



**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

Farm To School Student Nutrition Program Expanded to Include 16 Chatham-Kent Schools

The Farm to School Student Nutrition Program, which began in March 2014 with eight Chatham-Kent schools, has now been expanded to include eight additional schools, including five St. Clair Catholic elementary schools – Monsignor Uyen, St. Joseph and St. Ursula, Chatham; Holy Family, Wallaceburg; and Good Shepherd, Thamesville.

The program provides local fruits and vegetables from area farms, reaching 3,600 students each week.

Partners for the program are the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit and the Victoria Order of Nurses in Windsor-Essex.

“We are very pleased to partner with this local initiative, which provides healthy and nutritious snacks for students in five of our Catholic schools,” says Dan Parr, Director of Education.

In addition to providing healthy snacks, the Farm to School program also helps students develop healthy eating habits at an early age. It also gives students an opportunity to learn about local food production and highlights the value of having local product available within the community.

“Our Farm to School program helps to make a connection between our local farmers and our young people, who are the consumers of tomorrow,” says Elaine Lewis, Chatham-Kent Student Nutrition Program Coordinator. “It is a relationship that encourages life-long healthy eating habits and supports our local economies.”

The Chatham-Kent Student Nutrition Program, of which Farm to School is a part, provides healthy meals and snacks to 50 schools and 6,200 students across the municipality.

Pictured above are students from Monsignor Uyen Catholic School in Chatham, which is a participating member of the Farm to School program.