



St. Clair Catholic  
District School Board

*"Together we can do  
great things"*

*- St. Teresa of Calcutta*



# Director's Annual Report 2020

*Learning together today, transforming tomorrow.*



# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION & CHAIR OF THE BOARD

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board's new vision statement "Catholic Education – Future Ready" inspired our collective response to the 2019-20 school year by reminding us that our Christ-centred schools are places of hope and preparedness for the future. Our Catholic learning communities responded to the challenges wrought by labour unrest and the COVID-19 pandemic with courage and faith in our vocations, as servants in Catholic education and as the living hands and feet of Jesus Christ.

As an educational community, grounded in our faith, we knew that we could achieve our vision for the future through our new mission statement "Learning Together Today, Transforming Tomorrow". The Board's educational community responded to the call to provide our students with the knowledge, skills and the faith foundation needed to face a future of insecurity with courage and confidence.

Our entire staff stepped up to face the many challenges with determination and a strong commitment to the safety and well-being of our students, families and colleagues. Despite the apprehension and anxiety driven by the pandemic, our schools provided care, support and education to our students as well as support for those in our communities who need our help. Focused and deliberate planning, careful implementation and ongoing adjustment to new conditions have reflected our commitment to learn together today to transform tomorrow safely and effectively.

This year's report will illustrate the many ways that our school communities and Board have lived out our new strategic plan. Throughout the school year, whether in-class or virtually, we have continued to focus on our commitment to learning and innovation through the teaching of future-ready transferable skills.

Our staff and students across the Board have demonstrated how we live our Catholic values through fostering caring, inclusive and safe spaces for all. We have developed new partnerships to leverage our students' learning opportunities, both academic and spiritual. Our vision for the future is focused upon values and practices that reflect the best in Catholic citizenship, through ethical and responsible stewardship of our resources.

The Board's multi-year Pastoral Theme "Caring for our Common Home" provides all of us with a shared commitment to honour God's creation as blessed and sacred. In partnership with our families, parishes and communities, St. Clair Catholic fulfills our promise to transform tomorrow through our faith-filled efforts every day.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to change the way we do many things – in our homes, our churches, in our communities and in our schools. It has also shown us a great deal about the abilities of our students and our staff. Despite the obstacles presented by the pandemic, the St. Clair Catholic community – students, educators, support staff and families – have risen to the challenge. Our students have demonstrated their resilience and perseverance, which are excellent skills to carry them into the future.



**DEB CRAWFORD**  
Director of Education



**JOHN VAN HECK**  
Chair of the Board

### New Strategic Plan - Our Priorities & Values

Throughout the 2018-2019 school year, with the support of Executive Council and the Board of Trustees, the Director of Education led a process to develop a new strategic plan for St. Clair Catholic. It was a thorough and highly collaborative journey with all partners in Catholic education - students, parents, staff, our parishes, community partners and the trustees. Through an online platform that reached more than 2,300 stakeholders, and working with a team of system champions, the result was the development of new vision, mission, values and priorities statements.

Success for all drives everything that we do at St. Clair Catholic and the new strategic plan sets direction and identifies system goals that will support students and staff into the future.

The priorities of the strategic plan are identified in four main pillars:



#### LEARNING & INNOVATION

Teaching transferrable skills,  
critical thinking and creativity



#### PARTNERSHIPS

Engaging families, parish and community



#### FAITH & WELL-BEING

Living Catholic values to foster caring,  
inclusive and safe spaces



#### CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP

Inspired ethical, responsible stewardship

The new plan, and the action plans that result from it, create the foundation for how we ensure we are a strong Catholic school system that is 'future ready' and working to help our students 'learn together today' to 'transform tomorrow' based on our Catholic values.

Respect  
rooted in  
love

Excellence  
for all

Accountability  
to God, self  
and others

Engagement  
in our work

Called to  
serve our  
world



### Elementary Math – Improving Transferrable Literacy and Numeracy Skills

#### How are we supporting math across the system?

Over 1,400 students worked with our system numeracy facilitators with learning focussed on building a deeper understanding of number sense skills with embedded financial literacy concepts. For example, our students are able to name and know the value of coins and bills, demonstrating some strategies to add money values. Building on these strengths, students will continue to work on further strategies to make change and develop additional strategies to determine if solutions are reasonable.

Curriculum Services provided monthly newsletter inserts for all elementary schools to support parent understanding of numeracy skills and their child's learning and foster parent partnerships. Many professional learning opportunities were offered to teachers. As well, daily mathematics lesson plans were developed during the spring school closure. To support math across the system, the Board has invested in resources that are based in research to develop appropriate lessons. Our investment in math resources supports consistency in math instruction across St. Clair Catholic.

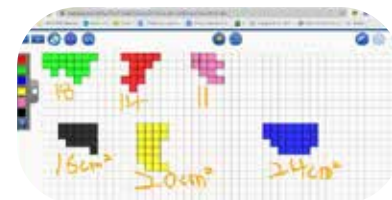
#### What are our students learning about math?

Our work in math has focused on building student engagement and improving student attitudes towards math. Our students are developing a positive attitude and confidence in problem-solving. Students are building rigour and stamina to approach math challenges with perseverance. Students are increasing their use of thinking tools. When math concepts move from the abstract back to the concrete, student understanding improves. Visual representations are offering a bridge to help students represent their thinking on paper in groups and when practising independently. In both virtual and face to face learning environments, students use digital tools to investigate concepts such as area and perimeter.

#### Improving Transferable Literacy and Numeracy Skills

Development of the St. Clair Catholic Grade 1-9 Mathematics Scope and Sequence Guide – This resource is used to support long-range planning for mathematics learning, including the 'big ideas' for each strand. Professional development opportunities were offered to enable collaboration with colleagues within and between schools to facilitate the sharing of resources and learning tools across grades and divisions with links to the expectations for the Ontario math curriculum.

Math leadership resources were also developed for principals, which included monthly inserts for elementary school newsletters, to support student learning and parent understanding of numeracy skills. Numerous professional learning opportunities were offered to teachers, as well as daily math lesson plans that could be utilized during the school closure period.







### Math Up

Math Up is a comprehensive online K-8 instructional learning tool that was purchased for all educators in Kindergarten to Grade 8. This resource helps build teachers' knowledge and understanding of mathematics, so that they make confident instructional decisions to improve student learning. Math Up focuses on building consistency from grade to grade and increasing teacher confidence, as they implement the 2020 Ontario Mathematics Curriculum.

Ten schools received weekly support using a co-planning, co-teaching and co-reflecting model to enhance student achievement.

Financial literacy was a focus in all schools as identified in the Board Action Plan.



### Supporting Learning and Innovation

Our students have opportunities to build transferable skills to think more broadly about real-world problems. Integrating STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) activities helps our students to ask questions, problem solve, think creatively and critically and be innovative. Inquiry, collaboration and an emphasis on process-based learning are at the heart of the STEAM approach. This is evident in our schools, through the use of STEAM kits in classrooms and our reimagined library spaces in our schools.

Two hundred STEAM classroom kits focused on tools to engage in the design process were developed to provide hands-on learning materials for elementary students. Kits were loaned out to classrooms across the district on a monthly basis, providing many students the opportunity to explore, create, think and design.





### Experiential Learning – Youth Fusion

Junior students at St. Matthew continued with the Youth Fusion partnership, which began in the 2018-2019 school year. With their Youth Fusion mentors, the Grade 5 and 6 students considered ways to improve the school community through the lens of environmental design. This included community partnerships with the City of Sarnia and a trip to Zekveld's farm to learn about sustainable farming practices. Unfortunately this worthwhile initiative was abruptly halted due to COVID-19; however, our students look forward to future partnerships with Youth Fusion.



### Experiential Learning – Enactus Sarnia-Lambton

Intermediate classes from St. Joseph Corunna, St. Michael Bright's Grove, St. Elizabeth and Holy Trinity, as well as the St. Patrick's Grade 11 and 12 Leadership classes, partnered with the Enactus Lambton College Program.

Mentors from the college visited our schools biweekly to lead students through the entrepreneurial process and to instill in them an awareness of social justice issues. The initiative culminated in a celebration at Lambton College where all Grade 7 and 8 students gathered to reflect on their projects, tour Lambton College, and hear the St. Pat's secondary students advocate their ideas.



# LEARNING & INNOVATION

Teaching transferrable skills, critical thinking and creativity

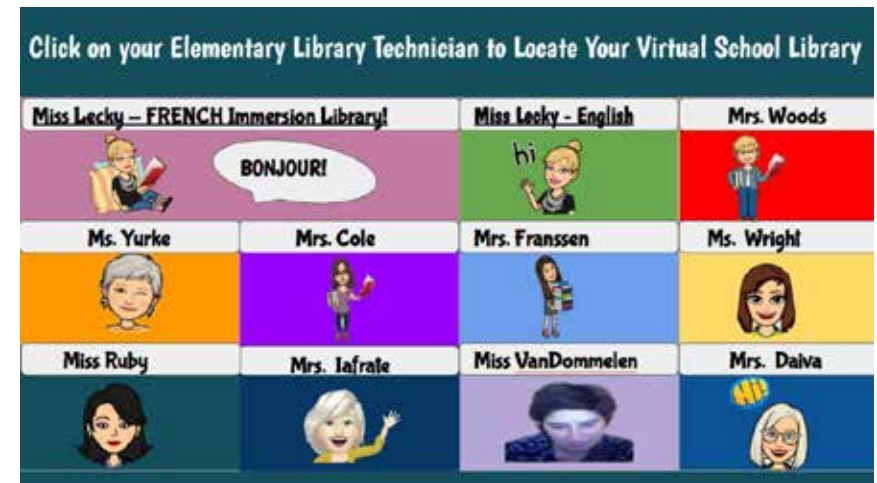


## Virtual Libraries and Collaborative Learning Spaces

Our school libraries are transforming into “Collaborative Learning Spaces”, where, in addition to a permanent library collection of books, they provide space and tools to engage students in leveraging a variety of opportunities to amplify their learning, such as green screen technology and robotics.

In May 2020, St. Clair Catholic's 13 district-wide Library Technicians launched virtual libraries, to promote reading and fun learning activities to help keep students engaged.

Students and parents visited the virtual libraries to access featured books or listen to on-going ‘read alouds,’ which were updated frequently to hold students’ interest and keep them coming back for more. There were also virtual arts and craft tables, with fun-filled activities and experiments. Book selections were updated to reflect current school themes, including links to the monthly Christian virtues. Special stories and teaching with connections to Indigenous education were also featured.





## ABA/ Autism Supports and Services

### ASSD Summary

During 2019-2020, skill development groups were offered from January 22, 2020 to March 13, 2020. Due to the provincial order to temporarily close schools as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the groups transitioned to a virtual format as of April 22 and ended on June 24. A Board Certified Behaviour Analyst and an itinerant Educational Assistant facilitated the groups when possible. Educational Assistants assigned to each school would also attend the group.

### Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Team

Prior to the school closure period, the ABA Team provided student specific training with 14 school teams on topics ranging from: Match, Select, Name; Educational Strategies; Zones of Regulation; Structured Learning; and AFLS (Assessment of Functional Living Skills).

During the closure period, the ABA Team continued to support school teams by: gathering resources and websites to support distance learning, specific to students with Autism or those requiring ABA strategies; creating training modules for staff; connecting with Program Resource Teachers and Classroom Teachers to assist with problem-solving, program delivery and topic specific training; creating resources such as social stories, task analysis and other visuals to be delivered to families for use at home.

Contact was maintained throughout the closure period with many students and families being provided with indirect support, such as provision of resources, check-ins, etc. In addition, some students were provided with weekly direct support, in a virtual format.

### Speech Language Services

The Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) not only provided resources on the Learning Hub for school teams, but they also compiled resources for the Parent Learning Hub. Parent-friendly tip sheets and other resources were created to address specific needs (e.g. communication disorders and early literacy difficulties).

During the period of distance learning, our team provided direct virtual speech-language therapy and individualized home programming support to students and their families. Tele-therapy was conducted through video sessions with students. Some families received weekly, individualized home supports.

Home programming was also provided, consisting of weekly resources and activities (tip sheets, individualized programming) based on the specific goals of the student, as well as weekly check-ins via email or telephone to monitor progress. Some parents preferred this service delivery model to tele-therapy sessions due to a variety of reasons.







### Lexia

During 2019-2020, 1000 Lexia licenses were available for students in Grades 2-4 who demonstrated significant difficulties in reading skills. Approximately 250 of these licenses are allocated for students identified as having a learning disability in communication.

In March 2020, Lexia licenses were provided to all students in elementary grades to assist with reading instruction during the school closure period.

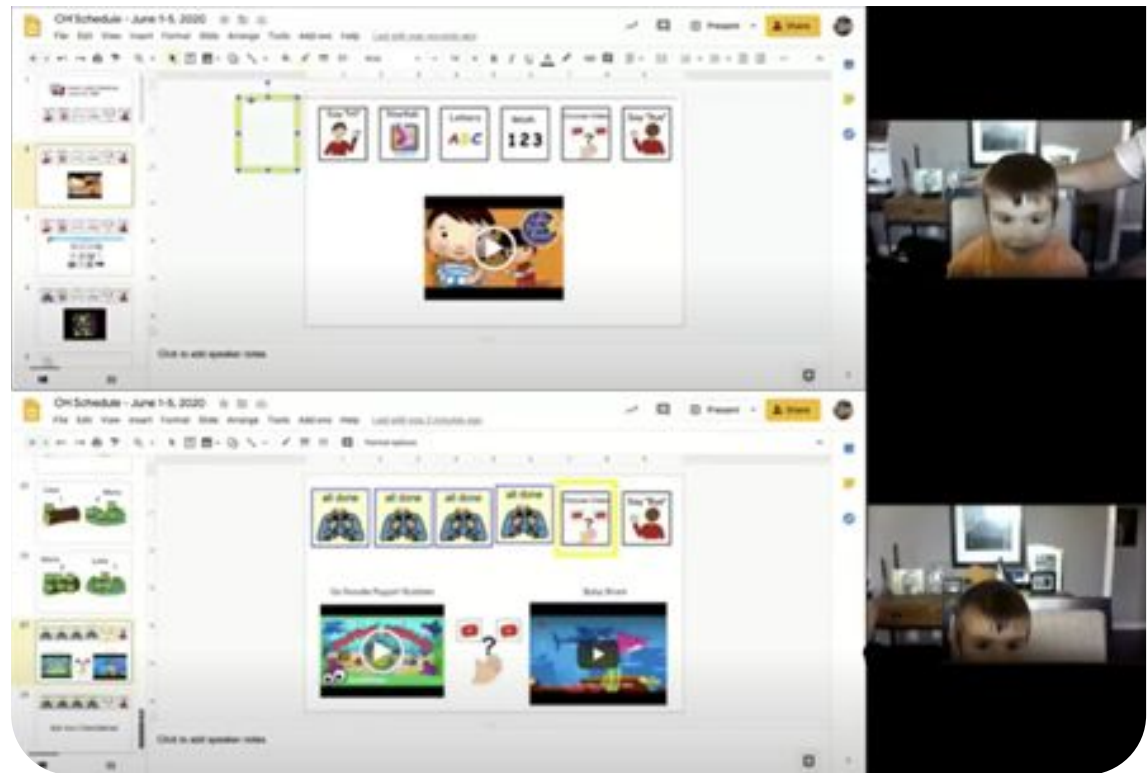
By year end, 81% of the students using Lexia Core 5 were assessed as reading at grade level or above.

### St. Clair Catholic District School Board Progress Report

#### Students by Grade Level of Material (GLM) from Sep 5, 2019–Jul 31, 2020



951 Students | 22% moved into In or Above GLM



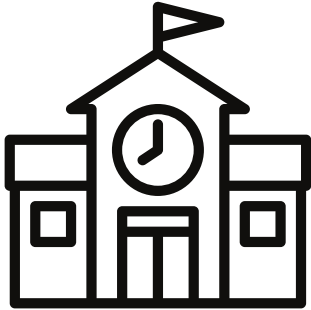


### Mental Health Supports

#### MindUp Lessons

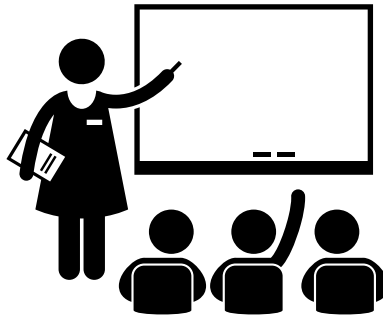
MindUp is a 15 lesson curriculum based firmly in neuroscience, that teaches students the skills and knowledge they need to regulate their stress and emotions, improve their focus, form positive relationships and act with kindness and compassion.

Participation for the 2019-2020 year as indicated below.



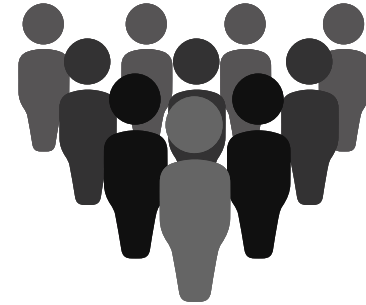
# 191

## CLASSES



# 271

## GRADES



# 5750

## STUDENTS



### St. Clair Catholic Parent Hub

A Parent Hub was developed for the Board website to offer information to parents from both the Ontario Ministry of Education and St. Clair Catholic. The Parent Hub is regularly updated and provides rich resources for K to 12 in religion, mental health and well-being, working with technology, and children with special education needs. In addition, there is an archive of Board and Ministry communications to parents.

Resources also include tools to support learning from home, school procedures and *SeptemberReady* updates, which was important information for students and families as they prepared for the return to school in September 2020.



### The Staff Learning Hub

The Staff Learning Hub on the Board website was developed as a central clearinghouse for curated learning materials and resources for teachers to provide ongoing support throughout the school shut-down and to support teachers to enhance digital learning for students and innovative higher level student thinking.

The Staff Learning Hub is continually updated and also serves as a repository for all communications regarding teaching and learning. All professional development sessions are recorded and archived in the Staff Learning Hub for future access. During the school closure period, daily lessons plans for K-8 were posted on a weekly basis to support transition to digital learning for all educators.

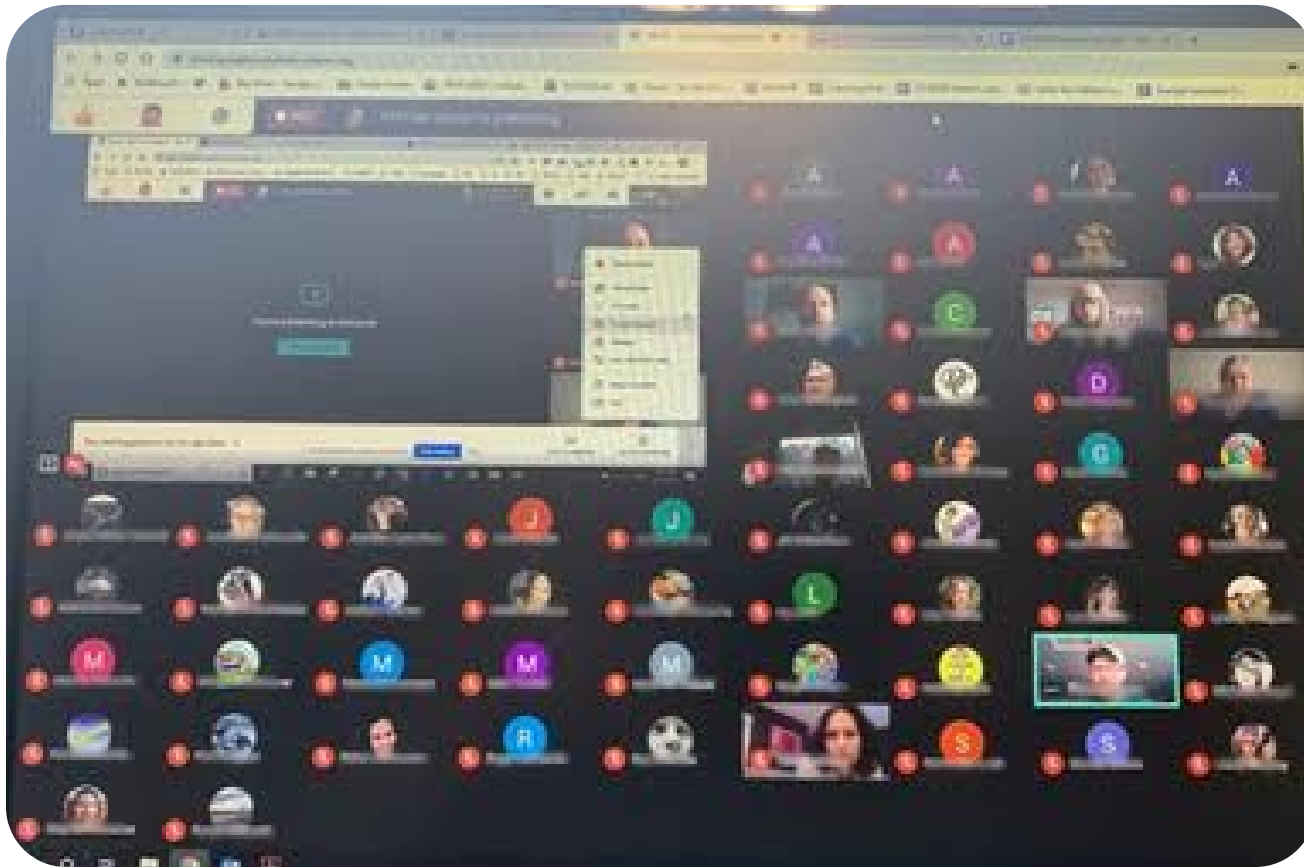






### Virtual PD Sessions for Teachers – March to May 2020

By May, nearly 1,000 members of the St. Clair Catholic staff registered for professional development, filling more than 1,500 seats during online sessions. Staff signed up for weekly PD and on average they attended more than one session per week. The PD included developing distance learning classrooms using Google Classroom, Edsby and D2L; math and literacy planning using tools such as MathUp, Lexia, Flipgrid and GSuite; and exploring ways to connect digitally with students and families using Google Meet.





### Three Rounds of Tech Deployment Held During COVID-19

St. Clair Catholic engaged in three rounds of technology deployment, in an effort to get devices into the hands of students that did not have technology available in the home. More than 1,800 Chromebooks and Special Education devices were distributed to families.

In all three deployments, devices were distributed according to a procedure that had been approved by the Medical Officers of Health for Lambton and Chatham-Kent, which included a self-assessment for anyone attending the deployment sites, and a method of distribution designed to safeguard the health and safety of staff and families attending the schools to collect the devices.

In addition to the devices, 43 iPhones, which were donated by staff, were delivered by courier to families who did not previously have access to the internet through wifi in the home. The personal 'hotspot' feature of the iPhones, was used to create a wifi field to run devices for distance learning.

Through an agreement with the Walpole Island First Nation, Board staff were permitted to install a mobile data hotspot at the Heritage Centre. Families were able to drive to the Centre and, from the safety of their vehicles, download work using a wifi field created by the mobile data hotspot. When the class work was completed, they returned to the Centre and used the wifi field once again to submit the work online.

These innovative solutions helped to fill a gap for all families across the district who expressed a need for technology, following the switch to online learning in March 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.





## Student Success – Measuring Our Progress

Due to the closure of schools as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, there were no EQAO assessments in the 2019-2020 school year. However, St. Clair Catholic continues to monitor student success data, based on student grades and pass rates, as compared to the five year average. In 2019-2020 there was an increase in seven of the 16 indicators. These courses are strong predictors of students who will meet the requirements necessary for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

*Percent Earning Level 3 or 4 During 2019/2020 School Year vs. 5 Year Average*

Course	2019/2020	5 Year Average	Last Published Provincial Average
Grade 9 Applied English	61	64	48
Grade 9 Academic English	75	79	75
Grade 9 Applied Math	68	63	47
Grade 9 Academic Math	72	69	68
Grade 10 Applied English	60.5	60	45
Grade 10 Academic English	83.5	84	78
Grade 10 Applied Math	55.5	53	44
Grade 10 Academic Math	76	68	68

*Pass Rates During 2019/2020 School Year vs. 5 Year Average*

Course	2019/2020	5 Year Average
Grade 9 Applied English	94	97
Grade 9 Academic English	98.5	99
Grade 9 Applied Math	93.5	94
Grade 9 Academic Math	98	98
Grade 10 Applied English	94	95
Grade 10 Academic English	99.5	99
Grade 10 Applied Math	93.5	89
Grade 10 Academic Math	98.5	93

*Additional Credit Accumulation Data*

% Students Earning 8/8 Credits in Grade 9 SCCDSB	% Students Earning 8/8 Credits in Grade 9 PROVINCE	% Students Earning 16/16 Credits by Grade 10 SCCDSB	% Students Earning 16/16 Credits by Grade 10 PROVINCE
91	86	81.4	79.35





### Schools Hold Virtual Graduations in Wake of Pandemic

It was history in the making, as the Class of 2020 at both St. Patrick's Catholic High School, Sarnia and Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School graduated from school in ceremonies that were held online for the first time ever.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced many changes on society since March 2020, but students, staff and families at the secondary schools did not let the virus keep them from celebrating these momentous occasions.

In addition to graduation videos, a drive-up parade was planned at St. Patrick's. Students and their families arrived in their vehicles and drove up to the ceremony stage. Students exited the vehicles, used hand-sanitizer then walked across the stage in front of staff and school administration to pick up their diplomas. Following a photo, the students returned to their cars and drove to an area of the school parking lot to make a non-perishable food donation.

In addition to the convocation, the event at Ursuline College featured addresses to the graduates by the Adolph Estoesta, on behalf of the staff; a speech from the class valedictorian, Emma Wiltenburg; prayer; and the announcement of award and bursary recipients.

A week earlier, graduating students attended the school to pick up their graduation gowns and caps and posed for photographs, in a process that respected social distancing and ensured the safety of students and staff. Students also had the opportunity to take the gowns and caps home, so they could pose for photos with family and friends.

Congratulations to all our graduates! You have demonstrated resilience and perseverance in extremely trying circumstances, which are excellent skills to carry you into the future.





### First-Ever Virtual Summer Learning Camp a Huge Success

St. Clair Catholic's first-ever Virtual Summer Learning Camp was a tremendous success. The camp ran for three weeks beginning July 6.

The focus throughout the Virtual Summer Learning Camp was to engage students in literacy and mathematics instruction. There were also plenty of fun activities, like a virtual field trip to the Toronto Zoo.

The camp featured seven English classrooms ranging from Grades 1-2 to 3-4, and an additional English Language Learners' classroom. Two teachers and one Educational Assistant were assigned to each classroom. The camp supported 120 students and ran for two hours each day from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. using Google Meet. The schedule for the day included body breaks with mental health and well-being strategies being shared throughout the sessions.

One Child & Youth Worker or Social Worker was also assigned to each 'cabin' – or classroom – to offer wellbeing strategies to students and families. Parents were invited to attend the virtual camp for the first part of each day, to learn the goals for the day and the ways in which they could support their child's progress during camp.

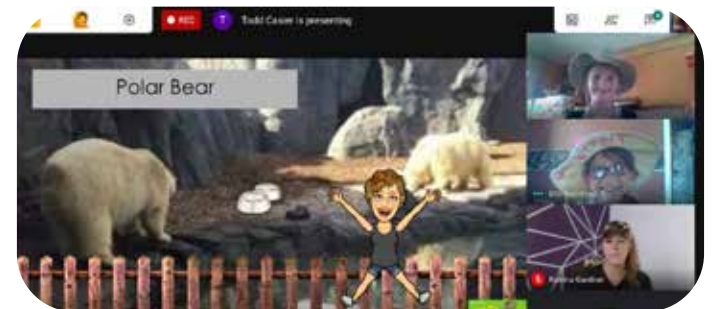
Each day following camp, teaching teams were engaged in professional learning and ongoing digital training.



### Secondary Summer Learning

St. Clair Catholic continued to run on-line summer school courses in July 2020.

A total of 152 credits were earned in English, Civics and Careers courses. In addition, another 158 credits were earned by our students through the provincial summer school consortium.





### St. Clair Catholic District School Board 2019-2020 | Pastoral Plan Caring for Our Common Home

#### WE LIVE OUR VALUES EVERY DAY...

Respect rooted in love	Excellence for all	Accountability to God, self and others	Engagement in our work	Called to serve our world
By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another John 13:35	I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me; Philippians 4:13	Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, <sup>[9]</sup> you did it to me. Matthew 25:40	Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord Colossians 3:23	God saw everything that He had made, and behold it was very good Genesis 1:31

#### AS EACH OF US BECOMES...



A Discerning Believer



An Effective Communicator



A Reflective, Creative & Holistic Thinker



A Self-directed, Responsible, Life-Long Learner



A Collaborative Contributor



A Caring Family Member



A Responsible Citizen

**Care for our Common Home Prayer**  
*All-powerful God,  
 You are present in the whole universe  
 and in the smallest of Your creatures.  
 Pour out upon us  
 the power of Your love,  
 that we may protect life and beauty.  
 Fill us with peace, that we may live,  
 as brothers and sisters, harming no one.  
 O God of the poor,  
 help us to rescue  
 the abandoned and forgotten  
 of this earth,  
 so precious in Your eyes.  
 Teach us  
 to discover the worth of each thing,  
 to be filled with awe and contemplation,  
 and to recognize  
 that we are profoundly united  
 with every creature.  
 Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle  
 for justice, love and peace. AMEN.*

Excerpts from A Prayer for the Earth from Laudato Si

#### Year One: Key Actions

- Communicate **PASTORAL PLAN** with key stakeholders.
- Learn, pray, dialogue and reflect on **Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home** as a St. Clair community.
- Engage schools in Development and Peace campaigns (i.e. **A FUTURE FOR THE AMAZON; A FUTURE FOR ALL, Share Lent.**)
- Support London Diocese Year of Prayer encouraging **INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP** i.e. morning prayer, system mass, *Dare to be Different Contest*, Catholic Education Week.
- Provide **Adult Faith Formation** through Advent and Lent Art/Theology nights, staff retreats, NTIP, Administration and teacher training.
- Explore "**Caring for our Common Home**" in various initiatives i.e. Grade 8 faith days, system Faith Day, Deanery days, OCSGE connections.
- Promote the **GROWING IN FAITH GROWING IN CHRIST** Student Home Website to strengthen partnerships with parents.
- Increase use of the **Living Our Faith** resources on the SCCDSB website/Google Site.





### Board Recognizes 5th Anniversary of Laudato Si' Encyclical

St. Clair Catholic participated in Laudato Si' Week, which honoured the 5th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical on care for our common home. The theme for the week was 'Everything is Connected.'

The Laudato Si' Week launched a year long journey of transformation, as we grow through the crisis of the pandemic, by praying, reflecting and preparing together for a better world to come.



### Religion

Forty-two Grade 6 teachers attended a full day session to be introduced to the new *Growing in Faith - Growing in Christ* program. They explored how to plan lessons using the program and investigated cross curricular connections.

Representatives of Development and Peace joined the group for the day to share connections to the organization's program *How We Can Care for Our Common Home*.





### Celebrating Catholic Education Week 2020 – Igniting Hope

The theme for Catholic Education Week 2020 was selected months before the celebration; however, it was difficult to imagine a time in recent history when the world was more in need of hope. But through our faith in Christ, that hope was alive in our students, our families, our staff and our communities. Catholic Education Week celebrations were different in 2020 – we were physically separated but united as we connected online to communicate, celebrate and learn.

The 2020 theme song for Catholic Education Week was Hope, written by Chris Rait. A group of St. Clair Catholic music specialist teachers collaborated to produce an online performance of the song, with piano, harp, guitar and violin.

You can listen at the link below: <https://vimeo.com/414912599>



*St. Clair Catholic music teachers perform 'Hope' by Chris Rait  
(Top Row L-R) Aleigha Charette, Jacquelyn McGlynn, Mary-Grace Blum and Kristen Lobsinger  
(Bottom Row L-R) Jennifer Trinca, Dan Sonier and Tina Pumfrey*



### Connecting Hearts – Sharing Signs of Hope and Love

Sharing artwork as a sign of hope to show that we really care about each other ... and that we're all in this together!

That was the goal of a social media campaign launched in May by St. Clair Catholic District School Board's Catholic Learning Services team. The heart was selected as the perfect symbol to say that we are praying for each other, for ourselves and for our global community; and that with God to lead us, we will all come through this together! Due to isolation and social distancing, the campaign sought to bring our families and our communities together in ways that kept us connected and as an expression of love and hope for brighter days ahead.

Students, parents, parish partners and other community members were encouraged to display their artwork in an outward facing window, then take a photo and post it on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram with the hashtag #sccdsb

Several local professional artists also contributed art pieces which were shared and posted. Chatham artist Mark Reinhart created a 'thank you' message for frontline healthcare workers that is displayed on a wall at Ursuline College, directly across from Chatham-Kent Health Alliance.



*Some of the student art work that was shared through the Connecting heARTs social media campaign.*





### Two Outstanding Staff Members Named Recipients of 2020 Lighting Our Way Award

In May, St. Clair Catholic named two outstanding members of its staff as recipients of the 2020 Lighting Our Way award. The Lighting Our Way honourees are selected by the Board's Catholic Faith Advisory Committee and the awards are normally bestowed on recipients at the St. Clair Catholic system-wide Faith Development Day, which is held bi-annually. This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the faith day was postponed and the Board will find another opportunity to appropriately recognize the recipients.

Lindsay Dunlop, a teacher at Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School and Maria DeGuzman, an Educational Assistant at Gregory A. Hogan Catholic School, Sarnia were both nominated by members of their school staff.

Here are just some of the comments that were shared as part of their nominations:



**MARIA DEGUZMAN**

*Maria DeGuzman, an Educational Assistant at Gregory A. Hogan Catholic School, Sarnia and a recipient of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board's Lighting Our Way award for 2020.*

"Working beside Maria DeGuzman has changed my outlook as a teacher. Her selfless inner spirit shines through in every word she speaks, every action she participates in and every helping hand she lends.

Her quiet, reflective nature fosters a classroom where every child feels safe, cared for and included.

Each day for Maria is a new day to lift someone up. She is a woman who lives a life of service, finding true meaning in the phrase, "Happiness is found in helping others." Her passion for the children, her gift of giving and her ability to integrate her skills with the needs of others characterizes this woman, who I am privileged to now call, not only a co-worker, but a friend."

"I have worked with Lindsay in a variety of settings throughout my 12 years at UCC; not only has she taught me invaluable lessons, she has been a steady role model and mentor. I am the teacher I am today because of the time I have spent watching her shine within our school community. Lighting the Way exemplifies the approach Lindsay lives in her daily life. Through example, she naturally provides direction, clarity and a path to helping others enrich their lives and the lives of those around them. She is a charismatic teacher, who exemplifies faith, positivity and energy to make a difference in the world by giving of self, for others. Lindsay's growth mindset fosters in others an intrinsic desire to spread compassion, acceptance and value for every person we meet."



**LINDSAY DUNLOP**

*Lindsay Dunlop, a teacher at Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School, and a 2020 recipient of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board's Lighting Our Way award for 2020.*



### Supporting Good Mental Health and Wellbeing for Students and Families

Beginning in June, St. Clair Catholic featured the work of its Student Support and Wellbeing Team, as they continued to actively engage students and families during the school closure period as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

From March through May, Social Workers and Child & Youth Counsellors had reached out to more than 800 students and families and were supporting more than 300 students and families on a consistent weekly or bi-weekly basis. This may have included connecting with individuals in crisis who needed on-going care; or, wellbeing check-ins to provide coping strategies. Some staff were also doing small group work with students online to support their social emotional needs.

The Student Support and Wellbeing Team also developed seven learning modules to help build capacity for other staff, as they focused on student wellbeing topics such as dealing with anxiety, resiliency and recognizing mood disorders.

*Youth Worker Alisha White provides an online emotional support session for a St. Clair Catholic student.*

### Serenity Sessions Offered for the St. Clair Catholic Community

As an additional mental wellbeing support, the St. Clair Catholic District School Board Student Support and Wellbeing Team offered bi-weekly Serenity Sessions for parents/guardians, students and staff, beginning in May. It was an initiative developed by St. Clair Catholic's Mental Health Lead, Christine Preece and her team.

The sessions explored strategies to help people cope - to find peace in the midst of the storm.

It is important to note that these sessions were not therapeutic counseling sessions; however, anyone who required that level of support could contact the Mental Health Team for follow-up.

### Supporting Students Through the Summer and on the Return to School

Supports were also available through the summer. Regulated and accredited Mental Health Professionals from the Student Support and Wellbeing Team were available for continued and new virtual counselling with students after the school year ended. In addition, consultation services were available for parents and caregivers, regarding mental health supports for their children and youth.

St. Clair Catholic counsellors worked in collaboration with Mental Health and Addiction Nurses to respond to student needs for counselling. Students, parents and caregivers could be referred by a classroom teacher or self refer, by completing a form which was available on the Board website. Persons who completed the form received a follow-up call within 72 hours.

Some families and students also experienced anxiousness about the return to school. St. Clair Catholic's Student Support and Wellbeing Team was again available to offer support. Many resources were posted to the Mental Health and Wellbeing web page.



## St. Clair Catholic Employees Donate \$10,000 to CK and Lambton United Way Funds

School closures during the COVID-19 pandemic also meant the cancellation of student nutrition programs at schools in both Chatham-Kent and Sarnia-Lambton.

We know that for some families, access to our school nutrition programs is an important and reliable supplement for healthy and nutritious foods and any disruption to that access can be very stressful. That is why our staff made a \$10,000 donation to be divided between United Way Chatham-Kent and the United Way of Sarnia-Lambton.

The money was donated from the Board's Good Samaritan Fund. In addition, St. Clair Catholic employee groups made generous donations across the district.

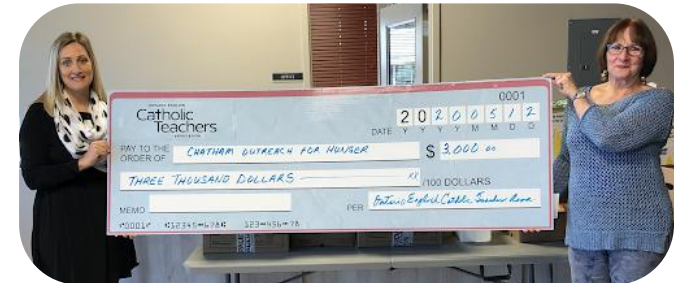


*With a six-foot cheque to respect social distancing rules, Sue Platt, Manager of the Sarnia St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank and Help Centre accepted a donation from Brendan Deery, President of the St. Clair Unit of the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario.*



*Rick Baggio, of the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario with Brenda LeClair, Executive Director of Chatham Outreach for Hunger.*

*Heather Griffioen of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association - St. Clair Elementary Unit presents a donation on behalf of her colleagues to Brenda LeClair, Executive Director of Chatham Outreach for Hunger.*



*Myles Vanni, Executive Director of the Inn of the Good Shepherd, Sarnia accepts a donation from Chad Coene, President of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association - St. Clair Secondary Unit.*

We thank our teachers and principals and their union executives for these generous donations, which did so much to help our students and families.





### Indigenous Education – Building Relationships Through Cultural Competency

Throughout the 2019-2020 school year, the St. Clair Catholic District School Board worked in partnership with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities to build cultural competency and reciprocal relationships across K-12 classrooms.

#### Recognizing the Legacy of Residential Schools

As a school board, we benefited from experiential learning and inquiry in partnership with Residential School Survivors, Elders and Knowledge Keepers for staff and students. The Secondary Indigenous Youth Leadership groups from both St. Patrick's Catholic High School (E-maadookiiwag, the ones who share) and Ursuline College Chatham (Kidwin Zhingwaak, the voice of the Pines) had opportunities to visit the Woodland Cultural Centre to learn about the legacy of residential schools and to plan how to raise awareness at the school level. Elementary educators and librarians from across the system learned firsthand from residential school survivors and family members of survivors as they engaged in professional development prior to the system wide recognition of residential schools with their school's Orange Shirt Day. Schools participated in hands-on learning sessions with community partners that engaged staff and students alike in, not only understanding the legacy of residential schools, but also understanding the meaning of resilience.



*Geraldine Robertson baa, from Aamjiwnaang First Nation, was interviewed by the St. Pat's Youth Leadership group, E-maadookiiwag (the ones who share) about her experience having attended residential schools.*



*UCC Youth Leadership, Kidwin Zhingwaak (the voice of the Pines), reflect on their school wide Orange Shirt Day learning at a retreat at TJ Stables.*



*All staff and students at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School reflect on the day's learning in a school wide round dance with the community partners who taught them throughout the day in interactive learning sessions.*





### Treaty Recognition and Land Based Learning

Treaty understanding and experiencing the importance of relationships with the land was also a focus. Youth Leadership students from Grades 7 - 12 had opportunities to engage in land-based learning at Bkejwanong Territory, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation and Aamjiwnaang First Nation. Elementary teachers also engaged in professional development at Aamjiwnaang First Nation to experience first hand land-based learning and continue to deepen an understanding of local treaties and treaty relationships. Elders and Knowledge Keepers connected with schools across the system to create opportunities for staff and students to understand the meaning of different wampum belts, local treaties and to develop an understanding of world view and relationships with the land.



*Grade 7-9 student groups engaged in land based learning at Bkejwanong Territory.*



*Elders and Knowledge Keepers leading land-based learning sessions for staff and students.*



*A UCC student drums at Kettle and Stony Point First Nation while at a Grade 10-12 land-based learning session.*



*St. Pat's Youth Leadership, E-maadookiiwag, interviewing Chief Jason Henry, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation during Treaty Recognition Week for school wide learning.*



## Connections with the Land and Community

Throughout the winter months, students, staff, Elders, and Knowledge Keepers participated in a variety of experiential learning activities with a focus on building an understanding of stories connected to the land. Through storytelling, staff and students experienced first hand physical, mental, and spiritual connections to the land while also developing a sense of community.



*Elementary students visited a maple sugar bush over three days at Bkejwanong First Nation.*



*Elders, Deb and Barry Milliken, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, bring storytelling to elementary classrooms.*



*St. Pat's Youth Leadership group, E-maadookiwig, created a medicine wheel garden in front of their school.*



*UCC Youth Leadership group, Kidwin Zhingwaak, spend time with Ursuline Sisters along with Elders to feast drums.*



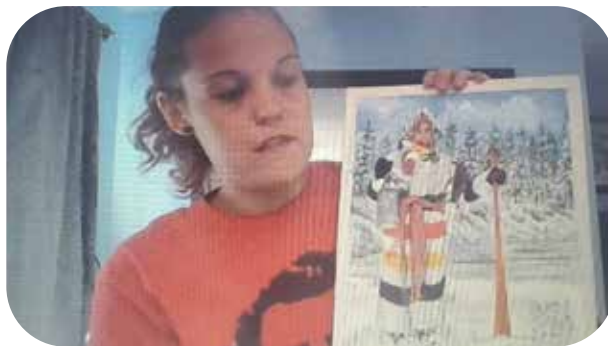


### Moving to Online Virtual Learning Opportunities

Throughout the spring, classrooms engaged in asynchronous learning opportunities across the system in K-12 with a focus on understanding connections to water, the grandfather teachings and the medicine wheel. To honor and recognize National Indigenous Peoples History Month in June and National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21, students participated in synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities connected to First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples Cultures and Traditions all throughout the week. Students engaged in hands-on learning and participated in live events with a focus on learning important traditions from the Anishinaabe, the Métis and the Inuit.



*Aalla, an Inuit education partner, teaches students about the Inuit ways of life and traditions.*

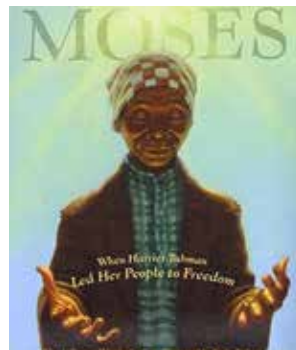


*Rebekah Wilson, Métis author, connects with students to share traditions, culture, and her personal journey to understand her identity and to become an author.*



*Moses Lunham, artist, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation, connects student learning throughout the week with a live art lesson on the medicine wheel.*

Classrooms connected with learning opportunities presented by the Chatham-Kent Black Historical Society, the Buxton National Historical Site and Museum and the Sarnia Historical Society. Students reflected upon Black History and its connection to Catholic Education. Teaching students the importance of tolerance is a year-round priority. Black History Month provides an opportunity to help students to deepen their knowledge about what it means to be accepting of others and the role that it plays in building a culture of kindness inside and outside the classroom.







## Skilled Trades Partnership with LiUNA

Intermediate Students at St. Matthew and St. Joseph (Corunna) were provided the opportunity to experience real “hands-on” skilled trades, through a partnership with the Labourers’ International Union of North America. Students participated in a number of activities, such as pipe-fitting, concrete levelling and stamping, surveying, and building concrete forms. In addition, they were able to ask questions regarding the skilled trades pathways that are available.

This partnership is the first of its kind in Ontario between a licensed skilled trades education facility and elementary school students.



## Individual School Small Group Tours of Ursuline College and St. Patrick’s

Grade 8 students from several county elementary schools were given small group guided tours of elective and required Grade 9 and 10 classes at Ursuline College, Chatham and St. Patrick’s Catholic High School, Sarnia.

The students were able to see and experience first-hand, not only the classrooms, but also the cafeteria and hallway transitions. The students were able to participate in activities such as welding, instrumental music and Communications Technology.

Several students and Grade 8 teachers indicated that the initiative helped to reduce stress and anxiety about making the switch to secondary school.

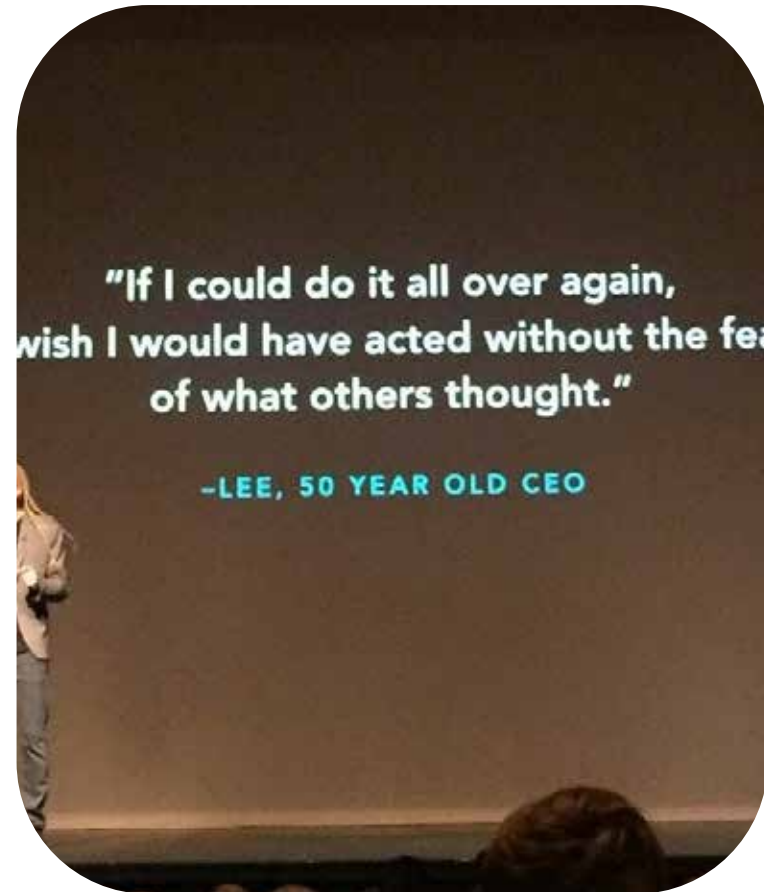




## Grade 7 and 8 Pathways Speaker Session

Pathways students in Grades 7 and 8 as well as Grade 10 Careers students attended an event with Canadian author Sean Aiken. Sean is the creator of the One Week Job Project – an inspiring journey across North America in which he worked 52 jobs in 52 weeks to find his passion. He trekked more than 46,000 miles, slept on 55 couches and raised more than \$20,000 for charity.

Sean's message to students and his lively question and answer period were engaging and informative.





## Improving Communications With Our Stakeholders - NewsDesk and Edsby

One of the key goals identified in the Board's new strategic plan, and embedded in the 2019-2020 Board Action Plan, was to improve communications to engage families, parishes and communities.

This goal became even more urgent with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting school shutdown in March 2020. In response to the need for timely and accurate information, in April the Board launched Newsdesk – a new website communications feature.

St. Clair Catholic is trusted by our school communities to provide reliable and timely news updates, as well as advice and information about our schools. Our commitment is to ensure that the information posted to Newsdesk is reliable, up-to-date and presented in a well-organized summary. Stakeholders can also sign up for a weekly recap of the most recent Newsdesk posts forwarded directly to their inbox. In addition subscribers can receive push notifications, which are an alert to the more urgent posts for immediate access to the most important news and information.

The purpose of Newsdesk is to channel all new information through a single source, so that staff, parents/guardians and students are informed with the most current and reliable information. In addition, Newsdesk provides updates from the Government of Ontario, Ministry of Education and our parish and community partners.

Visit Newsdesk at: <https://newsdesk.st-clair.net/>

Information posted to Newsdesk is also posted to Edsby, the Board's new school-based communication tool. Edsby, which was first launched in the spring of 2019 and continued to roll out through the 2019-2020 school year.

Edsby is a safe and secure communications tool, which allows teachers to share meaningful information with parents about their child's activities and progress at school.

Parents/guardians can access this information from an app on their mobile devices or through the web. Edsby empowers students by enabling them to connect, collaborate and share their learning with teachers and fellow students. In doing so, it also enhances and simplifies communication among and between teachers, students and parents.





# PARTNERSHIPS

## Engaging families, parish and community



### St. Clair Catholic Donates Food and PPE in Sarnia and Chatham

In April, St. Clair Catholic donated non-perishable food items and personal protection equipment (PPE) to community organizations in Chatham and Sarnia.

Boxes containing face masks and more than 67,000 gloves were donated in both Chatham and Sarnia. In Sarnia the donation was dropped off to volunteers at Clearwater Arena to be sorted and distributed to health care staff in hospitals, long-term care and retirement homes, home care, hospices and other organizations to assist with urgent needs. In Chatham, the donation was made at the St. Clair College Healthplex.

Non-perishable food items from schools, including fruit cups, granola bars and rice cakes, have been donated to the Inn of the Good Shepherd in Sarnia and Chatham Outreach for Hunger. Schools in smaller communities across the district distributed food items directly to local food banks.

Special thanks to the Board's Facility Services staff for collecting the food and PPE from schools and delivering it to the donation centres.



*Ann Robinson with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent accepts St. Clair Catholic's donation of face masks and gloves in Chatham.*



*Chatham Outreach for Hunger Volunteer Al Birkby accepts St. Clair Catholic's donations of non-perishable food items.*

### Boards Share \$64,000 from Noelle's Gift

The Noelle's Gift foundation donated a total of \$64,000 to the St. Clair Catholic and Lambton Kent district school boards in October, to support students and families in need for the 2019-2020 school year.



*Directors of Education Deb Crawford and John Howitt accept cheque for \$64,000 from members of the Noelle's Gift Foundation.*

Once again, we are so very grateful to the Noelle's Gift Foundation for its tremendous support of children in need, not only in our schools, but right across the communities of Sarnia-Lambton and Chatham-Kent. This generous gift each year is a fitting way in which to honour the life and work of Noelle Paquette.

The \$64,000 donation from Noelle's Gift is shared among the two school boards and supports students and families who are in need. The money is used to purchase eyeglasses, clothing, food, medicine and medical equipment. The funds are dispersed independently by the two school boards. Teachers are able to access up to \$200 for children in need.

The Noelle's Gift charitable fund was established in memory of Noelle Paquette, a former Kindergarten teacher with St. Clair Catholic, who passed away in January 2013.



### Consulting Our Community – Distance Learning *Thoughtexchange*

As we began to look ahead to the future of distance learning, we invited parents/guardians, students and staff to provide us with some feedback and insights into their experiences. We wanted to know how it was working for our families and how we could better work together to address challenges that have arisen during this unique time. Using our *Thoughtexchange* community consultation, participants could share their thoughts and suggestions.

**The *Thoughtexchange* question was this, “Together, how can we support the learning journey for our students during this time of distance learning?”**

*Thoughtexchange* has three steps:



#### **SHARE:**

First participants share their thoughts independently and confidentially;



#### **STAR:**

Next they consider and rate thoughts shared by others;



#### **DISCOVER:**

And finally, we all learn what ideas we have in common and what we can do as a Board to make the learn at home experience better.

### Next Steps – What We Learned

The *Thoughtexchange* resulted in responses from more than 800 participants – more than 40% of them students and the remainder parents/guardians and staff.

**Here are the most frequent responses:**

#### **From our students:**

- Teachers should be assigning work that is possible to manage with everything else we are being assigned. This is important because if each teacher continuously gives out lots of homework for one day, it can be hard to get it all done with other classes, too.
- Making students mental health a top priority – making this less stressful. Many of us are overwhelmed right now and it's extremely difficult to stay on top of things in every class.

#### **From our staff:**

- The time required to plan this type of distance learning takes countless hours. Teachers are struggling too. We need to all support each other. This situation is incredibly hard for all involved: parents, students and teachers.
- Parents who are struggling are encouraged to contact their teachers. This is difficult for everyone, we need to support and respect each other. Planning this type of distance learning is incredibly difficult. Teachers care deeply for their students and miss them very much.

#### **From our parents:**

- Timely feedback and words of encouragement from teachers to students. They need to know if they are on the right track and how to improve and that their efforts are not in vain.
- Give families a toolkit of materials from which lessons are drawn. If I knew I needed 16 napkins, a paper plate, a rubber band and 4 corks for the week/unit, I'd purchase on the weekend or start of unit.

# PARTNERSHIPS

## Engaging families, parish and community



### Investing in Catholic Education – New Schools

#### St. Angela Merici Catholic School – Chatham

By summer of 2020, construction was winding down at the St. Angela Merici Catholic School site in Chatham and parents/guardians, students, school and Board staff began to look forward to its official opening in September.

In June, Ridge K.I.D.S. Daycare was selected as the childcare provider for the new school. Ridge K.I.D.S. is operating a fully licenced childcare program for infants, toddlers and preschoolers, along with an extended day program for Kindergarten children and a Before and After program for students in Grade 1 and higher.

Ridge K.I.D.S. and St. Clair Catholic look forward to continuing their excellent partnership with the Municipality of Chatham-Kent and in serving the needs of this new community. The St. Angela Merici child care has 33 childcare spaces, which is a welcome addition to the complement of childcare spaces in Chatham-Kent.

The Board also expressed its appreciation to the Ontario government for funding to expand child care spaces throughout the province and to improving access to affordable, high quality child care for families.



*Director of Education Deb Crawford and Chatham-Kent – Leamington MPP Rick Nicholls in the Infant Room of the St. Angela Merici Child Care Centre.*



*Sue Jennings, Director, Ridge K.I.D.S. Daycare and Juli Faubert, Principal, St. Angela Merici Catholic School in the Toddler Room of the school's new child care centre.*



*In the Preschool Room of the St. Angela Merici Child Care Centre are (L-R) Laura Callaghan, Superintendent of Education, St. Clair Catholic District School Board; Theresa McFadden, Supervisor, Childcare Services, CLASS Shared Services; and Kelly Emery, Director, Child Care and Early Years, Municipality of Chatham-Kent.*





## Investing in Catholic Education – Ursuline Sisters Donate Statue

A 50 year old treasured statue of St. Angela Merici was donated to the new school by the Ursuline Sisters.

The statue was removed from its place of honour in an inner courtyard at 20 Merici Way and transported up the street to its new home where it will now be the focal point of the main foyer in the new school.

We are so honoured to receive this beautiful statue of St. Angela Merici by the Ursuline Sisters, who brought the gift of Catholic education to Chatham more than a century-and-a-half ago.

The statue was sculpted in South Bend, Indiana in 1970 by Father Anthony Lauck, who also designed the windows in the Pines Chapel. Father Lauck was an accomplished artist in drawing, glass, sculpture and wood carving. His statue depicts St. Angela with a young friend, as an illustration of her dedication to improving the lives of women and youth.

Another important milestone at the school was reached in early August, when the general contractor officially turned the property over to the Board. Principal Juli Faubert and Vice Principal Sara Vadovic accepted the keys to the building from Jason Butcher, Project Manager for Norlon Builders.



*The Ursuline Sisters present the statue of St. Angela Merici to the school principal and vice principal. (L- R) Sister Noreen Allossery-Walsh, Sister Sheila McKinley, Vice Principal Sara Vadovic, Principal Juli Faubert, Sister Theresa Campeau and Sister Pauline Maheux.*



*Jason Butcher, Project Manager for Norlon Builders presents the keys to the school to Juli Faubert, Principal of St. Angela Merici Catholic School, while Vice Principal Sara Vadovic looks on.*

# PARTNERSHIPS

## Engaging families, parish and community



### Our Lady of Fatima Site – The New Home of French Immersion in Chatham

In May, the Board of Trustees approved a contract award for renovations to the Our Lady of Fatima school site on Baldoon Road in Chatham. The school will become the new home to the Monsignor Uyen Catholic School community, the Board's French Immersion school in Chatham.

This is an exciting project that will result in a fresh new look for the Fatima site, as it becomes the new home for French Immersion in Chatham. It is an important part of the Board's re-envisioning of Catholic education in Chatham.

The current Our Lady of Fatima community was relocated to the new St. Angela Merici Catholic School in September 2020, along with students and staff from St. Vincent and St. Agnes Catholic schools.



*Artist renderings of the main foyer of the newly renovated Our Lady of Fatima site, which is to be the new home of Monsignor Uyen Catholic School.*

### Renovations at the Fatima site will include:

- A new main entrance and canopy with an atrium and main office and conference room renovations;
- A learning commons renovation and introduction of pod-style learning in the south corridor;
- Relocation of the staff room and teacher work room;
- An enlarged gymnasium with a drop down stage, new athletic flooring and new change rooms;
- A refresh of existing classrooms, with a complete replacement of flooring, new paint, new millwork, new tack boards and whiteboards, new classroom doors and window blinds.

Wilson Diaz Architects Incorporated of London has been engaged as the prime consultant for the project. The Board awarded the contract to the low bidder, Intrepid General Limited of Belle River. The total project cost is \$4,956,238 and will be funded by the Board's annual School Condition Improvement allocation.

The work is expected to be completed in time for Monsignor Uyen to begin classes in the newly renovated school in September 2021.



*Artist rendering of the front exterior of the new Monsignor Uyen Catholic School, which is expected to be open to students in September 2021.*



## Ontario Government Announces Funding for Improvements at Sacred Heart Port Lambton

In July, the Ontario government announced \$3,105,350 in funding for new construction at Sacred Heart Catholic School in Port Lambton. The project will include the replacement of two classrooms, new washrooms and an expansion of the child care centre, currently housed in the school.

The project will include the removal of a 34 year old portapak structure, which includes two existing classrooms. A corridor linking the main building to the portapak, two student washrooms and a mechanical room will also be removed. Two new classrooms and student washrooms will be added as part of the new construction. New child care space with three rooms, a child care play yard, parking lot and drop off area are also included in the plans for new construction.

This is tremendous news for the Sacred Heart Catholic school community in Port Lambton. The Sacred Heart project is part of a \$500 million investment by the Ontario government in education facilities right across the province.

Chair of the Board John Van Heck expressed his thanks to the Ministry of Education for the funding, which will result in an expanded child care space and improved learning environments for students and staff.

Construction is expected to begin by July 2021 and be completed by September 2022.







### ***SeptemberReady* Project – Safe Return to School**

The Board also engaged in a *Thoughtexchange*, to gather input from parents/guardians and adult students regarding plans for the return to school in September. In July, the Minister of Education directed that school boards should plan for three possible scenarios:

- A return to regular, in-class learning with enhanced health and safety protocols;
- An adaptive model, including a modified school day routine with alternate day scheduling and timetabling that would limit student contact with teachers and classmates as much as possible, and;
- A continuation of remote, teacher-led at-home learning.



As the 2019-2020 school year ended, St. Clair Catholic began planning for the return to school. A team of school administrators, senior Board administration and retired staff was assembled to develop a safe return to school plan, which put the health and safety of students and staff first.

St. Clair Catholic committed to regular and ongoing communication with all stakeholders, and the Board reported weekly on the achievement of planning milestones throughout the summer.

A *SeptemberReady* page was added to the Board website and a chat line feature ensured stakeholders could get timely answers to their questions.

In August, the Ministry of Education approved St. Clair Catholic's Return to School Plan. The plan, which is a living document, was informed and advised by the Ministry of Education, Public Health Ontario and the Chatham-Kent and Lambton Medical Officers of Health.

St. Clair Catholic also produced a short video for parents/guardians and students. It was a preview of what schools and classrooms would look like and an overview of some of the enhanced health and safety measures that were to be in place to help keep everyone safe.

Our Board remains confident in our Return to School Plan. It was the work of many, many professionals with expertise in emergency management, school programming and school administration. When we began our work in June 2020, we committed to parents/guardians, students and staff that we would put their health, safety and wellness first. Our Return to School Plan meets that commitment.

In September, a COVID-19 Hotline was launched to respond to calls from parents/guardians who had questions related to the virus and the health and safety protocols that were in place in schools across the district. The hotline was manned from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and after hours calls were returned the next day. The service could be accessed by calling any St. Clair Catholic school or the Catholic Education Centre.

Link to COVID-19 Update Page – <https://newsdesk.st-clair.net/category/covid-info/>

Link to Return to School Plan Video – <https://newsdesk.st-clair.net/2020/08/28/september-ready-return-to-school-plan-video/>



## School Board Profile (as of October 31, 2020)

**Schools:** 25 (*Elementary: 23; Secondary: 2*)  
**Enrolment:** 8,630 (*Elementary: 6,122; Secondary: 2,508*)  
**Classroom Teachers:** 532.5 (*Elementary: 366.4; Secondary: 166.1*)  
**Instructional Support Staff:** 282.6  
**Principals and Vice-Principals:** 35.3  
**School Office Support Staff:** 45  
**Facilities Support Staff:** 75.9  
**Board Administration:** 27

## Stewardship of Resources

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board is committed to building and sustaining the infrastructure necessary to support and improve student achievement. In its ongoing commitment to make schools better places to learn, the Board has invested in capital priorities, school renewal, and school condition improvement during the 2019-2020 school year.

SCHOOL	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COST
St. Angela Merici	Construction Cost of New Build	7,329,383
Our Lady of Fatima	Mechanical Upgrades, Wall Flashing Renovation, Interior Renovation	1,217,965
Holy Family	Partial Roof Replacement	299,024
St. Joseph (Tilbury)	Childcare Expansion, Parking Lot Resurfacing	276,100
St. Philip	Mechanical Upgrades	254,065
Good Shepherd	Ashphalt, Partial Roof Modifications	219,412
Uruline College	Security Systems Upgrade, Interior Renovation	205,903
St. Joseph (Corunna)	Roof Replacement, Parking Lot Expansion	184,794
Catholic Education Centre	Mechanical Upgrades	108,617
St. Matthew	Ashphalt Replacement	77,912
New Sarnia French Immersion	Pre-Aquisition Fees and Deposit on Land Purchase	62,903
St. John Fisher	Childcare Expansion	61,710
St. Peter Canisius	PA System Replacement	37,091
St. Anne (Blenheim)	Universal Washroom, Office Renovation, Security Upgrades	21,921
Christ the King	Design for Future Site Improvements	12,098
New South Chatham English	Pre-Acquisition Fees and Deposit on Land Purchase	9,597
St. Elizabeth	School Yard Fencing	8,268
St. Michael (Ridgetown)	Ashphalt Replacement	1,672



St. Clair Catholic  
District School Board

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND SENIOR ADMINISTRATION 2019-2020



### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### TOP ROW (L-R)

John Van Heck, *Chair of the Board*

Mat Roop, *Vice Chair of the Board*

David Aregenti, *Trustee*

Carol Bryden, *Trustee*

Jennifer McCann, *Trustee*



#### BOTTOM ROW (L-R)

Brenda Rumble, *Trustee*

Linda Ward, *Trustee*

Jerry Lozon, *Board Chaplain*

Kyra Mevis, *Student Trustee*

Ethan Gihula, *Student Trustee*



### ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

#### (FRONT ROW L-R)

Amy Janssens, *Associate Director – Corporate Services & Treasurer*

Deb Crawford, *Director of Education*

#### (BACK ROW L-R)

Laura Callaghan, *Superintendent of Education*

Scott Johnson, *Superintendent of Education*

Lisa Demers, *Superintendent of Education*

James Duff, *Executive Manager – Human Resource Services*