

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

TCDSB PASTORAL PLAN, 2018-2021 – ROOTED IN CHRIST: WE BELONG, WE BELIEVE, WE BECOME

Live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, abounding in thanksgiving. ~Colossians 2:6-7

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
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Michael Caccamo, Superintendent of Nurturing our Catholic Community		

INFORMATION REPORT

Vision:

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

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.



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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Board, since 2009, has adopted a three-year pastoral plan to support the Multi-Year Strategic Plan's goal of Living our Catholic Values by nurturing our Catholic community.

The most recent plan, *Together With One Voice: Harmonizing our Faith through Family, Parish and School,* will end in June 2018 as we bring to a close our Year of the School.

This report outlines the theme that is being developed for the pastoral plan for the next 3 years -2018-2021, as well as a celebration to launch the new plan during Catholic Education Week 2018.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 210 hours

B. PURPOSE

- 1. For the past three years, we have been nurturing our Catholic community, harmonizing our faith in order to strengthen and enhance living our Catholic values daily in our local TCDSB communities of home, parish and school. These collective experiences help foster our larger Catholic community and create a positive public profile of Catholic education within Toronto.
- 2. The theme for the pastoral plan was proposed and further developed at the Nurturing our Catholic Community Steering Committee meeting held November 1, 2017. This committee is made up of representatives from various stakeholder groups in the Board. This report summarizes the new pastoral plan for 2018-2021.

C. BACKGROUND

- 1. TCDSB's Multi-Year Strategic Plan maintains Living our Catholic Values as one of its strategic direction and priorities. The three-year pastoral plan is designed to support that goal through curriculum links and special events that celebrate our Catholic faith unique to the TCDSB.
- 2. The pastoral plan for 2015-2018 focused on Together with One Voice: Harmonizing our Faith through Family, Parish and School. In each of the

three years, the focus turned to one of the key partners in Catholic Education, with this last year focusing on The Year of the School.

3. Throughout the plan, the Board witnessed the strengthening of relationships between our schools and our parish communities, which was celebrated in a profound way during our Year of the Parish, encouraging schools to share their connection with their parish or their pastor through music, video, artwork and written material.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

- 1. To continue the momentum that has been created, and to continue to nurture those all-important relationships, the pastoral plan theme developed for 2018-2021 is *"Rooted in Christ: we Belong, we Believe, we Become"*, as outlined in Appendix A.
- 2. During **Year 1: we Belong**, we explore what it means to belong to Family, Church, School, and Community. We share the value of knowing one another's story. We are reminded that God loved us into being and we share that love with one another as a sacramental (life-giving) people. Equity and Inclusivity are themes that are emphasized, as all are welcome regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, ability, etc. Baptism is highlighted as a Sacrament of Initiation, where we are invited to begin our faith journey toward full communion with Christ.
- 3. During **Year 2: we Believe**, the Creed is celebrated as a profession of our faith: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic Church. We renew our commitment to faith, community, family and church, as an opportunity to continue to reinforce our Catholic identity. We believe in Catholic values, family values, and in Catholic Education. The Eucharist is highlighted as a common celebration by communities of believers and as the <u>source and summit</u> of the Christian life (cf. CCC 1324) Christ is present in the community. A greater emphasis is placed on faith in Christ, in ourselves and in one another through school celebrations of the Eucharist, teaching Masses, Liturgy of the Hours, community prayer, school prayers, community celebrations, retreats and Christian meditation. The theme also supports and reinforces the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectation of Becoming a Discerning Believer.

- 4. During Year 3: we Become, we learn more deeply about our vocation to become what God has called us to be. Through our Catholic Teachings, we are called to discipleship, service and mission; e.g. common good, preferential option for the poor, stewardship, solidarity, etc.. We empower voice, encouraging all to speak for those who have no voice. We highlight the role of the Sacrament of Confirmation: "Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace." (CCC 1303). We renew our commitments to community service: ShareLife, ACCTS (A Catholic Call To Serve), Development and Peace, Service Trips—Student Leadership (Kenya, Philippines), TCDSB Young Disciples Ignite, Mission of Hope for Haiti, School Social Justice Initiatives.
- 5. The new pastoral plan will be launched at a special event on May 9, 2018, during Catholic Education Week at Montecassino Banquet Hall. His Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins will be invited to speak on the theme for the new plan at a special prayer service that afternoon.
 - a. Representatives from all TCDSB schools, including administrators and teachers/chaplains, senior staff, Trustees, Parishes, the Archdiocese of Toronto, parents, students and other Catholic partners will be invited to attend.
 - b. The morning session, *Spotlight on Your School*, will focus on the culminating celebration for our Year of the School, showcasing some of the projects that were developed by students and staff across the Board.
- 6. Resources will be developed to further reinforce the connections between the pastoral plan and the virtues of the month, the Catholic Graduate Expectations and Catholic Teachings, which have been widely used by TCDSB schools for many years. These resources will be updated annually to reflect the specific focus for each year of this pastoral plan.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. A report will be developed after each year of the pastoral plan and will be presented to the Nurturing Our Catholic Community Steering Committee. The report will include assessment of the impact of initiatives and events, as well as assessment of engagement of school and parish communities, as monitored through stakeholder use of social media, and the tracking of participation in events and initiatives across the Board. Other artefacts to be used to measure impact would include results from *School Effectiveness Framework* surveys, student surveys (e.g., *My School, My Voice*, and *Safe and Caring Catholic School Climate Survey*), staff and parent surveys, as well as evaluations and feedback from PD sessions.

F. COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications vehicles will be utilized to share the new pastoral plan with the TCDSB community:

- The official launch of the new plan on May 9, 2018, preceded by invitations to the launch
- Direct email to schools
- Letter to pastors
- Presentation to CPIC and OAPCE
- Media outreach
- Online Director's Bulletin
- E-News
- Website (public site as well as employee portal)
- Weekly Wrap Up
- Social media (Twitter, Instagram)
- In-service for Religion Reps and Chaplaincy Leaders
- Presentations to Principals and System Leaders
- Promotional materials such as posters, pop up banners, flyers

G. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the information of the Board.