

Committee of the Whole Meeting

Date: Monday, March 9, 2020

Time: 6:00 p.m.

* Committee of the Whole In Camera, if necessary, will precede or follow the Board Meeting, as appropriate.

Location: Catholic Education Centre, 35 Weber St. W., Unit A, Kitchener, ON – St. Mary's Boardroom

Attendees: Board of Trustees:

Bill Conway (Chair), Manuel da Silva, Kevin Dupuis, Jeanne Gravelle, Wendy Price, Greg Reitzel,

Brian Schmalz, Melanie Van Alphen, Tracey Weiler

Student Representatives:

Meghan Cymbron, Rori Schaefer

Senior Administration:

Loretta Notten, Jason Connolly, Maria Ivankovic, John Klein, Shesh Maharaj, Judy Merkel, Richard

Olson, Laura Shoemaker

Special Resource:

Recording Secretary:

Alice Figueiredo, Executive Administrative Assistant

ITEM	Who	Agenda Section	Method & Outcome
1. Call to Order	Chair		
1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials	Trustee		
1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement I (we) would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather today is the land traditionally used by the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe and Neutral People. I (we) also acknowledge the enduring presence and deep traditional knowledge, laws and philosophies of the Indigenous People with whom we share this land today.	Chair		
1.3 Approval of Agenda	Board of Trustees		Approval
1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest 1.4.1 From the current meeting 1.4.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting	Individual Trustees		
1.5 Items for Action: 1.5.1 Private, Private and Private, Private, Private, meeting of February 24, 2020 regarding Human Resource matters.	Chair		Approval

ITEM	Who	Agenda Section	Method & Outcome
2. Consent Agenda: Director of Education (e.g.: operational matters from the Ministry of Education that the Board is required to do; update on the system)			
3. Consent Agenda: Board (Minutes of meetings)			
3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings3.1.1 Minutes of February 10, 2020 Committee of the Whole Minutes	Trustees	pp.4-7	Approval
4. Delegations			
4.1 United Way Waterloo Region	United Way	pp.8-13	Information
5. Advice from the CEO5.1 St. Louis Adult Learning and Continuing Education – Connecting to the MYSP and BIPSA	M. Ivankovic/P. Cox/L. Mackay	pp.14-19	Information
6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment related to Board's Annual Agenda; ownership communication)			
6.1 Linkages Activity6.2 Pastoral Care Activity	Trustees Trustees		Discussion Discussion
7. Reports from Board Committees/Task Forces			
8. Board Education (at the request of the Board)			
8.1 OCSTA Communications	Chair	pp.20-21	Information
8.2 OCSTA Modules Module 17 – Developing a Code of Conduct for Trustees Module 18 – Social Media Module 19 – Internal Audits and the role of Audit Committees	Trustees		Discussion
9. Policy Discussion (Based on Annual Plan of Board Work)			
10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance (monitoring)			
11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance (monitoring)			
11.1 Monitoring Reports & Vote on Compliance			
12. Potential Agenda Items/Shared Concerns/Report on Trustee Inquiries			
12.1 Motion to Reconsider 12.2 Trustee Inquiry – COVID-19	B. Conway J. Gravelle	 	Decision Information
13. Announcements			

ITEM	Who	Agenda Section	Method & Outcome
13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated): •Mar 23: Board of Trustees' Meeting •Mar 26: St. David FOS Beacons of Hope •Mar 26: CEC Blessing •Mar 28- Mayors' Dinner •Mar 31: St. Louis Beacons of Hope •Apr 4: Mayor Shantz Annual Breakfast/Maple Syrup Festival •Apr 6: Committee of the Whole •Apr 21: Mayor Jaworsky's 2020 Sate of City •Apr 27: Board of Trustee's Meeting •April 28: Staff Recognition * New date •Apr 30: OCSTA AGM •May 5: Bishop's Banquet •May 7: Mayor Vrbanovic's 2020 State of City •May 20: Cambridge Council Mtg w/ School Boards •Jun 3: Interfaith Community Breakfast •Jun 4: CCSTA AGM •Jun 12: Community Leaders Breakfast			
14. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda	Trustees	I	
15. Adjournment/ Confirm decisions made tonight	Director of Education		
15.1 Confirm Decisions	Recording Secretary		Information
16. Closing Prayer			
47 Metion to Adjourn	Doord of Trustops	Motion	Approval
17. Motion to Adjourn	Board of Trustees	Motion	Approval

CLOSING PRAYER

O Risen Lord, you have entrusted us with the responsibility to help form a new generation of disciples and apostles through the gift of our Catholic schools.

As disciples of Christ, may we educate and nurture hope in all learners to realize their full potential to transform God's world.

May our Catholic schools truly be at the heart of the community, fostering success for each by providing a place for all.

May we and all whom we lead be discerning believers formed in the Catholic faith community; effective communicators; reflective and creative thinkers; self-directed, responsible, life-long learners; collaborative contributors; caring family members; and responsible citizens.

Grant us the wisdom of your Spirit so that we might always be faithful to our responsibilities. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Rev. Charlie Fedy, CR and the Board of Trustees, 2010



Committee of the Whole Meeting

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, February 10, 2020 at the Catholic Education Centre, Kitchener.

Trustees Present:

Bill Conway (Chair), Manuel da Silva, Kevin Dupuis, Jeanne Gravelle, *Wendy Price, Greg Reitzel, Brian Schmalz, Melanie Van Alphen, Tracey Weiler *Via Teams

Student Trustees Present:

Meghan Cymbron, Rori Schaefer

Administrative Officials Present:

Loretta Notten, Jason Connolly, Maria Ivankovic, John Klein, Shesh Maharaj, Judy Merkel, Richard Olson, Laura Shoemaker

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets:

Absent:

Recorder:

Alice Figueiredo, Executive Administrative Assistant

NOTE ON VOTING: Under Board by-law 5.7 all Board decisions made by consensus are deemed the equivalent of a unanimous vote. A consensus decision is therefore deemed to be a vote of 9-0. Under Board by-law 5.11 every Trustee "shall vote on all questions on which the Trustee is entitled to vote" and abstentions are not permitted.

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials

The opening prayer was led by Student Trustees' M. Cymbron, R. Schaefer.

1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement

The Territorial Acknowledgement was led by Trustee Conway.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

2020-08 -- It was moved by Trustee da Silva and seconded by Trustee Weiler: THAT the agenda for Monday, February 10, 2020 be now approved. --- Carried by consensus.

1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

- 1.3.1 From the current meeting NIL
- 1.3.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting NIL

1.5 Items for Action:

1.5.1 Private, Private meeting of January 27, 2020 regarding Human Resource matters.

2020-09 -- It was moved by Trustee Schmalz and seconded by Trustee Gravelle: THAT the Items for Action from Monday, January 27, 2020 regarding Human Resource matters. be now approved. --- Carried by consensus.

2. Consent Agenda: Director of Education (e.g. day-to-day operational matters from the Ministry of **Education that the board is required to do)**

3. Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees (Minutes of meetings)

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

- 3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings
- 3.1.1 Minutes of January 13, 2020 Committee of the Whole Minutes.
- 3.2 Interim Financial Report #1 of 3

2020-10 -- It was moved by Trustee Weiler and seconded by Trustee da Silva:

THAT the Consent Agenda of Board of Trustees and the recommendations contained therein be now approved. ---Carried by consensus

4. Delegations

5. Advice From the CEO

5.1 Annual Report on STSWR

Superintendent Maharaj introduced Benoit Bourgault, General Manager at STSWR. Mr. Bourgault presented on the highlights of the 2018-2019 annual report on the Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region. The highlights included:

- A major reduction in instances of speeding year over year
- A customer service survey which resulted in an 80% approval rate
- A public information blitz for the benefit of student safety
- Development and distribution of an inclement weather informational video
- · Renewal of a multi-year contract for taxi services
- · School travel staff worked with 39 schools in the Region to improve walking routes for students
- A better inventory of bus drivers resulting from enhancements to compensation in 2018.

Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback. Trustees requested report on seatbelt safety when more information comes available. Trustees also requested a Customer Service presentation next year with results and actions from survey.

5.2 Early Years Report

Superintendent Klein provided the Board of Trustees with an update on Early Years at WCDSB. The update included Kindergarten Professional Learning Supports, celebrations, challenges and next steps.

Trustees asking clarifying questions, on hiring challenges and board supports.

5.3 Parent Engagement Update

Superintendent Merkel provided the Board of Trustees with an update on Parent Engagement at WCDSB. Past and upcoming events were noted along with next steps.

6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)

6.1 Linkages Activity

Trustees reported back from the Linkage Committee. Highlights included:

- CEC Blessing scheduled for March 26th
- Ongoing planning of networking date with WRDSB Trustees
- Debrief on Winter Walk
- Trivia night

6.2 Pastoral Care Activity

Trustees reported back from the Pastoral Care Committee. Highlights included:

- Planning on Catholic Education Week Mass, looking at May 9th, Saturday before Mother's Day. Trustee Dupuis to follow up with St. Teresa Elmira.
- Student trustees will provided a list of events for Trustees
- Looking to set up Trustee Community Clean up during Earth Day. Region of Waterloo has events taking place.
- Looked at the idea of closing retreat with Fr. Joseph. More details to come.

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

8. Board Education (at the request of the Board)

8.1 OCSTA Communications

Trustees discussed communication from OCSTA regarding SEAC and the appointment of seats. Director Notten to follow up with Superintendent Shoemaker and on the process of appointment.

8.2 OCSTA Modules

Module15 - What Makes a Great Chair?

Module 16 - First Nations Trustees: Leading in Two Worlds

Trustees discussed OCSTA Modules.

9. Policy Discussion

10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance

11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

12. Potential Agenda Items

13. Announcements (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated)

13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated): Trustees discussed upcoming events.

14. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda/Pending Items

15. Adjournment - Confirm decisions made tonight. Closing Prayer

15.1 Confirm Decisions

The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

15.2 Move into Private, Private

2020-11-- It was moved by Trustee da Silva and seconded by Trustee Van Alphen:

THAT the meeting move into Private, Private at 8:17 p.m. --- Carried by consensus.

15.3 Move into Private, Private, Private	
16. Closing Prayer	
17. Motion to Adjourn	
2020-13 It was moved by Trustee Gravelle and seconded I THAT the meeting be now adjourned. The meeting was adjusted and seconded I was moved by Trustee Gravelle and seconded I was adjusted.	
Chair of the Board	Secretary

2020-12-- It was moved by Trustee Schmalz and seconded by Trustee Gravelle: THAT the meeting extends beyond 9:00 p.m. --- Carried by consensus.







#iamtheone | iamtheone.ca | **Of o** @UnitedWayWRC



We all love where we live.

But issues like child & youth mental health, hunger, drug addiction and child abuse are hurting our families and communities.

All it takes is an act of love.











Vulnerable Children and Youth **Community Conditions**

- 48% more youth 10 18 years visited emergency rooms due to self-harm in this region as compared to the provincial average.
- About 1 in youth 6 in Waterloo Region won't graduate from high school.







Investment Impact

- 7,995 youth improved their self-esteem and sense of wellbeing.
- 7,574 young people had the opportunity to engage with positive role models and improve their social skills







Vulnerable Children & Youth

WCDSB Relevant Investments:

- Big Bunch; Go Girls! Game On!; In-School Mentoring, Big **Brothers Big Sisters of Waterloo Region**
- Bullying Prevention & Social Competency; COPES, John **Howard Society of Waterloo Wellington**
- Youth and Teen Centre, Langs
- Youth Development, Cambridge & Kitchener Waterloo YMCAs
- Girls Program, YWCA of Cambridge







What are the critical issues you see for the community?









Date: March 9, 2020

To: Board of Trustees

From: Director of Education

Subject: St. Louis Adult Learning and Continuing Education – Connecting to the MYSP and BIPSA

Type of Report:

Decision-Making
Monitoring
Incidental Information concerning day-to-day operations

Type of Information:

Information for Board of Trustees Decision-Making
Monitoring Information of Board Policy
Information only of day-to-day operational matters delegated to the CEO

Origin: (cite Education Act and/or Board Policy or other legislation)

Board of Governance Policy I:001 Ends Ontario Catholic School Graduation Expectations (OCSGE, 2011): [Institute for Catholic Education] PPM No. 159 Collaborative Professionalism

Policy Statement and/or Education Act/other Legislation citation:

Ontario's Education that Works for You (2019)

Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy (2009)

Ontario's Well-Being Strategy for Education: Discussion Document (2016)

Ontario's Equity Action Plan (2017)

Alignment to the MYSP:

Nurturing our Catholic Community: Promote a culture of belonging and respect, that supports success for all.

Student Engagement, Achievement & Innovation: Nurture a culture of Innovation; Foster maximum opportunity for success for all

Building Capacity to Lead, Learn & Live Authentically: Investment in global competency development and leading technology; Nurture the well-being of all students and staff

Background/Comments:

During the 2019- 2020 schoolyear, the St. Louis leadership team committed to the process of discovering the resonance, alignment and St. Louis student voice within the BIPSA and MYSP by creating a process to develop a first ever St. Louis SIPSA. The leadership team of Program Council has engaged in preliminary exercises that have demonstrated touchpoints on all 4 pillars of the BIPSA. They have also







reviewed the MYSP, to see how St. Louis is reflected. As Program Council explored the three strategic directions, we unpacked more than we thought was there with direct evidence that St. Louis is indeed reflected.

With programming at over 19 locations throughout Waterloo Region (including St. Francis, Kitchener although currently closed for renovation; see attached map) and with close to 13,000 learners supported each year, these discoveries shouldn't have come as a surprise. Last year's board report was so data rich and encompassed all that St. Louis did/does and achieved. This year's report builds on that data by specifically aligning practices and programming to the BIPSA and MYSP. Through the SIPSA process we have discovered and are able to highlight new areas of growth and focus from this past and current school-year.

Secondary School Credits	Skills Training (with secondary school credits)
Day classes (5 Terms + Summer) Self-directed w/ tutor support Credits@Work E-learning in Summer Adult Dual Credit International Languages Secondary Credit Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition (PLAR)	Culinary Arts Training + Food Service Hairstyling and Barber Training + Salon Personal Support Worker Training
Language Learning	Supportive Services
English Language Classes (ESL & LINC) ESL – Summer International Languages -Elementary (Sept-June & Summer)	Guidance Services Literacy & Basic Skills (Core Essentials, PSW Essentials, Math Essentials) Literacy and Numeracy Gr 7-10 Continuing Education (Homework Clubs, Sat Skills Builder, Summer Expedition, HeadStart to Grade 9 Care for Newcomer Children (childminding) Licensed Child Care Support Services from Partner Organizations

MYSP and St. Louis 2018-19 / 2019-2020

Nurturing our Catholic Community: Promote a culture of belonging and respect, that supports success for all.

• Welcomed the three priests to the neighbourhood and St. Louis nurtured these new connections to enable partnership opportunities with the Fr. Joseph, Fr. Toby and Fr. Dan and St. Mary's of the Seven Sorrows Parish beyond St. Louis graduations. St. Louis supported community outreach efforts and parish staff, consulted around the development of a community kitchen and invited the priests to school functions. Strengthening this relationship contributed to the renewed lease partnership for St. Louis to remain at 80 Young Street, as well as maintain the CR's legacy as local founders of Catholic education and community supporters;







- As a recipient of numerous Catholic Community Foundation Waterloo Region (CCFWR) grants
 over the last 10 years, we worked together to showcase CCFWR in the media and strike new
 corporate connections for instructional supplies. CCFWR student bursary for the last 5 years
 continues to support any student facing barriers to education often lack of public transportation,
 hunger, paying for portions of materials fees or financially supporting access to childcare so they
 can attend school;
- The message of "You Belong" is evidenced by unlocked street entry doors, Welcome Wall, gender neutral bathroom, compassionate and supportive staff, admin classroom visits with deliberate language around supports available (to be most successful – not just 'passing through), welcome announcements to new student groups;
- St. Louis was included in the Pilgrimage of the Cross final stop of the journey;
- Stronger than ever education, community and social agency partnerships to connect to those who need these programs to remove barriers;
- Students saw increased and equitable access to learning opportunities. Guidance counsellors support youth and adults with on-on-one pathways planning and in 2018-2019 saw increased numbers of students completed the Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) process. St. Louis Guidance Head has shown incredible leadership to other boards across to the Province by sharing best practices in the delivery of PLAR support, so more students could benefit.
- With community wrap-around services available on site, the collaboration and transitional pathways from ESL/LINC, Literacy and Basic Skills toward credit bearing programs has been a lot more accessible and efficient for all.

Student Engagement, Achievement & Innovation: Nurture a culture of Innovation; Foster maximum opportunity for success for all

- When faced with program growth challenges and a relocation necessity during renovation of the Kitchener St. Francis Campus, St. Louis reached out to churches and educational partners for solutions. Three church partnerships were established to supply suitable teaching and learning space for English Language classes, as well as childminding support at one location for next 1-3 years. John Sweeney CES agreed to host 5 International Language schools that were originally at St. Francis, Kitchener on Saturday mornings for 1 year.
- When faced with gaps in service, St. Louis reached out to community partners for solutions. An
 expanded partnership with the Region of Waterloo in 2019 has resulted in a pilot of Secondary School
 Credit Day Classes, tutors for online credit courses and Guidance counsellor support at 150 Main
 Street, Cambridge. Inversely, the Region of Waterloo stations an employment counsellor one day a
 week in our guidance department as well as offers Safe Food Handling and Employment Readiness
 workshops at the Kitchener Main Campus.
- Because St. Louis has various ways a person can earn secondary school credits toward their OSSD, St. Louis is an important contributor to the 4th and 5th year graduation rates. In 2019, there was an increase in *Credits@Work* participants to the point of needing to hire a 2nd teacher for the remainder of the school year. St. Louis was able to offer the first ever *Dual Credit for Adults* class which was filled almost immediately. And Careers and Civics Summer e-learning had quadrupled from the year prior with 8 sections in Summer 2019.
- PSW program has been cultivating partnerships with long-term care homes to develop a 'Living Classroom' delivery model a model tried and tested through the Research Institute for Aging at UofW. This approach to teaching and learning has been tested by Ontario Colleges who offer similar PSW training with other care homes with great success. By implementing this model, the St. Louis PSW program would put less resource strain on our schools, create more experiential learning opportunities for students and support a Province-wide / Nation-wide workforce gap.





Building Capacity to Lead, Learn & Live Authentically: Investment in global competency development and leading technology; Nurture the well-being of all students and staff

- Reviewed tech inventory with Neil and Marc (in 2019) repurpose and upgrade using older IT items, and appreciative of the IT department's support;
- Transitioned another 19 Independent Learning Centre (ILC) paper-based courses to D2L platform. There are no more paper-based self-directed courses;
- Undergoing a deeper review of emergency processes and protocols
- By sharing resources, reviewing roles, processes and identifying resource needs, staff have found efficiencies
- Piloted *Nutrition for Learning* at 150 Main St. location for Cambridge Secondary School Credit students a first for St. Louis
- Nurtured the notion of 'Called to Belong' with improved messaging to students around mental
 well-being. E.g. Belonging Days in November, Bell Let's Talk in January, Pink Shirt Day in
 February and motivational statements and "Attendance Matters" statements on social media and
 outdoor signage
- As part of addressing the well-being of staff during the past couple of years of navigating change and uncertainty in 2019, the leadership team created intentional <u>face-to-face</u> communication surrounding school locations and changes, plus labour updates. All leadership staff chose this approach first, followed by email.
- Monday Motivator emails were introduced and paired with the St. Louis Weekly Star staff
 newsletter (aka the PINK sheet) intended to express to staff how valued they are and promote
 self-care.

BIPSA and St. Louis 2019-2020

Spring-boarding from the MYSP to the BIPSA, we also discovered that of the four pillars in the BIPSA, the *Pathways to Success* pillar is St. Louis' most natural entry point.

The success system statement under Pathways to Success pillar particularly resonated. To rephrase this statement, we could state that "St. Louis does engage as partners in challenging, meaningful learning experiences that are responsive to voices and individual identities and complex learning needs of St. Louis students of all ages, always with the effort to engage them in education and career life planning."

This pillar collectively reflects the diversity of many St. Louis programs and services and responds to the complex learning needs of St. Louis learners. Although the *Pathways to Success* pillar may be the most obvious and visible tie to St. Louis, students cannot be successful if we do not address student learning needs in the *Numeracy, Literacy* and *Catholic, Community, Culture and Caring* pillars as well. Therefore, the leadership team of Program Council is committed in the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year to identify, cultivate and reach ahead to improve on the many value-added supports to as many students as possible in our board under all 4 pillars.







Recommendations and Next Steps:

- Regular (weekly or monthly) meetings visits with priests;
- Continue to use SSC Professional Development sessions to increase Special Education PD;
- Develop a strategy to improve promotion of adult student responsibility for IEP disclosure;
- Collect clean data. In order to measure St. Louis' true contribution to graduation rates and set SIPSA goals, collection of clean data is necessary. This collection continues to be challenging, however by including St. Louis in the building and initial testing of Aspen, we are hopeful that we will accurately be able to follow the pathways of all learners;
- Developing a long-term partnership with Wilfrid Laurier Faculty of Social Work to receive support from MSW placement students at Kitchener Main Campus by September 2020;
- New Partnership with the *Local Health Integration Network* (LHIN) soon to be renamed *Ontario Health* to pilot iPad onsite mental health support by Spring 2020. Guidance and Administrators can then make referrals to *Mental Health and Addictions' Nurses* (MHAN)
- Continue to offer relevant School-to-Work programs with an effort to flex programming that
 addresses workforce demands while supporting secondary school completion. St. Louis is
 working with Facilities to investigate the creation of a *Custodial Training Services* program that
 includes secondary school credit achievement, relevant workplace training, placement
 opportunities and overall support to the WCDSB employment gap;
- Working with Facilities to intentionally plan and create welcoming and pride-filled spaces as part of renovation at both Kitchener Main and St. Francis campuses over the next 5 years;
- Refresh spiritual / prayer room at Kitchener Main in 2020-2021. Add spiritual and prayer room to St. Francis Campus
- Revisioning 'technology in classroom' is seen as a priority. As a starting point, old Bright Links supplied by WCDSB will be repurposed and staff to be trained. Phase I: Kitchener Main Campus and St. Francis Campus 2020-2021. Phase II: St. Mary's Campus and Highland Campus
- Through the SIPSA process, identify where the urgent student need is. The SIPSA will drive how we will make learning personal and precise to individual students throughout all St. Louis programs.
- Participate in the 40,000 journeys to cultivate the St. Louis learner story. From this, St. Louis wishes to develop a mechanism for alumni follow-up.

Prepared/Reviewed By: Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Maria Ivankovic

Superintendent of Learning

Paul Cox Principal

Lisa MacKay Vice Principal

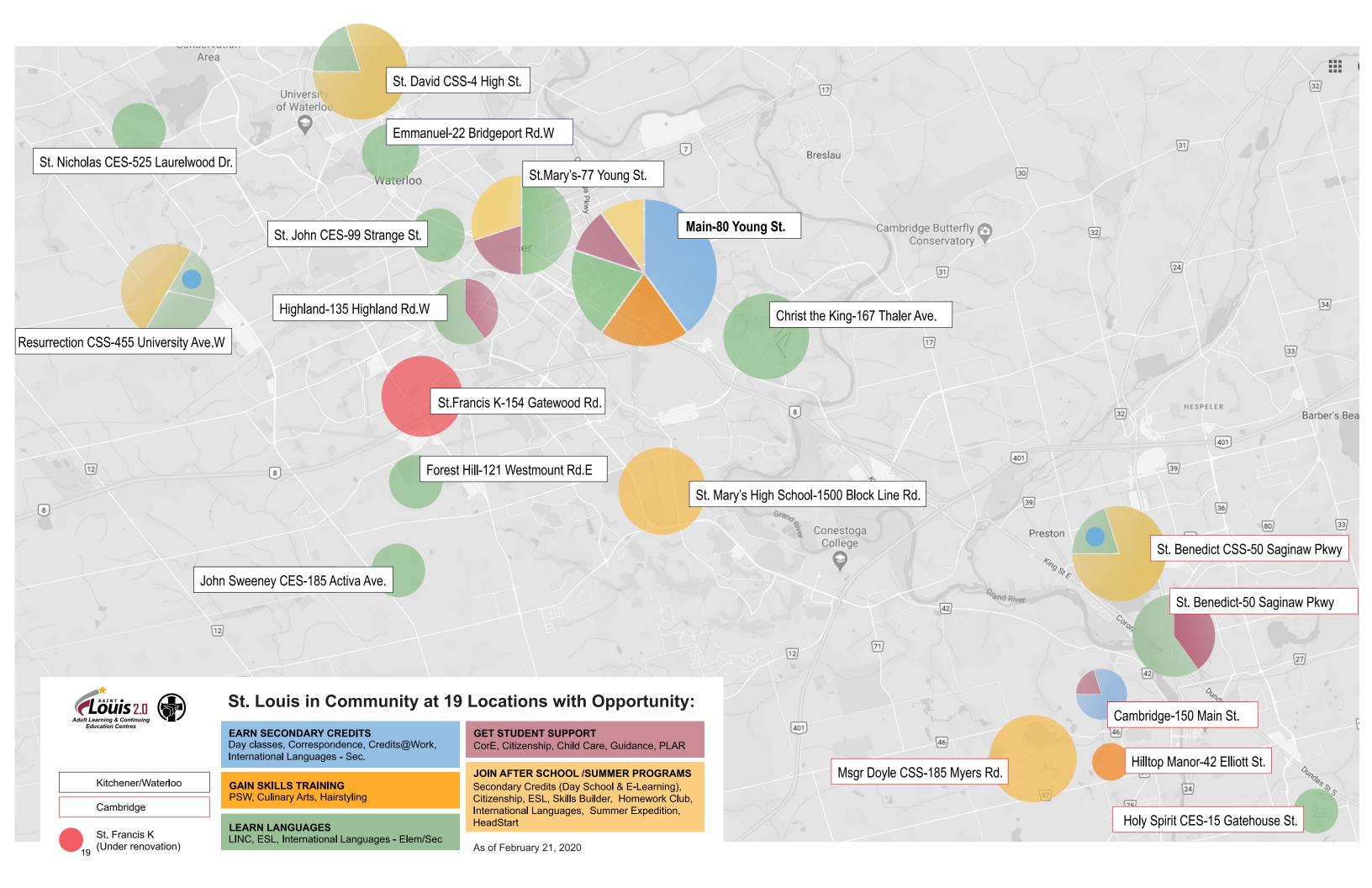
Michele Breault Program Manager

*Bylaw 4.2 "where the Board of Trustees receives from the Director of Education a monitoring report that flows from a responsibility delegated to the Director under Board Policy – **except where approval is required by the Board of Trustees on a matter delegated by policy to the Board** – the minutes of the Meeting at which the Report is received shall expressly provide that the Board has received and approved of the Report as an action consistent with the authority delegated to the Director, subject in all instances to what otherwise actually occurred."













Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association

February 28, 2020

Box 2064, Suite 1804 20 Eglinton Avenue West Toronto, Ontario M4R 1K8 T. 416.932.9460 F. 416.932.9459 ocsta@ocsta.on.ca www.ocsta.on.ca

Beverley Eckensweiler, *President* Michelle Griepsma, *Vice President* Nick Milanetti, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education

- All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: Anne O'Brien, Director of Catholic Education

SUBJECT: Catholic Education Week – May 3 – May 8, 2020

Catholic Education: Igniting Hope



The theme for Catholic Education Week 2020, "Igniting Hope," reminds us that publicly funded Catholic education is a call to service. Regardless of our position or our responsibilities within Catholic education, our role is a call, birthed in our Baptism, to bring the saving message of Jesus Christ into the lives of those students and their families whom it is our privilege to serve.

Each year, the Catholic community of Ontario engages in a week-long celebration of the unique identity and distinctive contributions of Catholic education during Catholic Education Week. This year's celebration is entitled, "Catholic Education: *Igniting Hope*" and will be celebrated during the week of May 3 – May 8. The theme for CEW 2020 was inspired by three sources:

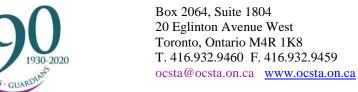
- The recent Papal Exhortation, *Christus Vivit*, by Pope Francis following the 2018 Synod of Bishops on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment
- The recent Ontario Bishops' pastoral letter, *Renewing the Promise* (2018)
- The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations by the Institute for Catholic Education (2011)

I would like to highlight several points leading up to CEW 2020:

- → The CEW theme song has been posted on the OCSTA website. Schools and boards can download this copy for their CEW activities.
- → The CEW poster has been sent to all Catholic District School Boards for distribution to your schools.
- → All CEW materials are posted on our website at: www.goodnewsforall.ca.

I would like to conclude by wishing all of you a wonderful 2020 Catholic Education Week. Please do not hesitate to contact me at aobrien@ocsta.on.ca if you have further questions.





Beverley Eckensweiler, *President* Michelle Griepsma, *Vice President* Nick Milanetti, *Executive Director*

March 2, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education

- All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: Beverley Eckensweiler, President

SUBJECT: Update on Bullying Prevention Initiatives: Bullying Survey 2020

Further to the memorandum from November 27, 2019, on Wednesday February 26, 2020, the Minister of Education announced the launch of an on-line survey with respect to students' experiences with bullying. The survey is targeting students, parents and school board staff. Details of the survey can be found at https://www.ontario.ca/page/consultation-bullying-ontario-schools.

The survey is part of the Ministry's initiatives to address the issue of bullying in Ontario schools. As stated by PC MPP Christina Mitas, Special Advisor on bullying prevention in today's announcement:

"In order to prevent bullying in our schools, we need to be aware of what's happening at the classroom level," said MPP Christina Mitas. "The online survey will help us better understand the ways in which bullying manifests in classroom settings. This will assist us in framing the problem and designing more effective programs - ones that will keep our children safe." (https://news.ontario.ca/edu/en/2020/02/ontario-combatting-bullying-in-schools-through-student-survey.html).

Next Steps

OCSTA is developing a best practice resource document and will be arranging a meeting with MPP Christina Mitas to discuss the innovation bullying prevention and management programs of our boards.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Steve Andrews at sandrews@ocsta.on.ca.