



Date: **January 31, 2023**
Prepared by: **Laura Callaghan, Superintendent of Education**
Subject: **KinderSTART 2023**

Background

SCCDSB has been engaged in KinderSTART since 2014. In recent years, the events were held virtually, but we now welcome the return of face-to-face events across our 23 elementary schools in 2023. Our KinderSTART experience shares our WHY:

- We do what we do because it is our mission as baptized Catholic Christians to GO make disciples and transform our world.

KinderSTART is an invitation to families to join us on their faith journey as they become part of our SCCDSB community, with a sense of accompaniment.

KinderSTART is an enhanced registration experience for families to welcome them to the St. Clair CDSB with a strong sense of belonging and partnership. Families visit the school KinderSTART carousel activities and engage in a variety of activities, including a station to support the completion of registration. Families have the opportunity to complete the registration process online prior to KinderSTART or to do so at the event. KinderSTART ensures that from the moment our families first walk through the doors of our schools they gain a strong sense of who we are as a SCCDSB community and how we will walk together in partnership to support their child's progress, success and faith development.

The goals of KinderSTART include the following:

- **Engage families** in an initial positive experience to foster partnership between families and schools
- **Increase registrations** to kindergarten, promoting registration to our Catholic families
- **Enhance the registration process** for **all** families and schools
- **Observe and determine potential student needs** and recommend supports prior to school starting to support transition to school
- **Support partnerships** with community partners/organizations (e.g., Child Care, Public Health, EarlyON)

KinderSTART is a collaborative initiative driven by a multidisciplinary team. Our KinderSTART team includes members from our school teams, various system departments and community partners who work together to put KinderSTART into action, in service of our strategic priorities.

Recommendations

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *KinderSTART 2023* for information.