

## Director's Monthly Report June 2022

For the first time in years, June is buzzing with activities, events, and gatherings throughout our schools and communities. The pandemic has deprived students, staff, and communities of graduations, artistic performances, and athletic competitions for the past two years, but this year, we are celebrating student success, accomplishments, and competitions as a faith community. The return of in-person liturgical celebrations, track and field events, musical performances, and play days have invigorated our schools as students, staff, and families enjoy opportunities to be together in faith and fellowship.

The month of June is the culmination of the academic year and filled with exciting events and opportunities for students. We look forward to celebrating with our students as they "walk across the stage" to receive their diplomas and certificates from Kindergarten to Grade 8 to our graduating secondary students. We applaud our students and teachers for their resilience, perseverance, and creativity over the past few years.

The recognition of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in June provides an opportunity to focus intently on the symbol of the compassionate love of Christ. We further focus on love, inclusion, compassion, care and belonging for all, including students who identify as 2SLGBTQ+ this month, and celebrate our cultural heritage as a Catholic community through Portuguese, Italian, and Filipino Heritage Month celebrations. We also recognize Indigenous History Month in June through learning opportunities for students and staff throughout the system.

I continue to be both proud and amazed by the commitment and dedication of all staff throughout the system who continue to go above and beyond to support students, families, and communities. As I visit schools I am greeted by such wonderful evidence of care, compassion, and creativity in support of our multi-year strategic plan goals of student achievement, well-being, and equity.

I look forward to the graduations and celebrations this month and wish all TCSDB community members a safe and restful upcoming summer.

## Highlights from June include:

Celebrating **Faithfulness as the Virtue of the Month** and recognizing important observances such as: National Indigenous History Month, Filipino Canadian Heritage Month, Portuguese Canadian Heritage Month, Pride Month, and the Sacred Heart of Jesus; Bike to School Week, Red Shirt Day, Ascension Day, Shavuot, Pentecost, World Environment Day, Canadian Armed Forces Day, Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, Filipino Heritage Day, All Saints Day, World Sickle Cell Day, Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Father's Day, World Refugee Day, National Indigenous Peoples Day, Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist, Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul (Apostles), Red and White Day, and the last day of the school year.

- Delivering remarks at the **Indigenous Heritage Month** opening and closing ceremonies at the CEC
- Recognizing our outstanding retired Toronto Catholic Principals and Vice Principals and delivering greetings at the Toronto Catholic Principals' and Vice-Principals' Association (TCPVA) **Appreciation and Awards Dinner**
- Visiting St. Elizabeth Seton School and St. Bartholomew School
- Attending the Jesuit Endorsement Mass at **St. Brebeuf College Secondary**
- Delivering greetings at the 2022 **TCDSB Accelerated Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program** (OYAP) Appreciation Dinner
- Joining our Nurturing our Catholic Community Team and delivering opening remarks at the– Eyes of Faith and Hope Culminating Event & Hearts of Kindness and Love Launch ~ Livestream
- Attending the West Regional Track & Field Meet at Centennial Stadium
- Welcoming the Director of Education from Halifax to **Mary Ward Secondary** School as he considers a similar unique approach to student-led learning in Halifax
  - Attending the **Filipino Heritage Day Celebration**/Proudly Pinoy Original Song Contest Winners and Performance
  - Joining our Nurturing our Catholic Community Team and ddelivering remarks that the **TCDSB Year End Celebration of the Eucharist** and Special Presentations: Angel Foundation for Learning Leone Family Bursaries: Catherine Template Award
  - Attending and addressing the **2022 TCDSB graduates:** St. Bonaventure Catholic School, St. Monica Catholic School, St. Jude Catholic School, St. Joseph's College School, Cardinal Carter Academy of the Arts, and St. Michael Choir School

- Looking forward to continuing to connect with our TCDSB Community through our monthly "**Lunch with the Director**" series live streamed on Facebook and YouTube at the next opportunity on June 24
- Participating and contributing to **provincial leadership conversations** with **Directors of Education and Health Officials** from across the province in support of TCSDB staff, students, and families, and to influence public policy decisions in support of education and health care