



St. Clair Catholic Partners with Rotary Clubs in Global Literacy Project

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board has partnered with three local Rotary clubs to support the Global Literacy Project. Together, the Rotary Clubs of Bluewaterland, Grand Bend and Sarnia are working with the Board to ship decommissioned school furniture to schools in Middelburg, South Africa. The furniture became surplus to the Board when the former St. Patrick's Catholic High School site on East Street closed in June 2014.

Student volunteers, along with an army of Rotarians, recently gathered to help fill two 40 foot shipping containers, which will soon be bound for schools in Middelburg, South Africa.

"We're excited to be a part of this worthwhile project," says Jim McKenzie, Associate Director of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board.

"Through this partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Sarnia, and by helping our brothers and sisters in African schools, we are able to repurpose these furnishings in a way which helps to fulfill our Catholic mission to be wise stewards of our resources," says Mr. McKenzie.

"When we heard about the relocation of St. Patrick's, we knew there would be a great opportunity here for the three Rotary clubs to work together to make sure this furniture would be beneficial to African schools and communities," says Rotary Club of Sarnia President Lawrie Lachapelle.

In addition to the furniture, the clubs would welcome additional donations of sports equipment (especially soccer), shelving, musical instruments, crutches, walkers and medical supplies.

For more information go to <http://grandbendrotary.com/SitePage/global-literacy-project/>

In the photo above, student volunteers help to load shipping containers with surplus school furniture from the former St. Patrick's Catholic High School on East Street.