



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, May 27, 2014

Catholic Education Centre
420 Creek Street
Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4C4
Telephone: 519-627-6762
Facsimile: 519-627-8230
Website: www.st-clair.net

*For further information regarding
this release, please contact:*

Director of Education
Dan Parr
519-627-6762, ext. 241
E-mail: media@st-clair.net

Chair of the Board
Carol Bryden
519-627-8976

**Supervisor –
Communications and
Community Relations**
Todd Lozon
519-627-6762 Ext. 243
E-mail:
todd.lozon@st-clair.net

TWO STUDENTS ELECTED TO THE POSITION OF STUDENT TRUSTEE FOR THE 2014–2015 SCHOOL YEAR

Two St. Clair Catholic secondary school students – one from St. Patrick’s Catholic High School and one from Ursuline College Chatham – have been elected to serve as Student Trustees for the 2014-2015 school year.

Christopher Anthony, a Grade 11 student from St. Patrick’s, will represent students in Sarnia-Lambton; and Katie Shillington, who is in Grade 11 at UCC, will represent students in Chatham-Kent.

In order to be eligible, students must be Catholic, enrolled full-time in at least Grade 11, have access to transportation to attend meetings and have a record of good attendance.

“Both Christopher and Katie are fine student leaders, who have been very involved in their school communities throughout their high school careers,” says Ann Sutton, Superintendent of Education.

“We know these young leaders will make excellent Student Trustees and look forward to their reports beginning next fall,” says Deb Crawford, Superintendent of Education.

“On behalf of the Board, I want to congratulate Christopher and Katie on their success in being elected to serve as Student Trustee and to welcome them to the Board table,” says Dan Parr, Director of Education.

The Board of Trustees passed a motion tonight which recognizes the student elections and appoints the Student Trustees for the 2014-2015 term.



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, May 27, 2014

Catholic Education Centre
420 Creek Street
Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4C4
Telephone: 519-627-6762
Facsimile: 519-627-8230
Website: www.st-clair.net

*For further information regarding
this release, please contact:*

Director of Education
Dan Parr
519-627-6762, ext. 241
E-mail: media@st-clair.net

Chair of the Board
Carol Bryden
519-627-8976

**Supervisor –
Communications and
Community Relations**
Todd Lozon
519-627-6762 Ext. 243
E-mail:
todd.lozon@st-clair.net

ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC IDENTIFIES BARRIERS AS PART OF ACCESSIBILITY PLAN UPDATE FOR 2014-2015

Each year, school boards in Ontario are required under the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act* to review their accessibility plans and find ways to improve opportunities for persons with disabilities. The act also requires boards to involve persons with disabilities in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers.

“Through consultation, St. Clair Catholic has a plan which is well-researched,” says Dan Parr, Director of Education. “We have identified barriers that, once addressed, will greatly improve opportunities for all stakeholders to fully participate in the life and business of St. Clair Catholic.”

Barriers include attitudinal, technological, information and communication, architectural and policy. Some of the highlights of this year’s report include:

Attitudinal

- Students in grades 4 through 8 in all schools across the System participated in a Mental Health and Bullying survey in the fall of 2013. As well as the School Climate Surveys in the last quarter of 2013 with inclusive questions pertaining to Equity and Inclusion.

Technological

- Both small and large group training sessions on assistive technology have been provided to students on an individual school basis by the Itinerant Assistive Technology Teacher. The focus has been on a range of software programs including *Boardmaker Studio*, *Dragon Naturally Speaking 11* (voice to text), *Word Q* (word prediction software) and *Worksheet Wizard*.
- Students with Special Equipment Amount (SEA) funded assistive technology were provided with several hours of individualized training by the Itinerant Assistive Technology Teacher as well as a SEA Technology Trainer. Parents and school staff were invited to participate in the training with the students.
- Reviewed Board to Board and elementary to secondary transfer process for students with SEA equipment to ensure prompt response to the needs of the incoming or outgoing student.

Information and Communication

- Increased device to student ratios in all elementary schools.

Architectural

- Facilities Services worked in consultation with the Special Education Department and school communities to plan and provide accessible facilities ensuring that all renovations and additions meet building code requirements.

Policy

- Ensure the Annual Accessibility Plan is available on the Board Website to be accessible.

“I want to thank Superintendent of Education Ann Sutton and her team for their tremendous work on this annual report,” says Mr. Parr.

The *Annual Accessibility Plan 2014-2015* will now be filed with the Ministry of Education.