



Waterloo Catholic
District School Board
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education



Pope Francis Award for Ecological Leadership

OVERVIEW

Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that the earth, our common home, “is like a sister with whom we share our lives and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us.”

In his encyclical *Laudato Si’* (On Care for our Common Home), Pope Francis reminds us that “Along with the importance of little everyday gestures, social love moves us to devise larger strategies to halt environmental degradation and to encourage a ‘culture of care’ which permeates all of society” (#231).

The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations ask that all graduates be “responsible citizen[s] who respect the environment and use resources wisely.”

The Pope Francis Award for Ecological Leadership annually recognizes up to three school staff members who heed these calls and live out these values. Staff members who actively demonstrate a love for creation and care for the planet in all their interactions and staff who initiate or lead environmental projects of all kinds.

The award, which will be presented at the recipients’ schools in May, is open to all WCDSB school-based staff. Nominations may be made by any WCDSB staff or School Council member.

Re-nominations are permitted.



NOMINATION FORM

Thank you for taking the time to recognize exceptional environmental leadership at the Waterloo Catholic District School Board. In order to ensure that the award committee can consider your nomination, please:

- ✓ Fill out all the fields,
- ✓ Save a copy for your own records,
- ✓ Submit the completed form to:

Zeb Foss, WCDSB Energy Conservation Supervisor
480 Dutton Drive, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 4C6
Zeb.Foss@wcdsb.ca

Nomination Deadline: Monday, May 6, 2024

Nominations will be reviewed by a panel of Environmental Education, Stewardship & Sustainability Committee members. The panel will consist of three members, including (1) Superintendent of Learning and (1) Energy Conservation Supervisor. The panel will select and notify the winners of the award approximately four weeks after the nomination deadline.

Nominator's Contact Information:

Name:

School/Site:

Phone:

Email:

Nominee's Contact Information:

Name:

School/Site:

Phone:

Email:

Submission Date:

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING THREE QUESTIONS:

1. How many years has the nominee led environmental initiatives at their current site? At previous sites?

2. What makes the nominee's environmental leadership exceptional? Consider their history, initiative, environmental knowledge and learning, impact on students and other members of the school community, and personal actions and habits.

3. Please describe the nominee's impact on reducing the school community's ecological footprint. Use specific examples to illustrate your observations, considering all aspects of ecological impact (energy, water, waste, transportation, teaching, etc).