Sudbury Catholic District School Board

Director's Annual Report 2017-2018







From the Director of Education Joanne Bénard

I am pleased to provide the Director's Annual Report for the 2017-2018 school year! It was certainly a year to remember, full of growth, change and above all – learning.

One of the most exciting accomplishments was the implementation of our new visual branding. Our new logo pays homage to the historical trinity cross with curved shapes surrounding it, representing the body, mind, spirit and the complete student. The visual branding was launched during our annual Faith day in November, with our entire staff in attendance!

I also began my monthly blog 'From the Director's Corner'. Throughout the year, we showcased what our staff and students were accomplishing, focusing on a variety of topics including inclusivity, faith, numeracy, the arts and much more! It has been a wonderful tool to share all of the good news stories that we know live in our buildings each and every day.

The 2017-2018 school year was marked with many positive accomplishments. From athletic achievements to theatre productions, collaborative initiatives, to giving back to the community, there was certainly no shortage of progress. There was also a strong focus on innovation within our system. Staff and students alike continued to push the envelope, participating in conferences, sessions and courses to encourage innovation and enhance learning.

As we look forward, we thank all those who have shown their commitment to Catholic education. Our Board of Trustees, Senior Administration, staff, students, families, volunteers, community partners and our parishes have all demonstrated great commitment and passion for our schools and our system time and time again. We thank them for their continued work and support as we look toward another successful school year!

From the Board Chair Michael Bellmore

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am proud to reflect on the 2017-2018 school year. Our staff, students, parents and partners have consistently proven that Sudbury Catholic Schools are truly the place to be!

This year, we were able to see our schools accomplish amazing things! Throughout the year, they have had many positive achievements in the arts, athletics and academics. They also continued to prove that they were leaders in learning and faith by giving back to our community. All of our schools completed fundraisers, social justice initiatives and pursued environmental causes throughout the year. I am always amazed at the incredible impact that our students have in our community.

We have once again provided a balanced budget, helping to ensure that we achieve our strategic pathways, focusing on innovation, inclusivity, faith and leadership. We are thankful to all those who have made contributions to Sudbury Catholic – your work inspires us to move forward as a Board, reaching for the next goal.

I am proud to be part of a Board that encourages diversity, collaboration and leadership. I thank my fellow Trustees for their continuous commitment to our mission, vision and values. I look forward to working alongside our Trustees, staff, families, community partners and our parishes as we continue to move toward the achievement of our multi-year strategic plan.

The Sudbury Catholic District School Board is located in the City of Greater Sudbury, the largest city in the Northern Ontario region. The SCDSB is comprised of:

18 Schools

13 elementary
4 secondary
1 adult learning centre

736 Employees

29 Early Child Educators 277 support staff

5889 Students

4021 elementary students 1868 secondary students



About the multi-year strategic plan

About our visual identity

The 2017-2018 year marked an important step in our journey as a school board, as we developed our new multi-year strategic plan for 2017-2021. The multi-year strategic plan is intended to provide a framework where all members of the Sudbury Catholic District School Board community can work together for a common purpose. The multi-year strategic process at Sudbury Catholic Schools included five phases:

Phase One Online Consultation Process. 942 participants made up of staff, students, parents, and community partners responded to four open-ended questions outlining their opinions of our current services and programs.

Phase Two STAR Process. Participants had a chance to assign stars to show which thoughts they valued, and how much value they placed on these thoughts. During this phase, over 46,000 stars were assigned.

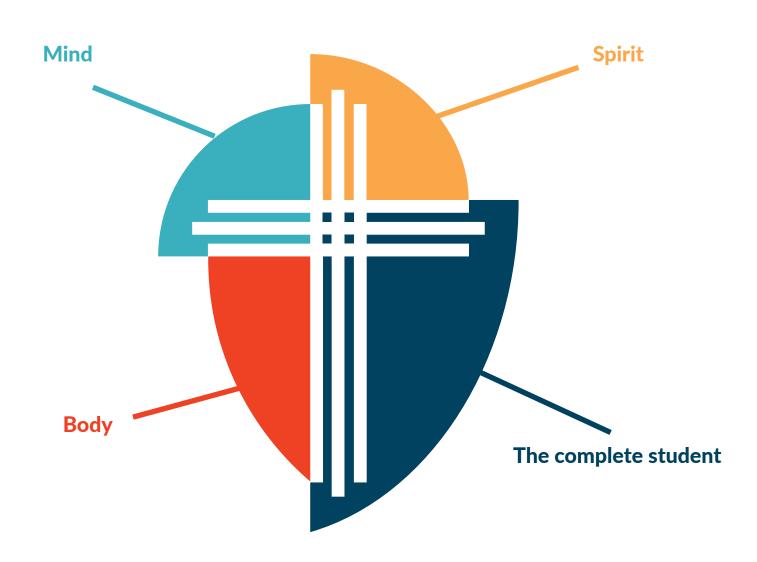
Phase Three Face-to-Face Consultation. The community consultation process brought together approximately 100 participants representing all stakeholder groups. Participants reviewed the data, and worked together to draft a multi-year strategic plan.

Phase Four Completion of the multi-year strategic plan. The Board of Trustees and Senior Administration reviewed all of the data and materials obtained through the consultation process and finalized the mission, vision, strategic pathways and value statements that would guide the work of the Sudbury Catholic District School Board for the next five years.

Phase Five Ongoing Implementation and Evaluation. Here, system-wide communication of the multi-year plan began, with the plan being shared both internally and externally. Achievement of our strategic plan will be assessed through monitoring reports presented to the Board of Trustees during our regular Board meetings.

The new SCDSB logo pays homage to the historical trinity cross which was initially selected in 1999 as the Board's visual identity. The three vertical bars represent the home, school and parish. The three horizontal bars embody the virtues of faith, hope and love.

The curved shapes that encompass the cross represent the mind, body, spirit and the complete student. This newly revised logo design reflects the Board's vision and mission of an innovative, faith-based organization focused on the whole child.



Our Mission

To realize each student's potential within our inclusive Catholic learning community by nurturing and developing their mind, body and spirit.

Our Vision

Leaders in Learning and Faith.

Our Values

Modeling Jesus in the World through:
Faith
Respect
Community
Innovation
Learning

Our Strategic Pathways



We are called to strengthen our faith-based, inclusive and equitable community.



We are called to promote innovation.



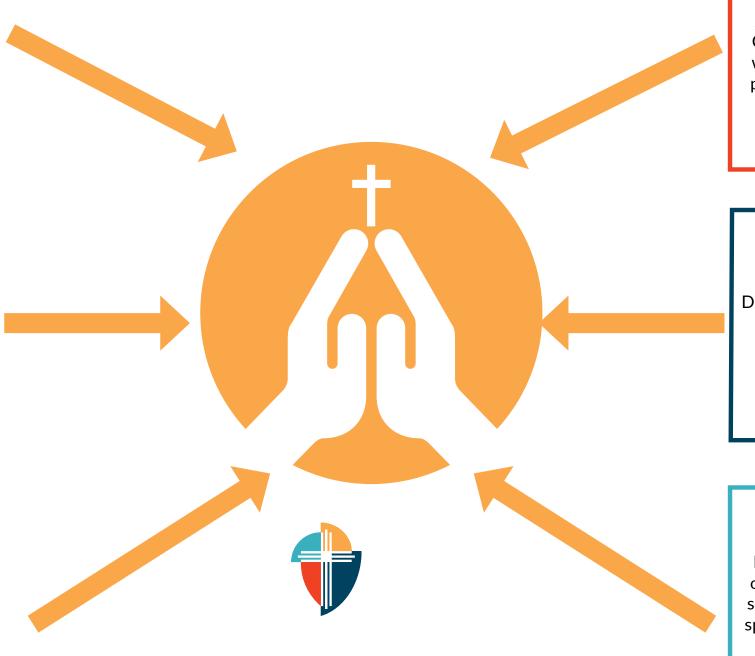
We are called to advance leadership and learning for All.

Strategic Pathway 1: We are called to strengthen our faith-based, inclusive and equitable community

Monthly Faith newsletters have been distributed to all educators highlighting a monthly virtue, prayer, symbol, saint, Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, and links to other resources. Advent and Lenten celebrations are offered to all staff and students at the Catholic Education Centre and in our schools.

Our annual 'Welcome to Kindergarten' activities were held in May 2018 at our elementary schools. Many parents and families took advantage of this opportunity and future students were able to interact with each other, their teachers and the school community as a whole.

Our students and staff continued their community service and social justice activities. Some of the activities completed in the 2017-2018 school year include: food drives, community clean-ups, toy drives, telethons, healthy snack programs, autism awareness activities,anti-bullying days and much more!



100 students from five classes at Marymount Academy participated in 5-10 minutes of guided Christian meditation a couple of times during the week. Students learned about the power of using prayer to cope with stress and anxiety and results indicated that students had increased levels of resilience.

A team of 12, including the Chair of the Board, Director of Education, Principals, teachers, parents and students attended the ICE symposium -Renewing the Promise in November 2017.

Staff and students participated in Orange Shirt Day on October 2, 2017. Orange Shirt Day is an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.



Strategic Pathway 1: We are called to strengthen our faith-based, inclusive and equitable community



Bishop Alexander Carter completed their annual Memorial Walk to remember those who are no longer with us.

Grade 9 Art students at St. Charles College created red dresses to honour the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada. The students were inspired by the REDress project which began in 2011 in Winnipeg.



Our PA Day in November focused on equity. Keynote Speaker Angela Maiers presented on the subject 'Choose2Matter' and provided our staff and secondary students with an inspirational message of inclusion and leadership.



Students from each of our Secondary Schools attended Catholic Youth Day in Toronto during Catholic Education Week in May.



We hosted an Equity Network meeting in November for the Northeastern Network.

St. Francis students and staff wore blue to honour Learning Disabilities month and support those who learn differently!





Strategic Pathway 2: We are called to promote innovation

Educators participated in a full-day workshop at Science North which focused on hands-on learning, interactive experiments and engaging activities to assist in teaching the courses 'Understanding Matter and Energy' and 'Understanding Earth and Space'

Staff at St. Charles Elementary School enrolled in an online course offered through Stanford University called *Mathematical Mindsets*. The course focused on building a growth mindset for mathematics.

Educators from SCDSB attended the CONNECT 2018 conference to learn best practices and expand knowledge surrounding educational technology. The conference connects all sectors to help raise the standards of the 21st century teaching, training and learning in education.

Two Teacher Learning and Leadership Program (TLLP) projects were completed during the 2017-2018 school year at Holy Cross School and St. James School. The projects involved teacher collaboration with a focus on robotics and maker spaces.

10 Grade 7-10 literacy educators and nine mathematics educators at St. Charles College participated in two collaborative inquiries with the goal of answering the question 'Does adding an oral component to assessment increase student achievement?' Both groups worked to incorporate more oral assessments and descriptive feedback into student assessment through student-teacher conferencing and an app called FreshGrade.

St. James School has developed a partnership with the Atikameksheng Anishinabek where the Principal and resource teacher held weekly visits at the library. A homework club was developed and local networking with staff took place on a regular basis both on the reserve and at St. James School.



Strategic Pathway 2: We are called to promote innovation



The team at Pius XII received an award from EQAO for their work in providing special education students with the strategies they need to succeed!

180 participants (Gr. 6 -12 students, educators, administrators and support staff) came together to examine the strategic pathway of innovation. Using the Lotus Blossom Creative Technique, participants brainstormed ideas surrounding what innovation should look like in our schools.



Several elementary schools participated in the first Lego League qualifying tournament at Dynamic Earth on December 2.



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St. Benedict students Cameron Howe and Carter Poirier won the gold medal in carpentry at the 2018 Skills Ontario competition. Four students represented the Board at this year's competition.



Brian Aspinall, a renowned teacher, author, speaker and coder completed a session in January with junior and intermediate educators and students to learn about coding.

Schools received a toolkit from this session for classroom use!

95 students between Kindergarten and Grade 5 completed the three-week Summer Learning Program at St. Francis School from July 9 to July 27.





Strategic Pathway 3: We are called to advance leadership and learning for All

The Empower Reading Intervention Program Pilot occurred in five schools to provide intensive daily reading intervention to small groups of students who present as having learning disabilities. Students and teachers have reported that they continue to use the same strategies they learned the previous year during the current academic year. This initiative has resulted in great progress for our students.

Teachers and support staff have participated in a variety of professional learning activities focused on numeracy development. These activities include Mathology Training, OAME Leadership conference, Leadership days, Coding sessions with Brian Aspinall and more.

White Buffalo Circles is a program delivered by Indigenous Support Workers at the Board. The program has been a positive vehicle to integrate First Nation, Metis and Inuit content in Math and Literacy centers in Kindergarten classrooms.



Student Senate holds meetings every two weeks with a teacher facilitator to develop leadership skills and student voice. In the 2017-2018 school year, the Student Senate led the Canada 150 project which had students create songs and artwork about Canada.

The PEACE program is designed to reduce gaps by supporting students who are at risk. In 2017-2018, there were 19 students participating in the program. 65 per cent of those students had regular attendance (which is increased from the 40 per cent in 2016-2017). There were nearly 60 credits earned through the PEACE program during the 2017-2018 school year!

The number of students who successfully completed the DELF (Diplôme d'études en langue française) has continued to increase. The DELF is an official certification awarded by the French Ministry of Education to certify the French language competency of candidates from outside of France. There were a total of 52 students who successfully completed the DELF.



Strategic Pathway 3: We are called to advance leadership and learning for All



In 2017-2018, our International Student program grew from 11 International students in September to 19 in February. Students came from China, Vietnam and Japan. We also witnessed our first graduate, Loc Tran, who graduated from St. Charles College. Our recruitment efforts in 2017-2018 have led to 30 registrations for September 2018.

Secondary students were recognized at the 15th Annual Aboriginal Secondary Awards Celebration. Students are nominated for their role as leaders and learners within their school communities.



Students at Marymount Academy had a unique opportunity to work with the Maison McCulloch Hospice through the ICE (Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship) Certification Process. The schools worked in groups to provide a solution to a real-life case study, and then presented their ideas to the Hospice Board of Directors.





Our hardworking and dedicated custodial staff were able to participate in a day-long PA day focused on health and wellness! The breakout sessions included a wellness presentation by nursing student Julie, and team building exercises facilitated by Board staff.



The Hour of Code was held during the week of December 5. Schools participated in a variety of activities to promote coding. Students at St. David School received a visit from the Coding Crusader who helped them learn through interactive and hands-on activities.

Elementary schools received visits from Cool Kids Lead. The Laurentian University program promotes anti-bullying and is aimed at youth between the ages of 8 and 14. Through the power of positive life choices, students develop leadership skills and complete activities geared toward improving their wellness.





Next Steps

Below are the identified next steps which will help us to continue to address our needs and to grow as a system. A detailed list of next steps can be found in the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being 2018-2019.



We are called to strengthen our faith-based, inclusive and equitable community.

- 1. Continue to support active parent involvement through Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) events and engagement activities.
- 2. Support and nurture the mental health and well-being of all students and staff through expanded walk-in clinics, wellness committee goals, and increasing the use of mindfulness activities in schools.
- 3. Model respect for all through continued volunteer and community service opportunities for schools, as well as recognition and appreciation programs for staff at school and system levels.



We are called to promote innovation.

- 1. Develop and implement a clear vision for the effective use of technology for teaching and learning.
- 2. Promote and support a culture of risk taking. Staff has been encouraged to bring forward ideas and to explore new ways of doing things though programs such as the Learning Innovation Project (LIPP) and Teacher Learning and Leadership Program (TLLP).
- 3. Continue to embed the 21st Century learning competencies (such as critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, and self-directed learning) in daily practice. Experiential learning opportunities such as visits to Science North/Dynamic Earth, Killarney Outdoor Education and partnerships with Skills Canada.



We are called to advance leadership and learning for All.

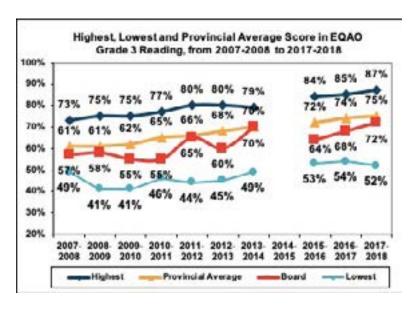
- 1. Increase numeracy achievement and enhance educators' professional knowledge and skills. School improvement plans will reflect a focus on numeracy.
- 2. Reduce the achievement gap for students, paying particular attention to Indigenous students, students in applied courses and students with special education needs.
- 3. Continue to build on the Indigenous education strategy through cultural and pedagogical activities for students and staff as well as consultations with community partners and groups.

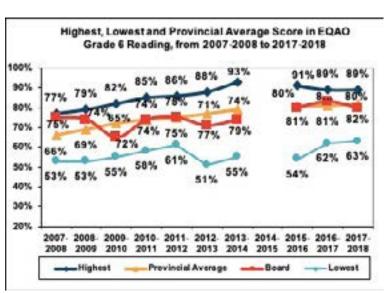


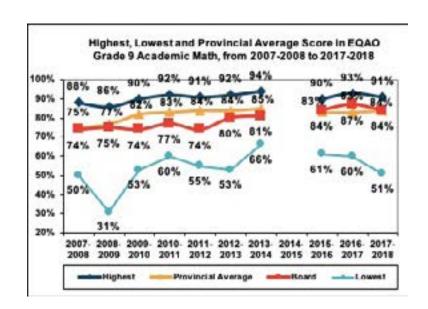




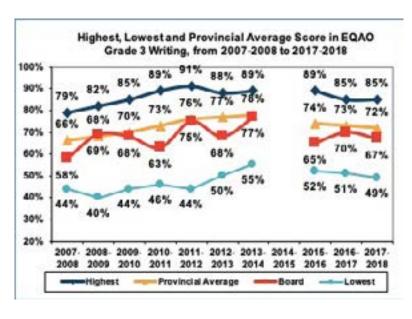
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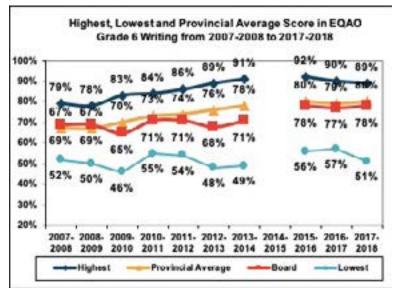


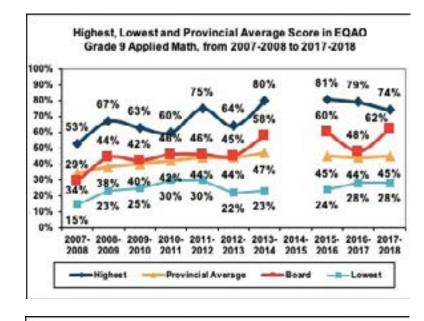




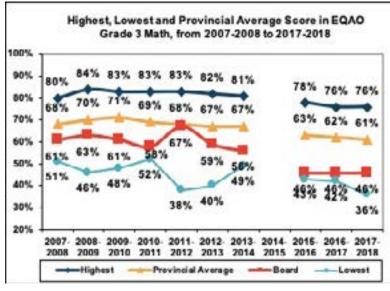


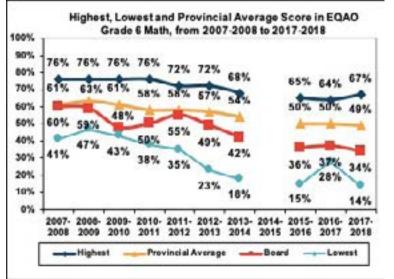


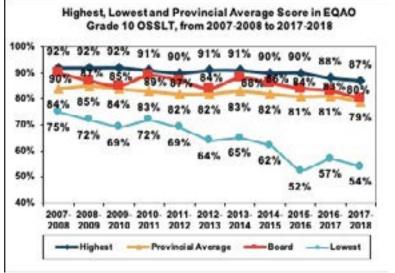














Our 2017-2018 Trustees

Our Senior Administration



Michael Bellmore
Chairperson
Zone 3 schools:
Bishop Alexander Carter C.S.S
Immaculate Conception School
St. Anne School



Tyler Peroni
Zone 5 schools:
Holy Cross School
St. Benedict C.S.S
St. Joseph School
St. Paul School



Joanne Bénard
Director of Education



Terry Papineau
Superintendent of School
Effectiveness



Ray Desjardins
Vice Chairperson
Zone 2 schools:
St. Charles Elementary School
St. David School



Estelle Scappatura Zone 1 schools: St. Albert A.L.C St. Francis School St. James School



Rossella Bagnato Superintendent of School Effectiveness



Cheryl Ann Corallo Superintendent of Business And Finance



Jody Cameron Zone 6 schools: Marymount Academy Pius XII School



Alexander Cimino Student Trustee



Nicole Bédard Superintendent of School Effectiveness



Nancy Deni Zone 4 schools: Holy Trinity School St. Charles College St. John School St. Mark School



















Leaders in Learning and Faith



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