DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

2017 - 2018 Celebrating the **Year of the School** Autonto Catho

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TCDSB MISSION STATEMENT



OUR MISSION

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.

OUR VISION

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

2017 - 2018 *Celebrating the Year of the School*

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01 MESSAGE FROM THE OUR DIRECTOR LIVENIGOOUR AND CHAIR OF THE BOARD



The 2017-2018 Annual Report reflects the Toronto Catholic District School Board's continued commitment to fostering student achievement and well-being, with a particular emphasis on ensuring equity of opportunities and outcomes through inclusionary practices.



We strive to ensure that our students can see themselve Tot understand apply and learning strategies, and that our staff become more reflective of the diversity of the community in which we live. We was Gatholic Teachings to all that we do workplaces.

We are proud of the many new initiatives that have been launched and implemented, as well as the work that is continuing so that we will nurture our students to be the best they can be, and prepare them for life's challenges and opportunities.

This past year was the third phase of our pastoral plan: Together With One Voice: Harmonizing our faith through family, parish and school. The year of the school encouraged us to focus on what a Catholic school truly is: a community of faith, where family, parish, school and board staff work collaboratively to support excellence in Catholic education. Schools are not just buildings. Schools are the caring, compassionate and creative learning communities created by our students, our staff, our parents and other family members, as well as our parish and community partners.

The pages of this Annual Report will highlight how our Multi-Year Strategic Plan, oral Plan, Equity Action Plan and Board Learning Improvement Plan are animated in our school communities and worksites.

We are proud of what has been accomplished, and look forward with confidence to the future.

Sincerely,

R. McGurken

2017 - 20]8_{ector of Education} Celebrating the **Year of the School**

Barbara Poplacoski

Chair of the Board

01

LIVING OUR CATHOLIC VALUES

To understand and apply Catholic Teachings to all that we do

2017 - 2018 *Celebrating the* **Year of the School**

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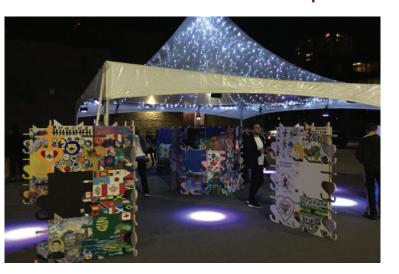
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2017 - 2018 Celebrating the **Year of the School**

THE YEAR OF THE SCHOOL

As we completed the cycle of our three-year pastoral plan focusing on "*Together With One Voice: Harmonizing our Faith Through Family, Parish and School*", the Year of the School theme invited everyone to celebrate our learning communities and all the people who support and nurture Catholic education.

SOME OF THE MANY HIGHLIGHTS WERE:



The unveiling of the completed tessellation project -**"WE ARE/C'EST NOUS"** at Nuit Blanche in September of 2017—a display of interlocking puzzle pieces that highlighted both the unique character of each of our individual schools, while also highlighting their connections to one another as part of our Catholic school board, and as part of Canada's rich history of diversity. ◀ https://www.tcdsb.org/affiliates/Canada150/ WeAre/Pages/WeAreArtProject.aspx

The daily **HERITAGE MOMENTS** that were shared via social media (Twitter and Instagram), highlighting snapshots in time, significant firsts and milestones in the life of our school board. ▼



#143 - SNAPSHOTS IN TIME: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

DID YOU KNOW...

TCDSB's first female Chair was Caroline DiGiovanni? She served one term in 1987-1988.

The first female Director of Education was Johanne Stewart, who headed up the TCDSB from 1997-2002.



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"YOUNG DISCIPLES IGNITE", a pilot project in partnership with Hopestone Catholic Formation, which brought together grade 6 students preparing for confirmation in large assemblies to launch this ongoing initiative designed to ignite faith and inspire acts of service. Students were encouraged to embrace the mission of discipleship and continue to promote acts of faith, through community, family and parish. ▲

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CONFIRMATION THROUGH

CONVERSATION, piloted by TCDSB and formally adopted by the Catholic Curriculum Corporation, which brought together the elements of faith and technology, and sacramental preparation with other learning objectives. Students preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation, participated in five distinct online modules. They were encouraged to use Google Hangouts and discuss the themes relevant to each module with a partnering TCDSB school. This virtual experience allowed students to learn about the sacrament, and another school community. Modules offered activities, interactive videos, and discussion questions throughout this online journey with their partner school. <u>https://confirmconvo.wixsite.</u> com/confirmconvo

SUPPORTING THE NEEDY,

schools continued their efforts to help those in need, with a particular emphasis on supporting the two official charities of the Board—ShareLife and the Angel Foundation for Learning. Board-wide, students, staff and families raised more than \$100,000 for ShareLife through a variety of initiatives including a board wide civvies day. Both charities strive to create more equitable conditions for communities by compassionately supporting those who are marginalized. ▼



SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR SCHOOLS

The year ended with a special celebration to showcase our local school communities. Spotlight on Your Schools invited



students to create short videos or songs celebrating the unique character of their schools. A sampling of submissions was shared at the celebration which brought together representatives from all TCDSB schools, including parents, staff, students and trustees, as well as representatives from our parishes, various levels of government and partner agencies and charities. A https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/

NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/

PastoralPlanArchives/Year-of-the-School/Pages/spotlighton-your-school-submissions.aspx

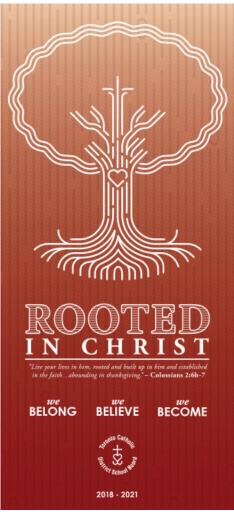
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LAUNCH OF NEW PASTORAL PLAN

The year of the school board-wide celebration continued into the afternoon with the launch of a new pastoral plan for 2018-2021. *"Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become"*. Inspired by St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians ("Live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith...abounding in thanksgiving"), the theme of our new pastoral plan strengthens our sense of belonging to God and one another, expresses our belief in God through our vision and mission, and seeks to achieve our goals as people on a common mission.

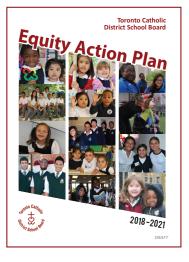
TCDSB was privileged to have Cardinal Thomas Collins attend the launch to provide his insights on the new pastoral plan and to bless all who were gathered at the celebration.

For more information about initiatives that support Nurturing our Catholic Community, see <u>https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/</u> <u>NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/Pages/Default.aspx</u>



INCLUSION AND ACCEPTANCE

With its mandate to instruct students to uphold the beliefs of the Catholic Faith and live as followers of Jesus Christ, the Board strives to maintain equitable and inclusive learning environments and communities founded on Catholic principles of respect, inclusion, fairness, and social justice, in which every person is valued as a child of God. Guided by the TCDSB's Catholic Equity and Inclusive Education Policy H.M. 24, 2011, central and school staff members intensified our efforts to provide equitable learning environments for our vastly diverse learners, resulting in the development of the TCDSB Equity Action Plan. https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/EIE/Pages/equity-action-plan. aspx



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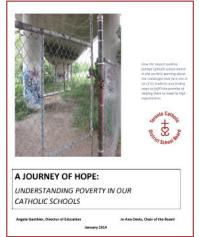
As presented in the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan, Catholic leaders strive to "create a learning and work environment that is equitable and diverse, and that supports professional learning, innovation and collaboration". In this endeavor, the Catholic model of servant leadership is the foundation upon which caring, safe, inclusive, and equitable learning and working communities are built.

Some key characteristics of the equity strategy that are evident with a heightened focus on equitable school and classroom practices, including:

- identification and removal of existing systemic barriers and avoidance of such barriers as we develop new policies and programs;
- collaboration with education partners, students, parents, and communities to address any systemic barriers, so that students can achieve and pursue their chosen pathways;
- a heightened focus on culturally responsive teaching and learning so that students see themselves in curriculum content delivery and assessment;
- enhancement of equitable and fair discipline processes for racialized students, Indigenous students and students with learning exceptionalities;
- application of equitable resource allocation to support the Board's health and well-being strategy;
- mitigation of the effects of poverty in the learning environment; and
- an annual equity survey.

This accelerated commitment to equity inspired the Equity-Poverty Action Networks (E-PANS), which is part of a larger poverty mitigation strategy. Initially introduced as Spotlight Schools, the E-PANS were expanded to include 3 secondary and 56 elementary schools. An equity audit and inventory of poverty resources will be part of this ongoing program.

Equity is further reflected in the Board's enhanced diversity in recruitment, hiring, and promotion of staff to ensure that the diversity of our student population is reflected in our educators and in our school and system leaders. Diversity in the teaching profession is promoted, and the removal of



barriers in underrepresented communities with a specific focus on ensuring Indigenous groups are represented is being authentically pursued. Steps have been taken, for instance, to ensure more equitable allocation of human resources to meet individual school and community needs.

School principals and staff are committed to nurturing school environments in which parents are welcomed, respected and valued as partners in their children's learning, encouraging more parents to be involved and helping to connect families to the wider network of social services as needed.

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FOSTERING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL-BEING

To support our students in achieving academic excellence and meeting the Ontario Catholic Graduate School Expectations

2017 - 2018 *Celebrating the Year of the School*



PHILIPPINE ARTS AND SOCIAL STUDIES IN THE ONTARIO CURRICULUM

The Philippine Arts and Social Studies in the Ontario Curriculum (PASSOC) project was a collaboration between the Toronto Catholic District School Board and York University that developed out of the Board's Filipino Canadian Advisory Committee. This collaboration resulted in the enhancement of the Ontario curriculum content so that it reflects the cultural identity of the large and growing population of Filipino students in the school system in the Greater Toronto Area. The content of the curriculum affirms Filipino experiences and identities and supports the larger equity goal of culturally relevant and responsive pedagogy.

The curriculum materials developed by TCDSB and York University educators provide classroom-ready material relating to the Philippines and Filipino communities in Canada for Grade 6 Social Studies, Grade 6-8 Dance, and Grade 8 Geography. The program was officially launched in March 2018, featuring presentations and demonstrations by the researchers and teachers who wrote the PASSOC materials. ▼



https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/ SchoolProgramsK12/SocialCanadianWorldStudies/Pages/ Philippine-Arts-and-Social-Studies-in-the-Ontario-Curriculum-Project.aspx



MSGR. FRASER AT NUIT BLANCHE

Passage Into Light: Monsignor Fraser College focused on Canada as a home to many migrants who escaped economic strife, war, and persecution.

The interactive installation, created under the leadership of teachers Donna Sistilli and Rita Sarra-Macchiusi, was a symbolic narrative on migration, celebrating the history of Canadian compassion and acceptance. It also highlighted how a tradition of acceptance can change lives and consequently transform a nation in profound ways. https://www.tcdsb.org/ schools/msgrfrasercollege/ News/2017-2018/Pages/ nuitblanche.aspx

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM EXPANSION

In the 2017-2018 school year, there were 159 third party operated licensed Extended Day (JK/SK) and School Age (6 – 12 year olds) Before and After School Programs (BASP), 16 After School Recreation Care (ARC) programs and 19 Recreation After School programs in 123 elementary schools. Approximately 75% of TCDSB elementary schools have some form of before and/or after school program available.

Licensed before and after school programs normally operate 12 months of the year, including PD Days, Christmas and March breaks and in the summer. In some schools, unlicensed recreation programs have opened to serve the needs of families—these programs operate after school and on school instructional days only.



Confirmed registrations resulted in the opening of new programs

and expanded programs for the 2018-2019 school year including new extended day program in 5 schools, new school age programs in 6 locations and expanded programs at 12 sites. In 2018-2019 TCDSB will have 134 schools with a licensed third party operated Extended Day and/or School Age BASP program.

https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/EarlyYears/ChildCare/Pages/default.aspx

FULL **STEAM** AHEAD

The TCDSB Student Success Numeracy Team, in partnership with Engineers of Tomorrow, is providing experiential learning opportunities for secondary school students in our congregated STEAM programs, focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics.

Engineers of Tomorrow work with the corporate sector to support classrooms through the implementation of integrated lessons that provide students with real world experiences that strengthen their classroom experience.







ANNUAL EXPANSION OF SHSM

A Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) is a ministry-approved specialized program, beginning in grade 11, which allows students to focus their learning on a specific industry sector while meeting secondary school graduate requirements. SHSM programs assist our graduates with a smooth transition into apprenticeship training, college, university or the workplace. TCDSB continues to work towards ensuring equity of program diversity across the system so that all students have a wide range of learning opportunities in their neighbourhood. As of September 2018 the total number of Specialist High Skills Major programs has expanded to 68. Six new programs have been added: Business at Bishop Marrocco/Thomas Merton and Madonna, Health and Wellness at James Cardinal McGuigan, Arts and Culture and Information Communication Technology at Jean Vanier, and Hospitality and Tourism at St. Patrick.

For the 2018-2019 school year, we are thrilled to partner with Humber River Regional Hospital, one of the most technologically advanced facilities in North America, to support TCDSB SHSM/Coop students. Through this partnership agreement TCDSB will be able to expand experiential opportunities for our students in various healthcare and hospital settings. In February 2018, a student success experiential learning resource teacher was added to the team to expand experiential learning opportunities for students K-12. The Student Success Pathways Team was invited in June by the Senator of Maryland, James Rosapepe, to present



to members of the Senate as well as Educational State Officials and Labour Representatives. The TCDSB team was asked to share strategies and exchange information and ideas on a broad range of topics related to promoting the implementation of Pathway programs, with an emphasis on Apprenticeship and Specialist High Skills Major programs.

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

The following initiatives were coordinated through the Toronto Catholic District School Board's Equity, Diversity & Indigenous Education Department:

BUILDING "BRIDGES"

In acknowledgement of National Indigenous People's Month, the Art Show "Bridges" opened with a special celebration at the Catholic Education Centre in June. The art exhibition, curated by teachers Rita Sarra-Macchiusi and Donna Sistilli, is a testament to our community's storytelling spirit, our commitment to raising awareness about First Nation, Métis and Inuit topics and our desire to make meaning through a Catholic lens.

SAFE AND ACCEPTING SCHOOLS

Safe and healthy learning environments supported by positive school climates continue to be a key goal for the TCDSB. For 2017-2018, data suggest a positive trend toward safe and welcoming school climates in our schools. Climate surveys provided to elementary and secondary students indicate that an overwhelming number of students (96% elementary and 92% secondary) believe their schools are safe places in which to interact and learn. All students have an important role to play in nurturing a sense of belonging in our school communities.

Various activities were organized for students throughout the 2017-2018 year to achieve this goal, including:

- Presentations at Catholic School Leadership Impact Team (CSLIT) meetings and Elementary CSLIT meetings
- Bullying Awareness & Prevention Launch
- Safe Schools Student Ambassador Symposiums
- Stop the Stigma conferences for all students ►
- Safe and Accepting Schools Team local initiatives that promote inclusion, acceptance and belonging.



- Use of restorative practices to restore student relationships, specifically Resolution Conference and Mediation Circles (RCMC)
- School presentations delivered by the Toronto Police Service on various topics including healthy relationships, bullying awareness & prevention, and safe use of social media.
- Proactive Prevention (VIP) and Intervention Programs to support the social/emotional growth and academic achievement of in-risk students
- TCDSB staff professional learning specifically focused on supporting student well-being and healthy relationships.



◄ The narratives of the mixed media pieces unveiled Indigenous history and world views, while also reflecting our Catholic beliefs. The seven artworks created by students from Msgr. Fraser College pay homage to Indigenous elders, artists and poets whose stories resonate with us and serve as a source of inspiration.

Those who visited the exhibit were challenged to decode a sobering message about marginalized youth, spurred to rewrite the nature narrative, reflect on the personal and public covenants they make, respect the resilience of indigenous people and learn that shared values bind.

https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/FirstNationsMetisAndInuit/Pages/Art-Gala.aspx

ORANGE SHIRT DAY - EVERY CHILD MATTERS

TCDSB students and staff participated in Orange Shirt Day-Every Child Matters on Friday, September 29, 2017 to acknowledge the issues of Residential Schools and honouring the survivors and victims. The date September 30th was chosen because that was the time of year that historically the Government of Canada's trucks and buses would enter Indigenous communities to collect and deliver children to the residential schools. Orange Shirt Day is a national movement that officially began in 2013 but was inspired by events in 1973, when six year old Phyllis Webstad entered the St. Joseph Mission Residential School, outside of Williams Lake, BC.



Young Phyllis was wearing a brand new orange shirt for her first day of school – new clothes being a rare and wonderful thing for a First Nation girl growing up in her grandmother's care – but her shirt was taken away from her upon arrival at the school.

2018 ANNUAL INDIGENOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS' SYMPOSIUM

"The Importance of Incorporating Authentic Indigenous Voices in the Classroom" brought together teachers from K-12 at the Native Canadian Centre for the purpose of learning about Indigenous Peoples in Canada, and further developing our knowledge and comfort at incorporating Indigenous content into the classroom for the benefit of all students. Guest speakers were Dr. Pamela Toulouse and Candy Palmater, who joined Indigenous community members Clayton Shirt, Aaron Bell, and Kim Wheatley.



• Dr. Pamela Toulouse presents to TCDSB teachers.

Elder Clayton Shirt shares his wisdom and learning with TCDSB teachers. ►





With keynote speaker Candy Palmater who presented to teachers about being, "Enough." ►

Students from Madonna CSS learning about treaties from Maurice Switzer. ▼

NUAL REPORT



TREATIES RECOGNITION WEEK

During the week of November 6-10, 2017, TCDSB once again partnered with the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation to participate in the Living Libraries initiative. Through this program, students in grades 6-12 connected with Indigenous community members, including Maurice, Switzer, Garry Sault, Elder from the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nations, and Peter Ittinuar, who was the first Inuit MP, in order to gain a greater understanding about Indigenous treaties.

INDIGENOUS POSTER COMPETITION

Students were invited to create a poster inspired by the *Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Seven Grandfather Teachings*, demonstrating their mutual connections and unique understanding of Indigenous culture and faith. They were encouraged to recognize and celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Indigenous Peoples to Canada.

▼ Congratulations to Kaitlan Rodrigues-Tanner & Vienna Yesho <u>@stgeraldtcdsb</u> and Vanessa Wu <u>@LibermannCHS</u>, winners of a poster contest focusing on the Seven Grandfather Teachings and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. <u>#NationalIndigenousPeoplesDay</u>



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More information can be found here: <u>https://www.</u> <u>tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/</u> <u>FirstNationsMetisAndInuit/Pages/default.aspx</u>

CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF LEARNING

The Board is proud to continue, and further expand upon, the longstanding tradition of special events that foster understanding and respect of our Indigenous heritage, including:



▲ The Northern Spirit Games, which for more than 16 years allows students to engage in a variety of First Nations, Metis and Inuit games and activities <u>https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/</u> <u>SchoolProgramsK12/FirstNationsMetisAndInuit/</u> <u>Pages/The%20Northern%20Spirit%20Games.aspx</u>



▲ The Kairos Blanket Exercise which teaches students about Canadian history from an Indigenous perspective. KAIROS Brochure.pdf Kairos Blanket Exercise



Mini Pow Wows, which provide students with a glimpse into Indigenous music, story telling, dancing and culture. Check out highlights via Snapd Beaches at <u>https://beachdanforth.snapd.</u> <u>com/events/view/1098934</u>



INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

The Board unanimously approved the preservation of the International Language Program for thousands of students in 44 elementary schools.

TCDSB received approval from the Ministry of Education to deliver the IL program for 30 minutes a day, four days a week during the regular school day for the 2018-2019 school year.

DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The IL program is being evaluated during the 2018-2019 school year, and depending on feedback, other alternative methods of delivery may be explored for future school years.

The Board remains committed to providing students with opportunities to learn languages in addition to



English and French. Research has shown that learning multiple languages improves student achievement and opens the doors to endless opportunities for students in our global world. We know that the curriculum is enriched with International Language learning and enhances the school experience for students.



HERITAGE CELEBRATIONS

TCDSB continues to celebrate the cultural diversity of its school communities. Adding to the traditional monthly observances of African Canadian Heritage, Celtic, Italian, Portuguese, Hispanic and Asian Canadian Heritage, this year the Board moved to designate June as Filipino Heritage Month, September as Ukrainian Heritage Month, as well as celebrating Polish Heritage Day in May.



TOP SCHOLARS

Computer sciences, zoology, medicine and engineering are some of the post-secondary aspirations of the top graduating students from the Toronto Catholic District School Board for the 2017-2018 school year. ▼



Get the full story here <u>https://www.tcdsb.org/News/NewsReleases/ases2018/2018%20</u> Top%20Scholars.pdf

MAKING THE MOST OF THE SUMMER IN THE CITY...

This summer, 28 TCDSB high school students stepped into the University of Toronto to explore the worlds of Law and Medicine and learn how to best prepare for post-secondary study in these disciplines. In the Law Youth Summer Program (YSP), students discussed legal concepts, learned about the reality of the Canadian legal system, and applied their knowledge in a variety of stimulating environments including international law, legal thinking and advocacy.



This year's students came from a variety of schools including St. Mary, Dante Alighieri, St. Patrick, Jean Vanier, Father Henry Carr, St. Basil, and Loretto Abbey.

The Med YSP offered students the opportunity to delve into a major medical discipline, learning from world-class faculty, and participating in hands-on experimentation, guided by medical researchers in cutting-edge research laboratories.

The program's access to the University of Toronto's medical faculty and teaching lab facilities allowed students to experience what it is like to be a medical student. In addition to the weeklong program, students were invited to attend an orientation at the University of Toronto at the end of June.

MADONNA: THE FIRST ALL GIRLS SCHOOL TO MAKE IT TO ROBOTICS NATIONAL COMPETITION



On June 1st students from Madonna's robotics team traveled to Edmonton, Alberta as part of Team Ontario to compete in the Skills Canada National Competition, bringing home the silver medal for mobile robotics.

5TH BLOCK

The 5th Block Early Reading Intervention program was first piloted in the TCDSB in 1998 to assist students in grades 1 and 2 who require additional support in reading and are experiencing difficulty in developing foundational skills. The 5th Block program was expanded in 2017-2018 to 44 programs in 42 schools, supporting approximately 1,000 students struggling with reading. The program was also adapted to include a numeracy focus.

A key component of 5th Block has always been a strong commitment to ongoing professional mentoring and learning. During 2017-2018 the focus was on integrating numeracy and literacy, supported by teacher mentors, and professional learning with Mentors, Research Staff, and Mathematics/Literacy Resource teachers. Recent research has demonstrated that the effectiveness of the 5th Block program is strongly impacted by the number of hours of intervention.

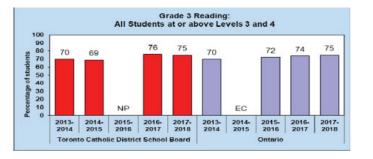
Grade one 5th Block students experienced significant gains in geometry knowledge, compared with grade one control students. Grade one and grade two 5th Block students experienced greater gains than control students in the area of number sense and numeration.

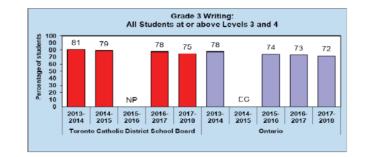


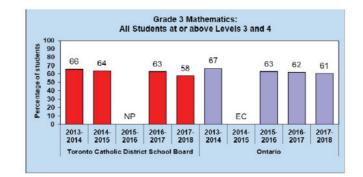
TCDSB STUDENTS CONTINUE TO KEEP PACE WITH PROVINCIAL RESULTS

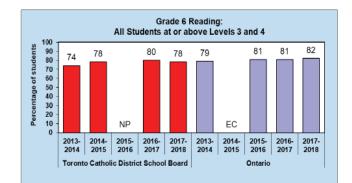
With the most recent release of EQAO results, overall Toronto Catholic District School Board students continue to perform well in literacy, but are not showing the same level of improvement in the areas of primary and junior mathematics.

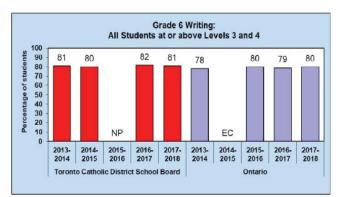
Over the past five years, the percentage of grade 3 students who performed at or above the provincial standard increased from 70% to 75% in reading, decreased from 81% to 75% in writing and decreased from 66% to 58% in mathematics in the TCDSB.

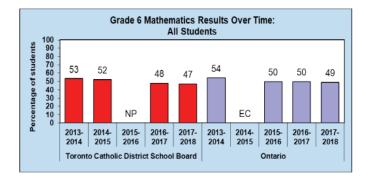


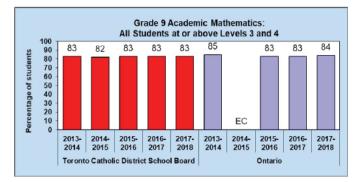


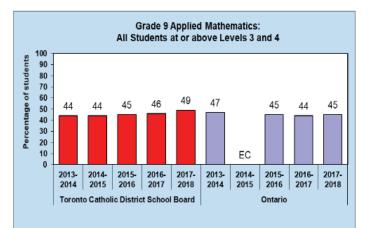


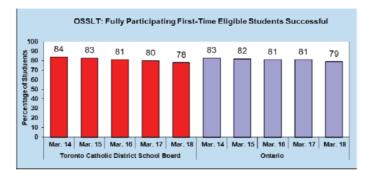












During the same period, the percentage of grade 6 students who performed at or above the provincial standard increased from 74% to 78% in reading, remained relatively stable in writing: this year at 81% and decreased from 53% to 47% in mathematics.

In grade 9 mathematics, the percentage of students at or above the provincial standard remained high for TCDSB at 83% for students in the academic level and increased from 44% to 49% for TCDSB students in applied courses, exceeding provincial results.

More info: <u>https://www.tcdsb.</u> org/News/NewsReleases/ newsrelease20182019/TCDSB-Response-to-EQAO-Results-September-19-2018.pdf

03 INSPIRING AND MOTIVATING EMPLOYEES

To create a learning and work environment that is equitable and diverse, and that supports professional learning, innovation and collaboration

2017 - 2018 Celebrating the <u>Year of the School</u>



RESPONDING TO SHORTAGE OF QUALIFIED FRENCH TEACHERS

Parents continue to seek out French Immersion and Extended French programs for their children, and the Board has responded to that demand by expanding the number of sites that offer these bilingual programs for students starting as early as kindergarten. This expansion however has resulted in the need for additional French teachers, and many school boards in the province, including TCDSB, are finding it difficult to staff schools with qualified teachers.

The Board is moving forward by recruiting outside of Ontario, and seeking partnership agreements with educational institutions in Europe. Further, this past summer, a new program in conversational French was offered to French teachers to increase proficiency in the language and take positions in Extended French and Immersion programs.



Preference will be extended to didates who have completed an Immersion/Extended French program in high school and a French degree in a post-secondary institution

· Be a practicing Catholic

FRENCH AND FRENCH AND PASSIONATE ABOUT PROMOTING FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE?

Consider joining the Toronto Catholic District School Board's teaching team.

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WORKFORCE CENSUS

TCDSB has embarked on the process of implementing a workforce census. This voluntary census of our approximately 13,500 employees will yield valuable information about our workforce. The data will inform staff engagement and well-being and a variety of recruitment, promotion and other Human Resources practices.

It will be conducted in the context of a component of our Equity Action Plan entitled Data Collection, Integration, and Reporting and will support the theme of the first year of the Pastoral Plan, *"we Belong"*.

The census, which is being developed in consultation with our union partners, is called "We Belong: We are the Toronto Catholic District School Board".

REMOVING SYSTEMIC BARRIERS FROM HIRING AND ADVANCEMENT PRACTICES

The TCDSB continues to refine its recruitment practices to ensure that they adhere to expectations that are articulated in its Fair Practices In Hiring Policy. Recent changes to this policy deliberately addressed the removal of bias from hiring practices. The Human Resources Department is also pursuing software applications which will further facilitate this practice and enhance our ability to generate data analytics which will better position us to meet our equity objectives.



LEADERSHIP SERIES

The TCDSB remains committed to leadership development initiatives designed to nurture and improve leadership capacity. We are exploring ways to refine our current programs to allow for targeted professional development which will better support the alignment of school goals with Board MYSP priorities. Discernment activities like the expansion of the Vice Principal Transition series to all eight areas of the city is favorably impacting leadership development. We look forward to engaging our business leaders in the appraisal process to support growth and identify professional development areas of need.

TCDSB LAUNCHES EMPLOYEE AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE PLAN

In December 2017, TCDSB launched its new Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP). All employees and their immediate family members can access immediate and confidential support in a way that is most suited to their preferences, comfort level and lifestyle, and helps them find solutions to challenges at various stages of life including:



- Short-term Professional Counselling
- Specialized Counselling and Online Programs to assist with career challenges
- Family Support Services to access child and eldercare resources
- Legal and Financial Support Services
- Nutritional Services and Health Coaching

CELEBRATING COMMITMENT TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Celebrations were held throughout the system at schools and offices for employees who have been with the TCDSB for 25 or more years. These local celebrations allowed for a more personal approach to congratulating staff for their years of service and for each school or department to customize for the individuals concerned.

A central Mass and celebration was also held in honour of the many staff who have retired in the past year, and to thank them for their contributions to the Board.

Staff at the Catholic Education Centre came together to build community and celebrate the end of the school year with a barbecue, complete with games and activities. Proceeds from the fun-filled event went to support the Angel Foundation for Learning. **v**



STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TCDSB staff continue to shine in so many areas of endeavor. This report is not large enough to accommodate all the good news stories of the past year, but here are just a few of the memorable moments:

TEACHER DOCUMENTS "TORONTO'S FIGHTING 75TH IN THE GREAT WAR 1915-1919"

For nearly 100 years the story of the 75th Canadian Infantry Battalion -- today perpetuated by The Toronto Scottish Regiment of the Canadian Forces Primary Reserve -- that served King and Country in the Great War had not been told. Tim Stewart, Department Head of Social Sciences at St. Basil-The-Great College School, volunteered to take on the project, which took more than a decade of painstaking research, writing and editing, before its release in the fall of 2017.



The story documents the grand strategies of ministers and generals, the emergence of a distinctive Canadian force, and the mystery of that undestroyed enemy trench at Vimy that has baffled Canadian military historians for years. Underlying and embracing everything is the connection of the soldiers with those at home in the City of Toronto: the families that raised and nurtured them.



A TEACHER WITH STAMINA

St. Luigi Teacher Marylou Carino ran the 135km marathon in Death Valley, California.

https://www.theweathernetwork.com/news/articles/canadianwoman-prepares-to-run-death-valley-badwater-ultramarathonrace-marathon-california-heat-temperatures/106963



ST. MARY TEACHER COMPETES ON JEOPARDY

Michelle Cabral, a teacher at St. Mary Elementary and junior W5H coach, was featured in a Toronto Star article on July 17th about her three-day winning streak on Jeopardy, amassing more than \$46,000 for her knowledge of trivia.

https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2018/07/17/torontoteacher-on-a-jeopardy-winning-streak.html

TCDSB STAFF RECOGNIZED FOR LEADERSHIP IN IL

Carla Marchetti received a leadership award from Pina and Domenico Servello, Centro Scuola at ITALYAMO2018 for commitment to International Languages in TCDSB schools. Carla worked for many years as coordinator for the elementary International Languages programs. ►

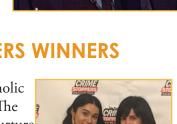
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JEAN VANIER PRINCIPAL WINS PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

On Friday, April 23rd, CPCO (Catholic Principals Council of Ontario) held their annual Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony at the Delta Toronto Hotel. Linda Maselli-Jackman, then Principal of Jean Vanier Catholic Secondary School, was the recipient of the award for Principal of the Year, 2018 for Toronto Catholic (Secondary). Linda is currently serving as Superintendent of Special Services. ►

CONGRATULATIONS TO CRIMESTOPPERS WINNERS

The CrimeStoppers School of the Year was St. Marcellus Catholic School, under the leadership of Principal Connie Giordano. The school was recognized for the many initiatives in place that nurture a safe and welcoming learning environment with a focus on internet safety and cyber bullying. Loretto Abbey student Amiya Reis received a CrimeStoppers Student of the Year Award for her involvement in the Safe Schools Ambassador Program, and student council, focusing on bullying awareness. ►







PRIME MINISTER'S AWARD WINNER

Nicole Chen, a teacher at Francis Libermann Catholic High School, received the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence and Teaching Excellence in STEM. Nicole's bio and nomination package is featured on the Government of Canada website.



2017 YES I CAN AWARD WINNERS

Cristina Fernandes, Superintendent of Special Services, was honoured for her commitment to children with special needs.

Other award winners were:

- Karen Grielach, Yes I Can! (YIC!) Parent Award winner, and the following student winners:
 - Jacob Nichols, St Leo Catholic School - Grade 3 YIC! in Academics
 - Madison Tevlin, Loretto College School - Grade 10 YIC! in Arts
 - Erik Guerrero, Cardinal Carter Academy of the Arts (graduated) IC! in Arts
 - Mackenzie Distasio, Grade 8 at Our Lady of Fatima (now at Senator O'Connor College School) YIC! in School and Community Activities

TCDSB GUIDANCE TEACHERS RECOGNIZED BY OSCA

Two elementary guidance teachers were recognized by the Ontario School Counsellors' Association at the 2017 conference:



Julie Fantinato (Areas 7 and 8 Guidance Teacher) received the Marion Axford Award for Elementary Guidance, presented for outstanding contribution to elementary guidance in Ontario.



Frank Amato (Areas 5 and 6 Guidance Teacher) received the Phil Hedges Award for the Toronto area, in recognition for contributions to Guidance and Career Education by dedicated counsellors in the Province of Ontario.

04 PROVIDING STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES

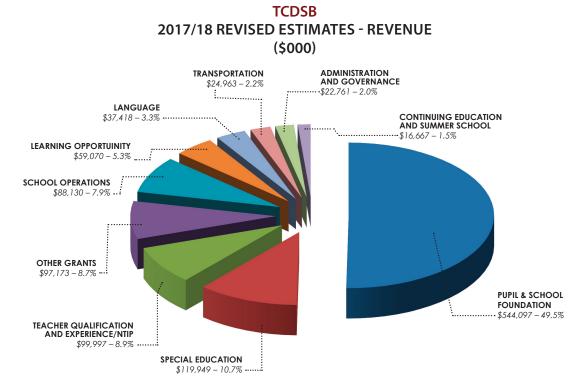
To establish integrated decision-making structures and processes to support responsive and responsible allocation of resources

2017 - 2018 *Celebrating the Year of the School*



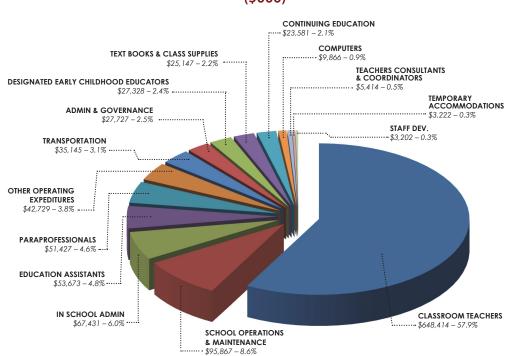
TCDSB APPROVES BALANCED BUDGET MAKES ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS IN STAFFING, EQUITY AND TECHNOLOGY

The Toronto Catholic District School Board at the June 6th meeting of the Corporate Services, Strategic Planning and Property Committee, approved a balanced budget for 2018-2019. The \$1.14 billion budget provides for a one-time investment in computer technology for classrooms, as well as investments in staffing.



Grants for Student Needs (GSNs)	Millions \$	%
Pupil & School Foundation	\$ 544,097	49.5%
Special Education	\$ 119,949	10.7%
Teacher Qualification and Experience/NTIP	\$ 99,997	8.9%
Other Grants	\$ 97,173	8.7%
School Operations	\$ 88,130	7.9%
Learning Opportunity	\$ 59,070	5.3%
Language	\$ 37,418	3.3%
Transportation	\$ 24,963	2.2%
Administration and Governance	\$ 22,761	2.0%
Continuing Education and Summer School	\$ 16,667	1.5%
Total Operating & Capital Grants	\$ 1,120,226	100%

The budget reflects the Board's continued commitment to the goals of our Multi-Year Strategic Plan including stewardship of resources, and student achievement and well-being. TCDSB continues to look for ways to focus spending in areas which will directly benefit the students in the classroom.



TCDSB
2017/18 REVISED EXPENDITURE BUDGET ESTIMATES
(\$000)

	Millions \$	%
Classroom Teachers	\$ 648,414	57.9%
School Operations & Maintenance	\$ 95,867	8.6%
In School Admin.	\$ 67,431	6.0%
Education Assitants	\$ 53,673	4.8%
Paraprofessionals	\$ 51,427	4.6%
Other Operating Expenditures	\$ 42,729	3.8%
Transportation	\$ 35,145	3.1%
Admin & Governance	\$ 27,727	2.5%
Designated Early Childhood Educators	\$ 27,328	2.4%
Textbooks & class Supplies	\$ 25,147	2.2%
Continuing Education	\$ 23,581	2.1%
Computers	\$ 9,866	0.9%
Teachers consultants & Coordinators	\$ 5,414	0.5%
Temporary Accommodation	\$ 3,222	0.3%
Staff Dev.	\$ 3,202	0.3%
Total	\$ 1,120,172	100%

https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/BudgetandFinance/Pages/default.aspx

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL 2017 - 2018 TCDSB ECOSCHOOL CERTIFIED SCHOOLS

In 2017-2018, 66 TCDSB schools became certified EcoSchools. Schools that were EcoSchool Certified, became eligible to participate in a draw for one of 22 fully installed Water Bottle and Drinking Fountain Units.

The water bottle filling stations were supplied and installed by the TCDSB Facilities Services department as a retrofit to an existing fountain at the following sites:

Annunciation, Blessed Trinity, Epiphany of Our Lord, Holy Rosary, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Andrew, St. Barbara, St. Boniface, St. Brendan, St. Fidelis, St. Helen, St. Isaac Jogues, St. John Bosco, St. John, St. Leo, St. Richard, St. Robert, St. Timothy, Chaminade, Loretto College and Senator O'Connor.



ecoschools

Congratulations to all the schools who achieved certification:

Platinum Certification: All Saints, Francis Libermann, Senator O'Connor, St. Cecilia, St. John Paul II, St. Jude, St. Richard, St. Sylvester, St. Wilfrid

Gold Certification: Blessed Cardinal Newman, Chaminade, Father John Redmond, Father Serra, Holy Angels, Holy Child, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Loretto College, Mary Ward, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Sorrows, St. Aidan, St. Brendan, St. Catherine, St. Columba, St. Conrad, St. Cyril, St. Gabriel, St. Jean de Brebeuf, St. Joachim, St. John the Evangelist, St. Mary of the Angels, St. Robert, St. Timothy, St. Andre, Venerable John Merlini

Silver Certification: Blessed Trinity, Holy Rosary, James Culnan, Michael Power-St. Joseph, Msgr. Percy Johnson, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Regina Mundi, St. Agnes, St. Andrew, St. Barbara, St. Fidelis, St. Helen, St. Isaac Jogues, St. John Bosco, St. Joseph's College, St Lawrence, St. Leo, St. Maria Goretti, St. Mary's Academy, St. Ursula, St. Victor

Bronze Certification: Annunciation, Bishop Allen Academy, Epiphany of Our Lord, Immaculate Conception, St. Boniface, St. Clare, St. Marguerite Bourgeoys, St. Nicholas and St. Roch.

BREAKING GROUND FOR THE NEW BISHOP MACDONELL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Construction began in the fall of 2017 on the Canoe Landing site which will become the home to Bishop Macdonell Catholic School. Scheduled to open in the fall of 2019, the joint use facility will also include a TDSB school, a community centre and a childcare centre as well. Bishop Macdonell and Jean Lumb Public School will each serve 550 children from kindergarten to grade 8. Notable features of the facility include a green roof, shared gym, separate outdoor play areas for each age group and numerous energy efficiency elements within a modern, three-story structure. ►



The new school will be the site of a Reggio Emilia inspired program—a mindset grounded in inquiry. It supports the notion that students interact with the environment through wonder and curiosity to build new knowledge. A Reggio inspired school allows students the ability to apply the underpinnings of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) to all learning. It is a cross curricular approach to teaching and learning that focuses on process rather than product.

THE HOLY TRINITY WELCOMES STUDENTS FOR FIRST DAY AT NEW SCHOOL

After years of patiently waiting, staff and students were all smiles for their first day at their brand new school – The Holy Trinity Catholic School—which opened its doors on February 20th. Director of Education Rory McGuckin and Superintendent Doug Yack were at the school in the morning, handing out TCDSB pencils to students and welcoming everyone to the new building as they arrived. Students also got to participate in a special scavenger hunt to get familiarized with the new school building. The school was officially blessed later in the spring at a gala celebration.



SCHOOL EXPANSION

Among the many celebrations held during the 2017-2018 school year were:





Ground breaking ceremony at St. Augustine Catholic School to mark the start of construction of a second addition to the school, which will include dedicated childcare spaces and a new gymnasium.

• Sod turning for an addition at St. Clement Catholic School.



 Official opening and blessing of a new addition at St. Victor Catholic School.

NEW CHILDCARE SPACES

The province also announced funding for the creation of new child care spaces at the following TCDSB schools:

Blessed Pope Paul VI, Father Serra, Pope Francis, Santa Maria, St. Andre, St. Barbara, St. Bernard, St. Dominic Savio, St. Edmund Campion, St. Gerald, St. Jean de Brebeuf, St. Jude and St. Kevin. ►



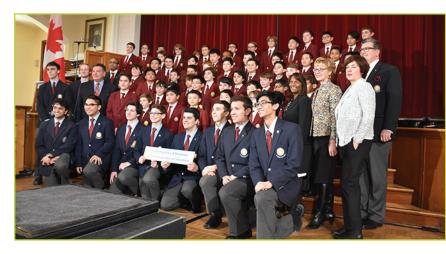
FUNDING FOR NEW SCHOOLS

TCDSB was delighted to announce the approval of funding for a number of schools during 2017-2018.

St. Michael's Choir School received funding from the Province which will enable TCDSB and the Archdiocese of Toronto to proceed with construction of a modern facility with state-of-theart learning spaces, including spaces to deliver its renowned music program for more than 500 students. <u>https://</u> www.tcdsb.org/schools/stmichaelchoir/ News/20172018/Pages/St-Michaels-Choir-School.aspx ►

Holy Angels Catholic School was listed as one of the 39 brand new school sites announced by the Ontario Government. The much needed new facility in South Etobicoke will serve one of the fastest-growing neighbourhoods in Toronto. ►

Originally built in 1960 to accommodate just 350 students, the school currently has five portables and an enrolment of just under 550 pupils from kindergarten to grade 8.





The entire school community is expected to benefit from the new state-of-the-art facility which will feature new classrooms and learning areas, a larger and fully equipped gymnasium, and the expansion of playgrounds and green space for students. <u>Click here to read the full</u> <u>news release.</u>

On March 13, 2018, the Board received official approval for funding of a new 525 pupil place school at St. Matthias Catholic School as part of a consolidation of students from Holy Redeemer, and in the future, Our Lady of Guadalupe.

NEW PLAYING FIELDS

Celebrations were also held at:

St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School in East Toronto. **v**



Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School in Etobicoke to mark the grand opening of new playing fields which will be used by students, as well as the neighbouring communities. ►



FIRST DAY AT NEW ST. SIMON CATHOLIC SCHOOL

On Monday, March 19 staff and students arrived for their first official day at the newly rebuilt St. Simon Catholic School.

The new school has a capacity of 542 pupils to accommodate growth in the area and to replace the old school at 20 Wallasey Avenue that was built in 1977 with a capacity of only 243 students and 6 portables on a very small site with no playing field. The new school features an enlarged and updated gymnasium, library and multi-program facilities and shared access with the City of Toronto to a large playing field. ▼

. . . .



PLANS FOR DANTE ALIGHIERI AND REGINA MUNDI

An extensive public consultation was held on a potential partnership development project including the two schools as well as the Columbus Centre. The outcome of that process was that Villa Charities and the Board opted to end the potential partnership. The Board began the process of exploring options to redevelop the board-owned property on Playfair Avenue to accommodate the students of Dante Alighieri and Regina Mundi through public consultation and a feasibility study.

ENHANCING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

To create enhanced, regular communications with all stakeholders

2017 - 2018 *Celebrating the Year of the School*

05



LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS, PARENTS AND STAFF

TCDSB continues its community outreach with an emphasis on engaging parents in the education of their children and to responding to local or regional needs. In addition to the ongoing support and leadership of Catholic School Parent Councils at the local level and the work of the Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and OAPCE-Toronto on a system level, the Board facilitated a number of special events throughout the year including:

- TCDSB System and School Parent Engagement Forum welcomed new parents/guardians to our Catholic community and to provide them with information regarding programs and strategies to ensure equitable student outcomes.
- In partnership with Deta Family Resource, TCDSB encouraged the relocation of the agency to St. Roch Catholic School to offer: support services to caregivers, settlement programs and services, community support, and a range of activities that enhance individual skills and promote healthy communities.



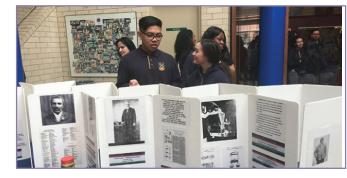
- In collaboration with the principal and staff from Msgr. Percy Johnson, a *Men of Distinction Mentoring Program*, facilitated by TRUST 15, was initiated to support the unique social, emotional and academic needs of African Canadian male students. TRUST 15 is a charitable organization that provides youth in the Rexdale/North Etobicoke area with programs that promote and facilitate positive behaviour, creative expression, and cooperative working skills. http://www.trust15.com/what-we-do.html
- TCDSB Community Relations Department secured a substantial donation of skates and helmets by Skate to Great and Chevy Canada, which enabled students to participate in recreational programs throughout the winter.
- Through a partnership with Spencer Gibson, MLSE Coordinator, Basketball Development, schools also received several hundred articles of MLSE related clothing and supplies.



- A series of Parent Engagement Department workshops provided information and resources to new and returning Catholic School Parent Councils and Administrators on Ministry and TCDSB policies and guidelines in order to lay the foundation for effective governance to support student achievement at local schools.
- TCDSB Community Relations Department is working with Motion Ball Sports and school administrators at three sites to discuss a community based lunchtime mentoring recreational basketball program, to promote and facilitate positive behaviour, creative expression, and cooperative working skills.
- A Conference Forum was developed to provide newcomer parents with pertinent information on navigating the Canadian education, health and workplace system. The theme tied into TCDSB's Pastoral Plan - The Year of the School: Newcomer Student Leadership Conference. ►



- All members of the current community advisory committees were invited to a plenary session to discuss common issues and challenges encountered by each committee.
- TCDSB worked with The International African Inventors Museum to inform students, parents, staff and community of the contributions that the African Diaspora has made to Canada and the Globe. This mobile museum teaches people of all nationalities about the important contributions that Africans have made throughout history.
- The newly formed African Canadian Advisory Committee focuses on ways to increase the engagement of African Canadian students who attend TCDSB schools. Data collection, anti-black racism, equity action plan, culturally responsive and relevant pedagogy, expansion of Project 101 and the TCDSB School Resources Officer Program (SRO) are among the topics that are being considered. ►



• TCDSB is also working with Power to Girls Foundation, a not-for-profit organization that helps empower and nurture Afro-diaspora girls to identify their true self, help realize their true potential and provide mentorship and resources. This partnership gave rise to the Power to Girls Conference.

- Each April young cricketers and volunteers are recognized for their excellence in the field of cricket, a rare opportunity for students who are involved in this new and emerging sport in schools.
- In partnership with St. Mary Catholic Academy, Bishop Marrocco/Thomas Merton and Loretto College, an information session was provided for non-English speaking parents of students in grade 7 to 9 on topics such as navigating the school system, transition to high school, post-secondary education pathways.



- In response to an influx of refugees from Nigeria, TCDSB provided two information sessions for newcomer families focusing on the education system.
- CPIC and OAPCE-Toronto, with the support of TCDSB staff, organized a mini conference with a focus on providing parents with skill and knowledge building opportunities to support equity in student outcomes. Topics included social networking safety, special education, 21st century learning, positive parenting and JUMP Math. Participants also had opportunities to network and solicit information from a variety of agencies that support families and students. <u>https://intranet.tcdsb.org/Resources/ BulletinBoard/Pages/Parent-Conference.aspx</u>
- The Community Relations Department in partnership with the International Language Department and the Vietnamese International Language Program at James Culnan, organized a community information event on mental health and well-being, and a celebration of Vietnamese heritage and language, as well as again hosting the annual Proudly Pinoy event for parents/guardians to celebrate Filipino language and culture, and provide information to engage community leaders and parents which support equitable student outcomes. ►

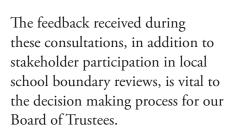


PUBLIC CONSULTATION

It was another busy year for the Board as we moved forward with a number of initiatives and policy revisions.

In keeping with the Board's commitment to encourage parents and stakeholders to participate in these conversations, a number of online and in-person consultations took place throughout the school year including:

- The 2018-2019 Board Budget
- Expansion of French Immersion
- International Languages Program Delivery Model
- Plans for Dante Alighieri and Regina Mundi
- Sharing of Catholic School Parent Council fundraising revenues
- Whistleblower Policy
- Equity Action Plan
- Parent Voice Survey
- Safe Schools Survey
- Student Exit Survey





66 ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNANCE

To lead and model best practices in Board governance

2017 - 2018 Celebrating the <u>Year of the</u> School



TRUSTEES ACTIVE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

The Trustees of the Toronto Catholic District School Board are actively involved in their own communities as well as on the municipal, provincial and national scene. They provide a Toronto perspective at meetings with Trustees from across Ontario and from across Canada.

Through regular attendance at special events as well as local Catholic School Parent Council meetings in their respective wards, Trustees gain insight into the needs, concerns and interests of the parents, students and staff in their communities, which enable them to bring these local issues to the table for broader discussion in the areas of policy, practice and budget considerations.

2017 - 2018 TRUSTEES



MARIA RIZZO, WARD 5 BARBARA POPLAWSKI, WARD 10 JOEL NDONGMI, STUDENT TRUSTEE



MICHAEL DEL GRANDE, WARD 7

RANK D'AMICO, WARD 6



GARRY TANUAN, WARD 8

ANN ANDRACHUK, WARD 2





DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT



Trustees are responsible for developing and approving a balanced budget of more than \$1 billion, and ensuring that any surplus money is reinvested into areas which will benefit students in our schools. They establish and review policies to ensure alignment with the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan and Board Learning Improvement Plan, and are responsible for the annual performance appraisal for the Director of Education.

Trustees liaise regularly with City Councillors and Provincial MPPs on local and board-wide issues, to ensure that the needs and concerns of TCDSB students and their families are considered at those levels.





JOSEPH MARTINO WARD 1



ANN ANDRACHUK WARD 2



SAL PICCININNI WARD 3



PATRIZIA BOTTONI WARD 4



MARIA RIZZO WARD 5



FRANK D'AMICO WARD 6



MICHAEL DEL GRANDE WARD 7



JO-ANN DAVIS WARD 9



BARBARA POPLAWSKI WARD 10



ANGELA KENNEDY WARD 11



RHEA CARLISLE STUDENT TRUSTEE



GARRY TANUAN WARD 8



NANCY CRAWFORD WARD 12



JOEL NDONGMI STUDENT TRUSTEE

2017 - 2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES



2017 - 2018 Celebrating the **Year of the School**