

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

Quality • Inclusive • Faith-based • Education



w w w . w c d s b . c a

## Another #WCDSBAwesome Year!!

*Take our fears, O Loving God, and gather them into your embrace.  
Transform them into patient endurance, courage and compassion.  
Grant that we might give you praise for the whisper of wind,  
the song of the dove, the laughter of a child.*



**Loretta Notten**  
Director of Education

*"As we prepare to bid farewell to some of our valued colleagues and students, be assured that each of you is a gift and an integral part of the Waterloo Catholic family...May Christ's grace and love embrace you as you enjoy the gentler days of the season ahead. Be assured of our appreciation for your role in our many blessings!"*

The end of the year is upon us and no doubt we are feeling that appropriate mix of celebration for a job well done and melancholy for the valued colleagues and cherished students that are moving on. It has been a tremendous year of accomplishment on so many fronts. It has been a point of significant pride to welcome our larger community to our **Community Leaders' Breakfast**, **Bishop's Banquet** and other similar events, and to be able to share the unfolding story of Waterloo Catholic.

Recently, I brought forward our **Multi-Year Strategic Plan Interim Report Card** and it is clear that significant progress is being made against all goals. It is also clear that we have to ensure all members of our community feel invited into that work and we will endeavor to build that collective commitment in the coming year.

Throughout this past year we have seen the pastoral year of the **#PeopleOfHope** materialize in beautiful and poignant ways. The school, home, parish connection is being strengthened and our clergy are open to strengthening that connection further. We look forward to bringing our plan onto a broader community stage next year as we embrace and give witness to the **Year of Faith**. The lead-up to the fall symposium and new pastoral letter **Renewing the Promise** reminds us that our mission and vision for Catholic Education must be strong, focused and lived in each and every encounter in our system.



The graduations that characterize this time of year afford us the opportunity to reflect on the many experiences we provide to our students. We can be proud of our increasing graduation rate and strong academics, but our schools provide so much more. We have prioritized work in the area of well-being and will be even more purposeful in this regard next year. We can be proud of the **Mood Disorders Society of Canada's J. J. Pickell Mental Health Award**, given to Waterloo Catholic for our work in mental health. The **Heart of the Community Healthy Active Living Centre** at **St. Benedict CSS**, and the news that they have been approved for Phase 3, is but one example of our commitment to be that critical hub in our communities. The **Special Olympics** of this past month again provided such a wonderful celebration of our inclusive schools and what we do in bringing each child to their fullest potential.

Our schools are dynamic and ever-evolving. The incorporation of **New Pedagogies for Deep Learning** and the omnipresence of **Chromebooks** in our schools, speaks to our commitment to equipping our students with relevant learning. While not easy work, we are once again in the enviable position of bringing forward a balanced budget that supports our articulated priorities to the extent possible. Our system is growing and the year ahead looks promising. As we prepare to bid farewell to some of our valued colleagues and students, be assured that each of you is a gift and an integral part of the Waterloo Catholic family. We have so many reasons to be proud and when the pace slows, I sincerely hope you can reflect on your contributions and all that makes us so **#WCDSBAwesome**. My sincerest wish is that the summer is a time to re-energize and to reconnect with your loved ones. May Christ's grace and love embrace you as you enjoy the gentler days of the season ahead. Be assured of our appreciation for your role in our many blessings.



**Happy Summer**  
...And...  
**Happy 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
**CANADA**  
**See you in September!!**

**June, 2016**



**Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools**

w w w . w c d s b . c a



# Congrats to our new EcoSchools!

Students and staff at 29 of Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools have gone green in a big way, achieving certification as "**Ontario EcoSchools**".

## PLATINUM

St. Anne CES (Kitchener)

## GOLD

Holy Family CES (New Hamburg)  
Holy Rosary CES (Waterloo)  
Holy Spirit CES (Cambridge)  
Monsignor Doyle CSS (Cambridge)  
Resurrection CSS (Kitchener)  
Saint John Paul II CES (Kitchener)  
St. Agatha CES (St. Agatha)  
St. Anne CES (Cambridge)  
St. Augustine CES (Cambridge)  
St. Clement CES (St. Clements)  
St. Elizabeth CES (Cambridge)  
St. Joseph CES (Cambridge)  
St. Margaret of Scotland CES (Cambridge)  
St. Michael CES (Cambridge)  
St. Nicholas CES (Waterloo)

## SILVER

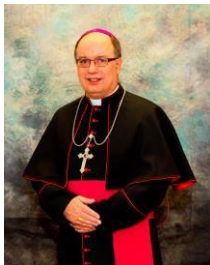
Blessed Sacrament CES (Kitchener)  
John Sweeney CES (Kitchener)  
Sir Edgar Bauer CES (Waterloo)  
St. Bernadette CES (Kitchener)  
St. Daniel CES (Kitchener)  
St. David CSS (Waterloo)  
St. Gregory CES (Cambridge)  
St. John CES (Kitchener)  
St. Vincent de Paul CES (Cambridge)  
St. Luke CES (Waterloo)

## BRONZE

Canadian Martyrs CES (Kitchener)  
Christ The King CES (Cambridge)  
St. Peter CES (Cambridge)



## 2017 Distinguished Graduate Award



This year's recipient is the **Most Rev. Bishop Daniel Miehm** - who attended **St. Jerome's H.S.** Bishop Miehm received the award on Friday, June 30 at the **Resurrection CSS** graduation ceremony. You can read more about Bishop Miehm's many accomplishments online at:

<https://www.wcdsb.ca/about/headlines/news/nr/2017/NR-WCDSB-Distinguished-Graduate-Award-2017>



16TH ANNUAL



GOLF CLASSIC - IN SUPPORT OF THE WATERLOO REGION CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

CONESTOGA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

**Fore...**

**Location:** Conestoga Golf Club, Conestoga

**Date:** Thursday, August 24, 2017

**7:30am Registration 8:00am Shotgun Start**

**Price:** Registration+Cart+Breakfast+Lunch \$150

**Lunch Only: \$30**

**Registration & Information:** 519.578.3660, ext. 2373



In May, 2017 four **WCDSB** schools were awarded "Healthy Schools" certifications by the **Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (OPHEA)**. Healthy Schools certifications were awarded to 174 schools across Ontario, representing 41 of 72 school boards -- Gold (86), Silver (68) and Bronze (20). The four schools are: **St. Benedict CSS** (Gold), **Resurrection CSS** (Silver), **St. Joseph CES** (Silver) and **St. Michael CES** (Silver).

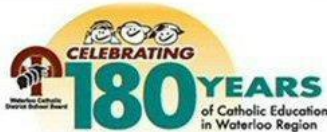
In May, the Board was honoured by the **Mood Disorders Society of Canada** with the national **J.J. Pickell Mental Health Award**, in recognition of our work in implementing the successful **Elephant in the Room Program**. Director of Education **Loretta Notten**, Superintendent **Laura Shoemaker** and Mental Health Lead **Amanda Warne** accepted the award on behalf of Board staff.



Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools

w w w . w c d s b . c a





## Board Administration Presents Catholic Trustees with \$271.8 Million Balanced Budget

Student achievement, labour investments and capital improvements are focus of budget plan



The 2017-18 budget anticipates enrolment will continue to increase in both elementary and secondary schools in the upcoming year. This increased enrolment, along with provincially-negotiated labour agreements, accounts for the large year over year funding change for the Board. The budget aligns closely with the Board's **MYSP**.

### Quick Facts

The **overall budget** is as follows:

Total Operating: \$252.7 M (+ \$16.7 million)

Total Capital: \$19.2 M (+ \$1.8 million)

Total Operating & Capital: \$271.8M (+ \$18.5 million)

To read the full budget, please visit:

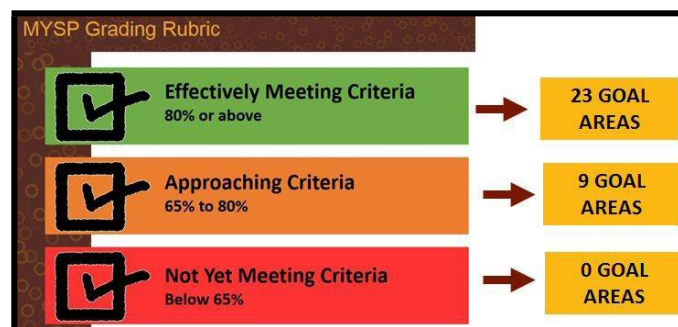
[www.wcdsb.ca/about/financial/financial.html](http://www.wcdsb.ca/about/financial/financial.html)

## Strategic Plan "Report Card"

The **WCDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) 2015-18** sets out to prioritize our work in the areas of:

- ✓ **Nurturing Our Catholic Community**
- ✓ **Student Engagement, Innovation and Achievement**
- ✓ **Building Capacity to Lead, Learn and Live Authentically**

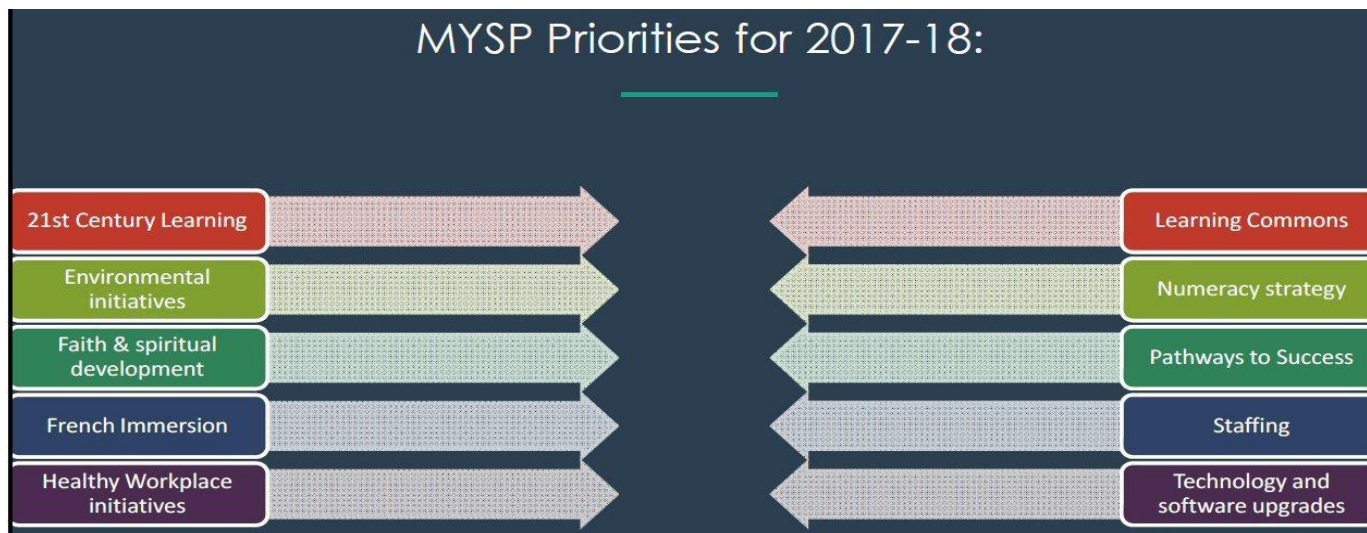
Embedded in these priority areas are 32 specific MYSP goals. Earlier this year, Board staff undertook a comprehensive survey of students, staff, clergy, Trustees and other community members to assess the progress being made toward each goal and identify any areas for improvement. Respondents were asked to rate on a scale of 1 to 5 the extent to which they agree that the Board is delivering as promised in each of the 32 goal statements. The survey garnered 1525 respondents. Here is a snapshot of the overall results:



At the mid-point of our 2015-2018 Strategic Plan, we find that 5 of 9 strategic directions and 23 of 32 goals are progressing at an optimal level, having been rated at **"Green" - "Effectively Meeting Standard"**. Four of the 9 Strategic Directions have some combination of **"Green" -- "Effectively Meeting Standard"** and **"Orange" -- "Approaching Criteria"**, with the majority still being "Green", as only 9 of 32 goals have been deemed to be "Orange". There are no goals that have been assessed at **"Red" -- "Not Meeting Criteria"**. There are many points of celebration and there is clear direction in terms of the work for the year ahead. We sincerely thank all who participated in the evaluation process. The full MYSP report card is available on pages 34-101 via the following link:

[www.wcdsb.ca/about/board/minutes/reg/pdf/2017/agenda/2017-06-19-Board-of-Trustees-Agenda.pdf](http://www.wcdsb.ca/about/board/minutes/reg/pdf/2017/agenda/2017-06-19-Board-of-Trustees-Agenda.pdf)

## MYSP Priorities for 2017-18:



Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools

www.wcdsb.ca





# Happy Birthday Canada!



**LCBO** | Always Taking Care



Louis Ngugen - WINNER  
Grade 5

**Think of Me**  
ANTI-DRINKING AND DRIVING CAMPAIGN

Louis Ngugen – a Grade 5 student at *Our Lady of Fatima CES* – was the winner of an *LCBO* anti-drinking & driving contest. His design will be featured on *LCBO* bags during the 2017-18 Christmas season.

The students at *St. John CES* put on a stunning show as they hosted the launch of Waterloo Region's bid for the 2021 *Canada Summer Games*.

[www.WeRally2021.ca](http://www.WeRally2021.ca)



**Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools**

w w w . w c d s b . c a