

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Quality • Inclusive • Faith-based • Education



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2010-11: Another Great Year!!

The 2010-11 school year has gone by quickly. And what a year it was!! Our system witnessed many acts of kindness and social justice throughout the year -- growing out of our participation in the **WE Day** activities with **Free the Children** and sponsored by **Research in Motion**. The **WE Schools in Action** program is open to all learners in the Catholic and public district school systems of Waterloo Region and Wellington County and we look forward to our second **WE Day** on November 16, 2011.

For us the **WE Day** experience gave us yet another opportunity to continue a focus on social justice as we understand what it means to be "**Heart of the Community**" through the lens of the **Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations** and the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. When we focus on the dignity of all, we focus on the primary purpose we exist as one of the four publicly-funded school systems in Ontario -- to infuse the Gospel message of Jesus Christ into all that we are and all that we do.

An education in a Catholic school is not restricted to religion class. In a Catholic school our faith is part of the DNA of the school experience. To this end, in October 2011 we are planning to have a special evening for all of our Grade 7 and 8 learners and students from each of our Catholic secondary schools to engage in conversation with **Craig Kielburger** on the role faith plays in our approach to social justice. It is not about conducting an activity; it is about understanding the moral imperative to act, the values that underlay the call to act and then acting with a preferential option for the poor. I'm looking forward to this very exciting opportunity.

On behalf of the senior administration of the Waterloo Catholic District School Board, I want to thank you for your participation in the life of our schools this year. I wish you a safe and healthy summer and look forward to another great year in 2011-12.



Roger D. Lawler
Director of Education

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Message from the Chair of the Board

Another school year is ending and as we look back and reflect I know that many across our system recognize much success. I believe we are extremely fortunate to be able to recognize and celebrate our success with faith. Our Catholic school system allows us that privilege.

As Chair of the Board, I have been privileged to hear many great stories of many people who go beyond the call of duty and make great contributions to our system. This year I was privileged to receive several heartfelt nominations for the **Chair's Award** from staff across our system. Individuals wanted to share stories about the many great and dedicated people in our system -- people who continually contribute to Catholic education, our students, and their fellow staff. It was a highlight of the year to celebrate in faith this year's recipient of the Chair's Award, **Gai Brown**, and many long serving staff members and retirees during the staff appreciation evening.

As a Board of Trustees we appreciate our Catholic school system, our staff and our students and we strive to do our work and make all decisions for the greater good.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees -- **Joyce Anderson, Wayne Buchholtz, Fr. Robert Héту, Janek Jagiellowicz, Anthony Piscitelli, Wendy Price, Peter Reitmeier, Greg Reitzel** and our Student Trustees **Anne Marie Hayman** and **Claire Matlock** -- we wish you and your families a very happy and safe summer.



Manuel da Silva
Chair of the Board

Available in colour @ www.wcdsb.ca
See inside for more!



June, 2011



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Trustee Profile

For the next few years each **Community Update** newsletter will feature (proceeding in alphabetical order) a profile of one member of the Board of Trustees.

This month...meet **Joyce Anderson!**



Fun Fact

Joyce has recently begun to learn to play the violin – experiencing both the joys and frustrations of education first hand!

Joyce is a newly elected trustee (October, 2010) who brings 35 years of varied experience in education. She is dedicated to ensuring that every student in the WCDSB has a safe, caring learning environment with excellence of academic opportunity.

When she is not busy with her trustee duties or practicing the violin Joyce is also the proud and busy grandparent of three grandchildren who attend school in the WCDSB. She was also recently elected to the role of **Regional Director** with the **Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association**.

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

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

Key Decisions Made in 2010-11

The Board of Trustees made a number of key decisions during the 2010-11 school year. These decisions are summarized in the monthly board meeting minutes which are available online at:

www.wcdsb.ca/about/board/minutes/reg/minutes.html

Here are some of the highlights:

- ✓ Election of **Manuel da Silva** and **Wayne Buchholtz** as Chair and Vice-chair of the Board;
- ✓ New school boundaries for **Our Lady of Fatima CES** and **St. Elizabeth CES** in Cambridge (Hespeler);
- ✓ Authorization for staff to purchase land and commence construction of a new elementary school on Guelph Avenue in Cambridge (Hespeler) – subject to government approval;
- ✓ Approval to begin transporting all JK to Grade 3 students living further than 0.8 km from school;
- ✓ Approval to replace the gym at **St. Anne CES** in Kitchener.

A Special "Thank You" to All

As this school year draws to a close the board of trustees would like to thank our many partners who have made the 2010-11 school year a great success.

First we would like to thank the teachers, the support staff and the administrators who work tirelessly to provide a safe, healthy and effective learning environment for our students.

Thank you to the members of our school councils. Your hard work and dedication enriches the school experience of our students in so many important ways.

This spring, trustees have met with many school councils. Thank you for your warm welcome.

We look forward to continuing our visits in the fall.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank our student trustees **Anne Marie Hayman** and **Claire Matlock** for their dedicated representation of the student community.

We will miss your ready smiles, your excellent questions and your contributions at the board table.

Finally, we would like to thank our parent community for your ongoing support.

Your families are the heart of our system, and the reason we exist.

The love, support and encouragement that you give your children every day helps them to strive for success in a challenging world.

God bless you, and may you have a wonderful summer!!



Distinguished Graduate Award Call for Nominations

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board is seeking nominations for its annual **Distinguished Graduate Award**. **The June 1st deadline has been extended to June 30, 2011.**

The prestigious award was initiated by the Board of Trustees in 2005 to honour graduates of Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to their faith and made significant contributions to their community.

Previous award recipients include **David Eby**, Executive Director of the B.C. Civil Liberties Association (2010), **Rev. Paul Voisin, C.R.**, Vicar General of the Diocese of Hamilton (Bermuda) (2009), Ontario Minister of Training, Colleges & Universities, **Dr. John Milloy** (2008); CTV National Affairs Correspondent **Lisa LaFlamme** (2007); University of Waterloo Professor **Dr. Brian Orend** (2006); and Ontario Superior Court Justice **Patrick J. Flynn** (2005).

Further information and nomination forms are available at:

www.wcdsb.ca/about/awards/awards-dga.html



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Student Trustees Report

By Anne Marie Hayman & Claire Matlock

As the school year comes to a close so do our duties as Student Trustees. This past year has been very eventful and memorable. Collaboratively with the **Council of Student Presidents** we hosted the first ever Board-wide film festival and variety show. The film festival – **Inview** -- gave an opportunity for our students to bring their passion for social justice to life.

The winning film – created by the communications technology class at **Monsignor Doyle CSS** -- was entitled **Let's Beat Cancer**. Runner up honours went to **Mike Hejmej** for his film **Injustice**. The variety show was hosted by St. David CSS and brought together fourteen amazing acts from St. Benedict CSS, St. David CSS, St. Mary's HS and Resurrection CSS. The performances ranged from solos to duets, instrumental solos, bands and dance. Between the two nights \$600 dollars was raised for **Toonies for Tuition**. Thank you to our sponsors, our acts and filmmakers, and finally the staff and students who helped make this dream come to life.

We'd also like to congratulate the two student trustee elects for next year. **Colin Whaley** (Grade 10 at St. David CSS) and **Marcus Cardoso** (Grade 10 at St. Mary's HS) will be representing the school board's students next year at the board table. They officially take over at the beginning of August – and we wish them the best!

As for our plans for next year, Claire has been elected president of the **Resurrection CSS Student Council** and Anne Marie is returning for a fifth year to direct a student-led drama production and gain work experience via co-op before entering university.

In conclusion we want to thank everyone who has helped us this year in our position. We couldn't have done it without you. Enjoy your summer! We know we will enjoy ours!



Darkness and light
It is such a fight
Why can't it be just one

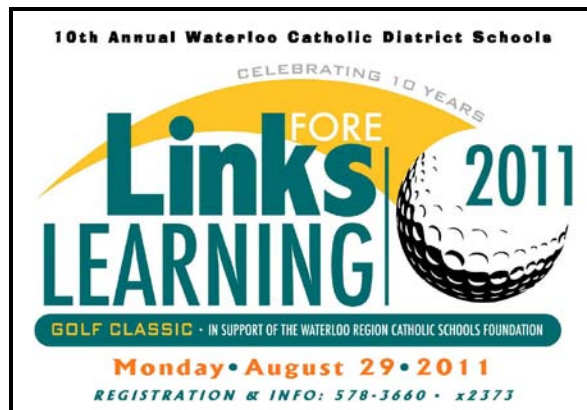
It pushes, it shoves
It comes from below and above
It separates our world apart

There are wars and there is sadness
When this happens it's just madness

It dangers all of our lives
This makes people yell and cry
People get hurt and they die

So stop every fight and create some more light
And always bring hope, peace, and love to the world

By Sara Szymanski – Grade 3 – St. Michael CES



REGISTER TODAY!!

Links FORE Learning has generated more than \$300,000 since 2002 in support of valuable programs in athletics, arts, science & technology, faith formation and equity for all learners.

~~ 4 Ball Scramble Format ~~
Whistle Bear and Doon Valley

Registration & Breakfast 7:30 a.m.
Shotgun Start – 8:00 a.m.
Lunch – 1:30 p.m.

WCDSB Front & Centre at Bowlathon Fundraiser for the Waterloo Region Suicide Prevention Council

What an incredible afternoon!! On April 30, twenty-four teams came together to raise funds and awareness for suicide prevention in our Region. Dressed in boas, rock sunglasses, wigs and team shirts the participants showed fun can be had while raising money for a serious cause.

Teams from **WCDSB (Our Lady of Fatima CES, Resurrection CSS & St. Benedict CSS)** along with the Waterloo Region District School Board, Grand River Hospital, Specialized Mental Health, Trellis, Lutherwood, Canadian Mental Health Association, Waterloo Regional Police, Self Help Alliance, Minds in Motion, University of Waterloo Health Studies and Gerontology, plus several personal teams all came out ready to bowl. Lisa Drew from 570 News kicked off the event, 15 volunteers made sure the day flowed smoothly, \$7,000 in donated prizes were given away and over \$20,000 was raised for suicide prevention initiatives in our Region.

Why not join the fun and start the dialogue for suicide prevention in the Spring of 2012!

<http://www.wrspc.ca/>



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St. Louis Adult Learning & Continuing Education: 25th Anniversary Reflection...

St. Louis Adult Learning & Continuing Education is celebrating 25 Years in adult education with displays in our Kitchener and Cambridge campuses created to reflect the rich history and varied programming offered over the years.

St. Louis began humbly in the late 1980's with a single **English as a Second Language** class. The already existing **International Languages Program** eventually joined St. Louis -- leading to credit courses being offered to adults allowing them to complete their Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

As part of our celebrations we mounted a mirror in each display for our students to reflect on their own learning journeys. We ask them – do they see what we see? – their true potential, that glimmer of hope in their eyes, that look of confidence that they can do it (no matter the sacrifice) the proud smile that they've made a choice that will open other doors for them.



Student **William Shaw** came to St. Louis two years ago to finish his high school education. He graduates this fall!!!

Like the person in the mirror, St. Louis is reflecting on who we are and how to tell our story more effectively. For our 25th Anniversary, we are introducing a new look, one that is more modern, clear and uniquely represents the supported path St. Louis students follow.



The new St. Louis logo reveals a double path and gold star. We are placing an emphasis on our learners' journeys. The path that brought them to St. Louis is clearly acknowledged (burgundy) and the path they take while at St. Louis (silver) is supported and will take them forward to reach their full potential (gold star).

Throughout our 25 year history we have supported thousands of learners of all ages along their learning journeys to get or upgrade their high school credits, receive afterschool help, learn English or another language or learn a skilled profession.

St. Louis has earned a stellar reputation in Waterloo Region as a valued educational institution that supports a variety of learners on different paths toward success. We'd love to have you join us!

<http://stlouis.wcdsb.ca/>

...CONGRATULATIONS...

To **Chantal Tout** from St. Mary's HS who has been named to the **Minister's Student Advisory Council**

To **Megan Pickett** from Resurrection CSS who received the **UCEP Award**

To **Lindsey-Anne De Sousa** from Monsignor Doyle CSS & **Kelsey Richardson** from St. Benedict CSS who received the **CCEP Award**

To **Connor Jantzi** from St. Don Bosco who received the **WCDSB Award of Excellence**



On Tuesday, May 3, a total of 31 students participated from all five WCDSB high schools in the **Provincial Skills Competition** hosted at RIM Park in Waterloo. This massive event included 1,800 competitors and more than 60 skilled trades and technology related competitions among secondary and post-secondary competitors. The purpose of these competitions is to encourage students to develop their skills, knowledge and interest in a skilled trade and technology, as well as to prepare them for a future career in a particular industry.

SILVER MEDAL – Erin Abeele – St. David's - Job Interview

SILVER MEDAL – Melina Panara – St. David's – Desktop Publishing

SILVER MEDAL – Kaleigh Gillis & Daniel McGrath – Resurrection – GIS (Geographic Information Systems)

BRONZE MEDAL - Rio Maligaya – St. Mary's – IT Office Software Applications



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