

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Quality • Inclusive • Faith-based • Education



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Larry Clifford
Director of Education

"As the year winds down, I ask that you reflect on how privileged we are in our chosen vocations as Catholic educators and supporters of Catholic education. Please use the summer to relax, refresh, re-energize and reflect with family and friends on our school system's past successes and future challenges."

Celebrating Another Great Year!!

Where has the time gone? Since I started in the role of **Director of Education** on July 23, 2012 my journey has taken me to every school in our Board.

During my visits I saw, heard and listened to quality, faith based educators whose main goal was to instruct our pupils in the ways of the Catholic graduate expectations so that they may be lifelong learners who are productive members of our society.

The role modelling that is provided on a daily basis from our superintendents, principals, vice principals, teachers, EA's, ECE's, secretaries, custodians, CYCW's and all the staff at our head office and maintenance facilities is second to none and provides a strong foundational set of morals and values for students to reflect on as they travel down the road of life.

As the year winds down I ask that you reflect on how privileged we are in our chosen vocations as Catholic educators and supporters of Catholic education. Please use the summer to relax, refresh, re-energize and reflect with family and friends on our school system's past successes and future challenges.

I look forward to seeing you all next year and continuing our work supporting our students and spreading the good news of the added value Catholic education brings to Waterloo Region and the province of Ontario.

Good luck and God bless.



Wayne Buchholz
Chair of the Board

Message from the Board Chair

It is hard to imagine that we have reached the end of another school year!!

On behalf of all the Trustees, **Joyce Anderson, Manuel da Silva, Janek Jagiellowicz, Frank Johnson, Anthony Piscitelli, Wendy Price, Peter Reitmeyer, Greg Reitzel** and our Student Trustees **Erin Jamieson** and **Carlos Valero**, we wish all of our students, staff and families the best of holidays this summer and we look forward to gathering together again in September.

At this time of year it's important for all of us to take a break and re-energize ourselves, not just through a slower summer pace but through also remaining connected to our Lord, Jesus. So...go out and enjoy each and every summer day – always mindful of the need to be careful and safe. God bless...and see you September!



Happy Summer!!!
See you in September

June, 2013

"Every day in our schools children, young people and adults are rooted ever more fully in the life of Christ...Remember that we have much to celebrate. We celebrate a publicly-funded education system that is the envy of the world. We celebrate a Catholic education system that engages the minds and hearts and spirits of our students. We celebrate the many, many works of social justice championed in our schools. We celebrate in a particular way, not our own goodness, but the goodness of Almighty God who loves us and saves us. This is a time to celebrate God's work in our midst and to remember how it is that God works in and through us...Let all the world see the love of Christ dwelling in our hearts."

Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, OMI
Bishop of Hamilton
May 1, 2013



Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools

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Trustee Profile

For the last few years each **Community Update** newsletter has featured (proceeding in alphabetical order) a profile of one member of the Board of Trustees. This month...meet **Peter Reitmeier!**



Fun Fact

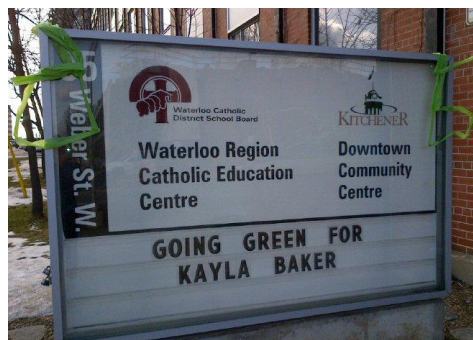
Peter's family travelled earlier this year to South Bend, Indiana, to participate in the first ever Notre Dame University Curling Bonspiel!

Peter, wife Terri, and children Michael and Veronica have lived in Cambridge for 20 years. Before becoming a trustee in 2010 Peter chaired the **Catholic Parent Involvement Committee** and currently chairs the board's **Linkages Committee** - responsible for reaching out to ratepayers, stakeholders, local politicians and Catholic groups to preserve and promote Catholic education.

Peter says: *"The last 2 1/2 years have definitely been a joy and a challenge. Our board has faced many changes, enrollment challenges, boundary reviews, accommodation and school closure reviews. When given the opportunity, I seek knowledge, information and facts prior to making a decision or searching for compromise. Challenges to catholic education and funding in Ontario will continue to be among the most pressing of the issues, as well as continued declining enrollment, forcing more accommodation reviews and boundary changes to satisfy government regulations. When necessary, your feedback and input on these issues as they arise are very important, and I will take all of your comments and suggestions into account before making any decisions on your behalf."*

Contact information for Peter and the other members of the Board of Trustees is available online at:

www.wcdsb.ca/about/board/trustees.html



WCDSB was proud to help **St. Benedict CSS** student and lung transplant recipient **Kayla Baker** raise awareness of organ donation.

www.beadonor.ca

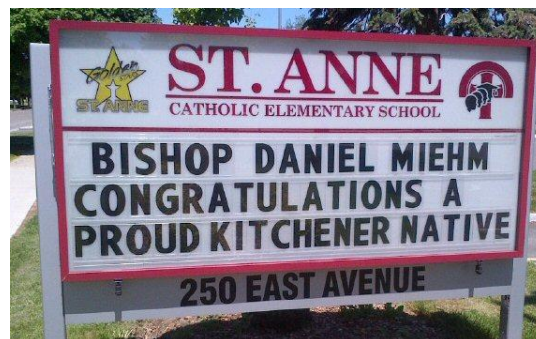
Welcome Bishop Daniel Miehm!!

On February 20, 2013, the **Vatican** announced the appointment of **Reverend Fr. Daniel J. Miehm**, as **Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Hamilton** by His Holiness, **Pope Benedict XVI**.



Bishop Miehm was born on August 27, 1960 in Kitchener, Ontario. He is a graduate of the former **St. Jerome's High School** in Kitchener and **St. Jerome's University** in Waterloo. After studies at **St. Augustine's Seminary** in Toronto he was ordained to the Priesthood on May 6, 1989 at the Cathedral of Christ the King in Hamilton.

He was ordained Auxiliary Bishop of Hamilton at the Cathedral on May 7, 2013.



Bishop Miehm holds a Master's degree in Divinity from St. Augustine's Seminary and a Licentiate in Canon Law from the **University of St. Tomasso (Angelicum)** in Rome.

Bishop Miehm has served as a Priest in the Diocese of Hamilton since his ordination. During his ministry, he served as Associate Pastor at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Stoney Creek and the Cathedral of Christ the King in Hamilton and as Pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Hamilton and St. Ann Parish in Ancaster. During this time, Bishop Miehm has also served as a member and representative on various Councils in the Diocese. From 1996 to 2012, he served as Judge and Defender of the Bond on the **Toronto Regional Marriage Tribunal**.

In June 2012, he was appointed Founding Pastor of St. Benedict Parish in Milton where he was serving at the time of his appointment as Auxiliary Bishop of Hamilton. Bishop Miehm is also Chaplain for the **St. Thomas More Lawyers' Guild**.

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Congrats to our new EcoSchools!

<http://ecozone.wcdsb.ca>

Students and staff at 12 of Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools have gone green in a big way, achieving certification as **"Ontario EcoSchools"**.

GOLD

Blessed John Paul II CES
St. Anne (K) CES
St. Benedict CSS
St. Clement CES
St. Margaret of Scotland CES
St. Peter CES



SILVER

St. Ambrose CES
St. Brigid CES
St. Mary's High School
St. Nicholas CES

BRONZE

Holy Family CES
Resurrection CSS



Congratulations to our 2013 "Wheel to Heal Earth" contest winners: **Tommy F** -- Blessed John Paul II CES; **Tienna P** -- St. Vincent de Paul CES; **Stephanie V** -- St. Anne (K) CES.

2013 Distinguished Graduate Award



This year's recipient is **St. Mary's High School** grad **Mary Jo Fedy** -- in recognition of her years of community involvement and support for Catholic Education. You can read more about Mary Jo's accomplishments at: www.wcdsb.ca/about/awards/awards-dga.html



Homework Help is a free online math help resource for students in Grades 7-10. Homework Help provides free, live one-on-one tutoring from Ontario teachers Sunday to Thursday from 5:30pm – 9:30pm. <https://homeworkhelp.ilc.org/>



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12th Annual Waterloo Catholic District Schools



IN SUPPORT OF THE WATERLOO REGION CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Monday • August 26 • 2013

Choose From Two Beautiful & Challenging Courses:



Green Fees w Golf Cart/Range & Whistle Bear Luncheon
4 ball Scramble
Registration & Breakfast • 7:30am
Shotgun Start • 8:00am & Luncheon • 1:30pm
\$199 Package



Green Fees w Golf Cart/Range & Whistle Bear Luncheon
4 ball Scramble
Registration & Breakfast • 7:30am
Shotgun Start • 8:00am & Luncheon • 1:30pm
\$99 Package

Silent Auction • More Prizes!

IN SUPPORT OF THE
WATERLOO REGION CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION
A partial tax receipt will be issued to all participants

Generating Over \$355,000 Since 2002 In Support Of Valuable Programs In Athletics • Arts • Science & Technology
Equity For All Learners • Faith Formation



In April the students & staff of **Our Lady of Lourdes CES** raised \$5,500 for the Grand River Hospital cancer centre!

Best Wishes to Rick Boisvert



The students, staff and trustees of Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools send all best wishes to **Associate Director of Education Rick Boisvert** as he assumes his new duties as **Director of Education** of the **Northwest Catholic District School Board**. The NWDCSB – based in Fort Francis -- covers a vast area of northwestern Ontario and includes schools in Fort Francis, Stratton, Dryden, Atikokan and Sioux Lookout.

Rick began his teaching career with WCDSB in 1984, eventually teaching primary, junior and intermediate classes and special education. He served as principal of four elementary schools and was responsible for opening **St. Nicholas CES** in Waterloo in 2001. Rick has served as a superintendent since 2007 with responsibilities ranging from the operation of families of schools to parent engagement, special education, human resources and early learning.

"I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to serve the students and staff of the Waterloo Catholic District School Board for so many years", he said. "The Board's vision statement "heart of the community, success for each, a place for all," aligns with my personal beliefs about the transformative work that defines Catholic education. I will certainly miss the many friends I have made and the talented staff from whom I have had the good fortune to learn and I look forward to continuing to serve in Catholic Education".

Take Care of Yourself for God's Sake!

By Father Fred Scinto, C. R.

Summer comes again. Thank God for the gift of summer and all that accompanies it! This moment now as you read this is a good time to do some reflecting on this season of the year. We begin with the common sense observation that in today's culture in the Western World, the speed of our culture in terms of how fast it moves is very high. Many cultural critics and professional care-givers and other thinkers are beginning to think that the speed is too high for human wellbeing. The medical profession is also beginning to speak of a new disorder many of us are beginning to develop – nature deficit disorder: in simple terms, this means we are not interacting enough with Nature and its restorative elements and this is literally starting to make us sick.

So, all of us need to invest in our wellbeing and in our future lives. Summer is a God-given time for most of us to do some of this. We need to rouse ourselves a bit to do this because when our health is not too bad (as is the case for most of us); we easily get lulled into complacency.

So, this summer play and recreate and rest. Recently my attention has been caught by **Participaction Canada's** television advertisement that we need to get our children to play again because it is good for them health-wise; this applies to us as adults too! Get caught up on your sleep too if needed; at one time we used to think lost sleep could never be caught up but the latest research findings show this is not the case. So sleep more during this summer.

To counteract the speed of our culture, take and make some quiet time: turn off every noise-maker we have from radio to television to music applications on our cell-phones. Do nothing and if need be, learn how to do this (again). Use some quiet time for prayer; you'll be amazed how refreshing this is. Moreover, eliminate multi-tasking during summer; recent research indicates multi-tasking is really stressful and not as efficient as we think it is! Remember that you and I have been created by God out of love as God's sons and daughters. We belong, therefore, to God; we are not our own and we do not own ourselves. Let us be faithful daughters and sons of God who look after ourselves and let us do it for ourselves and for God's sake!

May God grant you a really good summer! Amen!!

Father Fred Scinto, C.R., of the Resurrection Centre for Lifelong Learning, is the Spiritual Animator of the Waterloo Catholic District School Board.



The students & staff of **St. Nicholas CES** wore blue on April 2nd to mark **World Autism Awareness Day**.

From JK to Grade 12 -- It's Never Too Late to Sign Up For School!!



Visit www.wcdsb.ca and click **Register for School!!**



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