



Waterloo Catholic
District School Board

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News Release

April 2, 2012
For immediate release

Catholic Board Launches Wireless Internet Access in All Schools

Waterloo Region, ON – The Waterloo Catholic District School Board today launched wireless Internet (Wi-Fi) access in all of its elementary and secondary schools, adult education campuses and board administrative locations.

Today's Wi-Fi launch is part of the board's visionary five-year *Information Technology Plan* (www.wcdsb.ca/schools/pdf/Technology-Plan-2010-2015.pdf).

Basic information about the WCDSBInternet:

The "**WCDSBInternet**" will provide wireless access to any personal device that is able to connect to a wireless network (laptop, tablet, mobile device, etc.).

Each **elementary school** has been equipped with a minimum of two hotspot locations. As a starting point, the size and range of the wireless network will be limited to the library area, some classrooms located close enough to the hotspot as well as the main office / staff room. New hotspots will be installed in the future as the WCDSB continues to expand this network.

Each **secondary school** has been equipped with 12 hotspot locations including the library, main office and other select locations around the school as selected by the school.

What will this look like within the school?

Teachers will be able to make arrangements for students to have the option to bring in personal devices to connect to the network. Providing access to this network will increase the number of computers available for students to use on a regular basis. On the occasion that a teacher sees the use of a personal device as beneficial for learning, they will provide the option for students to bring in their devices. All WCDSB students and staff will continue to have access to the board's computers and hard-wired high speed network.

Use and responsibility:

Introduction of the **WCDSBInternet** provides Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools with unlimited possibilities for student learning and positions the board among the most technologically advanced in the province. Access to the network will open the door to thousands of interactive learning websites, educational videos and current information. Collaboration and group work will be encouraged to provide access to all students. The board's current policy on acceptable use of computer technology and the Internet (www.wcdsb.ca/AP_Memos/PDF/APS017.pdf) applies to use of the new Wi-Fi system.

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board, representing more than 100,000 Catholic school supporters, operates 51 schools and five adult education facilities serving more than 40,000 elementary, secondary and continuing education students in Waterloo Region – continuing a 176-year tradition of quality, inclusive, faith-based education.

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For more information, please contact:

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