



Waterloo Catholic  
District School Board

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## News Release

June 30, 2017  
For immediate release

# Catholic Board Welcomes New Superintendent

## Veteran Huron Perth Catholic District School Board Principal Judy Merkel joins WCDSB executive team

**Waterloo Region, ON** – The Waterloo Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce the appointment of **Judy Merkel** as Superintendent of Learning. She replaces **David DeSantis** who has accepted a three-year secondment as **Student Achievement Supports - Internal Lead** in the **Student Achievement Division** of the **Ministry of Education**.

### QuickFacts

- ✓ An educator for the past 26 years, Judy has served as an Administrator in the **Huron Perth Catholic District School Board** for the past 16 years. She is currently Principal of **St. Ambrose Catholic School** in Stratford.
- ✓ A former **Special Education Resource Teacher** with **Advanced Specialist in Learning Disabilities** qualifications, Judy holds a Masters of Science in Education degree and has extensive experience, including as a teacher of the blind.
- ✓ Judy previously served on the Board of Directors for **L'Arche**, in Stratford and is current Chair of the **St. Andre Bessette Trust Fund**. She also brings provincial expertise as **CODE Project Lead** for the **CODE/MOE/UOIT "Makerspace Project"**, as a **School Board Lead for District Review** and in **Leading Student Achievement (LSA – Principal Learning)**.

### Quotes

*"We are thrilled to be welcoming Judy Merkel to our team. She has a proven track record of excellence and service as a Catholic administrator. Her passion for meeting the needs of students, her strong interpersonal skills and her vision for 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning, along with Judy's many other gifts will serve our system exceptionally well."*

~~ **Loretta Notten, Director of Education - WCDSB**

*"We will miss Judy immensely but know that God has called her to a new beginning...and a continued path of excellence in leadership."*

~~ **Vince MacDonald, Director of Education - HPCDSB**

*"It is a privilege to be a leader in Catholic Education at this time and I am looking forward to doing great things together with the team at Waterloo Catholic!"*

~~ **Judy Merkel**

### Related Links

[Waterloo Catholic District School Board](#)

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board, representing more than 96,000 Catholic school supporters, operates 52 schools and five adult education facilities serving more than 40,000 elementary, secondary and continuing education students in Waterloo Region – continuing a 180-year tradition of quality, inclusive, faith-based education. Follow us on Twitter: **@WCDSBNewsire - #WCDSBAwesome**.

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