



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GRADE 5 TO 8 STUDENTS AT ST. PHILIP CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN PETROLIA PILOT “BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE”

Students in Grades 5 to 8 at St. Philip Catholic School in Petrolia will pilot a new initiative in the St. Clair Catholic District School Board – BYOD, which means “bring your own device.”

Under BYOD, students will be able to bring their personally-owned equipment (such as iPods®, iPads®, tablets, netbooks, laptops, etc.) into their classrooms.

“Up until now, we have not permitted students to bring their own devices into our schools,” says Paul Wubben, Director of Education. “However, the change in practice anticipates that greater familiarity and availability of technology should increase student motivation and enhance student learning.”

Students who do not currently have their own devices will have continued access to the Board’s excellent quality school-provided equipment.

Staff members at St. Philip and at St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School in Sarnia are also part of the pilot project. Following a month-and-a-half test run at these two schools, the Board expects to begin a gradual roll out of BYOD across the system in September 2012, as it expands wireless access at our schools.

“The Board is committed to moving staff and students forward in a 21st Century learning environment and recognizes the important role of technology in helping students and staff to research, collaborate, learn and communicate,” says Mr. Wubben.

A demonstration of classroom learning using BYOD is scheduled for Monday, May 14, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Philip Catholic School, 420 Queen Street, Petrolia. Members of the media are welcome.