharistic setting. A reception followed at LIUNA Station.

Grad rate tracks student success

Four and five-year graduation rates for students from the 2012-2013 Grade 9 cohort are 86% and 90% respectively. This represents an increase from the 2011-2012 cohort which showed a four-year grad rate of 83% and a five-year grad rate of 89%. The graduation rate is a key indicator of student success and is an important measure of the goals and strategies identified in the HWCDSB’s Multi-Year Strategic Plan and Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement.

Transition Planning supports student achievement and well-being

Smooth transitions support student achievement and the development of pre-requisite skills for post-secondary school success. Transitions occur throughout a student’s education: from home to kindergarten, kindergarten to primary, primary to junior, junior to intermediate, Grade 8 to Grade 9, and secondary to college, university, apprenticeship or work. A report submitted to the board outlined the range of transition programs which take place through a variety of developmentally appropriate activities and programs related to the curriculum, school-wide activities and processes, and experiential learning opportunities. They include classroom visits

for parents of kindergarten students, aligning instruction with learners' developmental needs, hands-on learning, assessment folders passed from grade to grade, transition meetings between elementary and secondary teams, Grade 8 visits by Student Success Teams, Grade 9 Parent Nights, a Pathways Event, transition plans for Grade 7 & 8 students and students with an IEP, and tracking of graduating students.

HWCDSB pilots programs for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders

The Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board was chosen as a host site for two pilot projects jointly funded by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Children and Youth Services to improve school-based supports for children and youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The pilot aims to increase direct support and create a more seamless day for students with ASD and reduce demands on families. In the first pilot, dedicated space was provided at St. Michael Catholic Elementary School for Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) services for students with ASD for the 2017-2018 school year. In the second, educational assistants will receive ABA training through a targeted training module. The first project has been extended for 2018-2019.

Transitions: Supported Work Experience Program

The Supported Work Experience Program provides opportunities for students with special education needs to participate in work and volunteer experiences, day programs and co-operative education placements in order to support the transition to meaningful, adult community activities upon leaving school. In 2017-2018, 54 students from all seven Catholic secondary schools participated in the program – 30% in volunteer positions, 24% in future employment skill development, 13% in post-secondary programs and 33% in day programs. Findings show that students not only demonstrated increased self-confidence and social skills development, but an increase in skill development in a variety of areas.

St. Charles Adult & Continuing Education Update

St. Charles Adult & Continuing Education Centres offer a variety of educational programs for learners of all ages, including the newly implemented BOLD gap-closing program to support literacy and numeracy learning, hybrid learning (a blend of e-learning and classroom learning), and community connected experiential learning programs (SmartServe, CPR/First Aid, Financial Planning, etc.). In 2017 499 adults enrolled in St. Charles daytime credit programs, a 19% increase from the previous year. In LINC/ESL, enrolment increased to 3,582 in 2018, compared to 2,812 in 2017. In 2017, St. Charles summer programs served 2,256 secondary students, 1,873 elementary students and 906 adults in credit, reach ahead, international languages, eLearning, independent learning, academic upgrading and ESL programs.

Board's Corporate Services Department undergoes restructuring

The structure of corporate services has evolved over the past 8 years in response to fluctuating business rules and processes, reporting requirements, funding structures and Ministry of Education and Board policy. A report, outlining the new structure of the Corporate Services Department, was presented to trustees on April 30 as an item of information. The department, at present, consists of eight distinct and core functional areas: Finance; Budget & Accounting; Planning, Statistics & Transportation; Procurement/Purchasing; Facilities; Community Use of Schools; Central Printing; and General Risk and Insurance Province. These core functional areas are overseen by Associate Director of Corporate Services, Paola Pace-Gubekjian. Chairperson

of the Board Patrick Daly expressed deep appreciation to Mrs. Pace-Gubekjian and to all the staff in our Corporate Services Department for their tremendous leadership.

Board appoints architects for childcare facilities

Trustees, on April 30th, awarded the design project for the new childcare facilities at St. Thomas the Apostle and Holy Name of Mary Catholic Elementary Schools to Svedas Architects Inc. In a separate tender, Lintack Architects Inc. was awarded the design projects for the new childcare centres at St. Kateri Tekakwitha and St. Augustine Catholic Elementary Schools. The tenders follow a December 21, 2017 funding announcement by the Ministry of Education which awarded the HWCDSB \$5.9-million for the design and construction of four stand-alone childcare centres at the above-mentioned schools.

Roofs replacements at St. Bernadette and Guardian Angels

St. Bernadette and Guardian Angels Catholic Elementary Schools were identified for complete roof replacements, beginning this summer. The roofing project at St. Bernadette CES was awarded to Flynn Canada. At Guardian Angels CES, the roof replacement project will be undertaken by BML Roofing Systems Inc.

Student & Staff Awards & Recognition

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

- Lucia Marchionda, a Grade 12 Cardinal Newman CSS student, was named The Hamilton Spectator's Youth Volunteer of the Year for 2017
- John C. Holland award & scholarship recipients from the HWCDSB included: Angelique DeSouza, St. Mary CSS (Dr. Ethilda Johnson Bursary); Kudakwashe Chakanyuka, St. Thomas More CSS (The YWCA Girls Rock Scholarship); Chiguweyaru Worenwu, St. Mary CSS (Marlene Thomas Community Advocacy Scholarship); Joelsa Domingos, Cathedral HS (Nelson Mandela Social Justice Scholarship); Vivica LeTang, Cathedral HS (Rev. George Horton Scholarship); and Jordan Mathurin, Cathedral HS (Audre Lorde Scholarship).
- The Early Years Team at St. Thomas the Apostle CES, was one of two teams selected to receive the Council of Associated Primary Educators' (CAPE) 2017-2018 Frances Poleschuk Award for their impact on the education of young children in Ontario.

Congratulations also to the following students who received awards and medals at the Bay Area Science and Engineering Fair on March 27th:

Canada Wide Science Fair (CWSF) Trip Awards:

- Claire Le Donne, Corpus Christi
- Christopher Lamont, St. Margaret Mary
- Anthony Saturnino, St. Margaret Mary

Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) Trip Award:

- Joseph Saturnino, Bishop Ryan

Awards

- Joseph Saturnino, Bishop Ryan: ArcelorMittal Dofasco Pinnacle Best in Fair
- Joseph Saturnino, Bishop Ryan: ArcelorMittal Dofasco Commercial Department Award
- Joseph Saturnino, Bishop Ryan: Drs. Ranjan Sur and Monalisa Sur Award
- Joseph Saturnino, Bishop Ryan: Procor Engineering Fair Award
- Joseph Saturnino, Bishop Ryan: ASU Walton Sustainability Solutions Initiative Award
- Joseph Saturnino, Bishop Ryan: Primary Fluid Systems Award
- Joshua Hagan, Blessed Sacrament: Farncombe Family Digestive Health Research Award
- Sierra Cordiero, Canadian Martyrs: Nikola Tesla Honourable Mention Award
- Claire Le Donne, Corpus Christi: ArcelorMittal Dofasco Process Automation Award
- Claire Le Donne, Corpus Christi: Professional Engineers of Ontario–Hamilton/Burlington Award
- Claire Le Donne, Corpus Christi: Primary Fluid Systems Award
- Gabriel Serafino, Immaculate Heart of Mary: Hillfield Strathallan College Awards of Excellence – Life Sciences Award
- Juancarlos Longo, St. Augustine: John W. Howard Materials Research Award
- Owen Belbeck, St. Augustine: Chairman’s Award
- Nicholas Schmalz, St. Augustine: Primary Fluid Systems Award
- Daniel Guay, St. Augustine: Mohawk College Building & Constructions Services Award – Civil Engineering
- Evan Cotter, St. Augustine: Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum Award
- Samantha Guay & Teaghan Kay, St. Augustine: Earth and Environmental Sciences Award
- Kevin Sos-Medeiros, St. Luke: Nikola Tesla Innovation Award – Bronze
- Kevin Sos-Medeiros, St. Luke: SPIE Optics & Photonics Science Award – Second
- Ethan Shannon & Devan Tasse, St. Luke: ArcelorMittal Dofasco Quality Systems Award
- Anthony Saturnino, St. Margaret Mary: ArcelorMittal Dofasco Product Development Business Process Award
- Anthony Saturnino, St. Margaret Mary: Hamilton Chamber of Commerce Innovation Award – Third
- Anthony Saturnino, St. Margaret Mary: Primary Fluid Systems Award
- Christopher Lamont, St. Margaret Mary: Professional Engineers of Ontario–Hamilton/Burlington Chapter Award – First
- Christopher Lamont, St. Margaret Mary: Hamilton Chamber of Commerce Innovation Award – First
- Christopher Lamont, St. Margaret Mary: Gowling WLG Innovation Award – Grand Winner
- Christopher Lamont, St. Margaret Mary: ArcelorMittal Dofasco Medical Department Award
- Christopher Lamont, St. Margaret Mary: Roy Middleton Memorial Award
- Christopher Lamont, St. Margaret Mary: Primary Fluid Systems Award
- Illyria Volcansek & Faith Pagunsan, St. Martin of Tours: Arcelor Mittal Dofasco Human Resources Training & Development Award
- Jadan Ascencio-Arriola, St. Paul: BASEF 500 Award
- Olivia Lanc, St. Paul: Laurentian Chapter of SETAC Award
- Olivia Lanc, St. Paul: BASEF 500 Award
- Hayd’n Dawson, St. Paul: Nikola Tesla Honourable Mention Award

Gold Merit Awards

Joseph Saturnino, Bishop Ryan
Clair Le Donne, Corpus Christi
Anthony Saturnino, St. Margaret Mary
Christopher Lamont, St. Margaret Mary

Silver Merit Awards

Giovanni Cuda, Immaculate Heart of Mary
Gabriel Serafino, Immaculate Heart of Mary
Ethan Restauri, St. Augustine
Christopher Ptaszek, St. Augustine
John Eric Rivas-Gonzalez, St. John Paul II
Ethan Shannon, St. Luke
Devan Tasse, St. Luke
Madeline Ivkovic, St. Mark
Felicia Ferro, St. Mark
Jadan Ascencio-Arriola, St. Paul
Olivia Lanc, St. Paul
Esteban Jimenez, St. Vincent de Paul
Daniel Rico, St. Vincent de Paul

Bronze Merit Awards

Adriana Bozzo, Immaculate Conception
Joseph Putrone, St. Augustine
Matthew Gilbreath, St. Augustine
Nicholas Schmalz, St. Augustine
Daniel Guay, St. Augustine
Joshua Sienna, St. Augustine
Evan Cotter, St. Augustine
Samantha Guay, St. Augustine
Teaghan Kay, St. Augustine
Nicholas Landers, St. Bernadette
Jacob Colatosti, St. Luke
Illyria Volcansek, St. Martin of Tours
Faith Pagunsan, St. Martin of Tours
Isabella Lukic, St. Paul
Niko Jurincic, St. Paul
Daniela Spoljar, St. Paul
Laura De Simone, St. Vincent de Paul