

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Catholic Education Centre

420 Creek Street Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4C4 Telephone: 519-627-6762 Facsimile: 519-627-8230 Website: www.st-clair.net

For further information regarding this release, please contact:

Director of Education

Paul Wubben 519-627-6762, ext. 241 E-mail: media@st-clair.net

Chair of the Board Carol Bryden 519-627-8976

Supervisor – Communications and Community Relations Todd Lozon 519-627-6762 Ext. 243 E-mail: todd.lozon@st-clair.net

UWO CENTRE FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION RECOGNIZES ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC'S RENÉE ZAREBSKI WITH AWARD

The University of Western Ontario's Centre for Inclusive Education has recognized St. Clair Catholic's Renée Zarebski with its annual *Champions of Inclusion Award* at its 2012 conference.

"By its recognition of Renée Zarebski for this outstanding award, the Centre for Inclusive Education has acknowledged what we at St. Clair Catholic have always known," says Paul Wubben Director of Education. "Renée is a tireless supporter of students with exceptionalities, their families and school teams, and she works every day to ensure the needs of all students are met in the classroom and beyond."

The award was developed in 1999 to recognize, celebrate and highlight educators who live, breathe and implement Inclusive Education. They are professionals who reflect a positive attitude about the worth, value and ability of all students. They celebrate all students learning together with their age appropriate peers in regular classroom settings and participating in all aspects of the life of their school. They also support all students to become contributing citizens and valued community members.

In addition to her work as a Special Education Program Resource Consultant for the Board, Renée also sits on a number of community committees and was recognized provincially, when she was seconded for three years to work for the Ministry of Education on the development of the *Connections For Students with ASD* school transitioning program. Recently, she was chosen to sit as a member of the provincial writing team for the *TeachAble* project, which is working to create a positive, long-lasting impact on education in Ontario, through building a culture of accessibility.

"On behalf of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board I want to congratulate Renée for her work and her dedication to helping our exceptional students achieve their best," says Mr. Wubben.