



Waterloo Catholic  
District School Board



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## News Release

November 1, 2012  
For immediate release

# Catholic School Name Changes Approved

Waterloo Region, ON – The Board of Trustees of the Waterloo Catholic District School Board has formally approved name changes for three Catholic elementary schools – two in Kitchener and one in Cambridge.

Following a unanimous decision on Monday October 29, 2012 the names of **Blessed Kateri Catholic Elementary School** (Kitchener), **Pope John Paul II Catholic Elementary School** (Kitchener) and **Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School** (Cambridge) will be changed to **St. Kateri Tekakwitha CES**, **Blessed John Paul II CES** and **Blessed Mother Teresa CES**. The changes will be fully implemented in time for the start of the 2013-14 school year.

These significant changes follow the October 21<sup>st</sup> **canonization** in Rome of St. Kateri Tekakwitha and the earlier **beatifications** of Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa.

The Catholic Church's process leading to sainthood involves three major steps. First is the declaration of a person's heroic virtues, after which the Church gives him or her the title **Venerable**. Second is beatification, after which he or she is called **Blessed**. The third step is canonization, or declaration of **Sainthood**. In general, two miracles need to be accepted by the Church as having occurred through the intercession of the prospective saint.

Pope John Paul II beatified Kateri Tekakwitha in 1980 and Mother Teresa in 2003. He was himself beatified in 2011 by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI.

To minimize costs and disruptions, as the three schools make the transition to their new names they will be encouraged to use up all existing supplies of letterhead, spirit wear, mugs, pens, etc. before purchasing new stock. The cost of changing the signs at each school will be paid from the board's existing public relations budget.

For more information about St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Blessed John Paul II and Blessed Mother Teresa please visit the following websites:

St. Kateri Tekakwitha: [www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=154](http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=154)

Blessed John Paul II: [www.catholic.org/pope/jp2/bio.php](http://www.catholic.org/pope/jp2/bio.php)

Blessed Mother Teresa: [www.vatican.va/news\\_services/liturgy/saints/ns\\_lit\\_doc\\_20031019\\_madre-teresa\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/news_services/liturgy/saints/ns_lit_doc_20031019_madre-teresa_en.html)

Please join our school system in celebrating the extraordinary lives and achievements of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Blessed John Paul II, and Blessed Mother Teresa.

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. Follow us on Twitter: @WCDSBNewsWire - #WCDSBAwesome.

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