



Date: **December 5, 2023**
Prepared by: **Scott Johnson, Director of Education**
Subject: **Director's Annual Report – 2022-2023**

Background

The Education Act S283(3) requires that the Director of Education submit a report of Board programs and activities annually to the Board of Trustees and to the Minister of Education.

I very much enjoy working on this report each year, because it is a reminder of the tremendous scope of work completed during the previous school year. The *Director's Annual Report 2022-2023* is a collection of just some of the many achievements, educational programs and activities undertaken by our students, our schools and our staff throughout the 2022-2023 school year. It is indeed gratifying to review in detail the depth and breadth of the great work that has been accomplished across the system.

Again this year, my report is organized to align with our Strategic Plan, under the headings *Learning and Innovation; Faith and Wellbeing; Partnerships; and Catholic Citizenship*, with additional sections devoted to *Milestones; and Investing in Catholic Education*.

I am especially proud of our achievements in the 2023 EQAO assessments. We know that the pandemic resulted in learning loss for students at St. Clair Catholic and across the province. But in just one year, our students have made tremendous gains, which are reflected in our scores. There is still work to be done, but the 2023 assessments show we are on the right track.

It is an exciting time in St. Clair Catholic's history, as we prepare to open two more brand new school facilities – the new Gregory A. Hogan Catholic School in Sarnia and St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School in south Chatham. Over the past twenty years, our Board has worked to close and consolidate old and underutilized school buildings. It was a long, difficult and sometimes painful task; but the result is an inventory of brand new state-of-the-art school buildings with healthy investment for upgrades and renovations at all facilities. Thanks to the hard work of our Trustees, senior administration, Facility Services staff and the school communities and families who partnered with us in this journey, we now have an inventory of schools, which is envied by other Boards across the province.

Another important chapter in St. Clair Catholic's story, which is highlighted in this report, is our Catholic identity and citizenship. I am humbled and amazed by the remarkable work of our schools as the Hands and Feet of Christ, both in our communities and around the world. The many acts of kindness, works of charity and social justice projects that put our faith into action, are a demonstration that we remember Christ's words to us, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."



The *Director's Annual Report 2023* is indeed a great news report. I am proud to share it with the Board of Trustees, our students and staff, our families, our parishes and community partners and other publicly funded school boards across the province.

Finally, my report will now be posted to the Board website and forwarded to the Minister of Education.

Recommendations

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *Director's Annual Report 2022-2023*, for information.