



2021-2022 Budget Focuses on Health and Safety; Recovery and Renewal Investments for All Students

For Immediate Release

June 22, 2021

The Board of Trustees has passed a \$122,534,498 budget for the 2021-2022 school year, which makes health and safety of all students and staff a priority and focuses on learning recovery and renewal for all students.

“The uncertainty of COVID-19 remains an important factor as we look toward the 2021-2022 school year,” says Deb Crawford, Director of Education. “We have presented a prudent budget, which makes important investments in our most vulnerable students and continues to make health and safety a priority.”

“This is a thorough and thoughtful budget, which includes purposeful investments in Special Education, Mental Health, Learning & Innovation, Risk Management, Communication and Technology,” says Amy Janssens, Associate Director – Corporate Services & Treasurer.

The budget supports system priorities as identified in the *Always Ready Action Plan 2021-2022*, which was also presented to the Board of Trustees tonight. Priorities outlined in the plan include:

- A three year mental health and addictions strategy and annual action plan for mental health, informed by School Climate Survey results, which includes student voice;
- A focus on re-engagement and awareness through the Board’s Equity Advisory Committee, Indigenous Education Action Plan, Special Education Plan, and supports for English language learners;
- Focus on curriculum – a continued implementation of revised curriculum and Math Up for Grades 1-8; Reading success for all in Grade 1; and implementation of new resources in the *Growing in Faith – Growing in Christ* curriculum for Grade 8; a de-streamed Grade 9 Math implementation plan; supporting literacy and numeracy for Grades 7 to 12;
- Supporting at-risk students for graduation;

- Re-engagement of secondary students in experiential learning and pathways planning;
- Board-owned devices will be available for every student and classroom educator in September 2021.

The health and safety of all students and staff will continue to be a priority for St. Clair Catholic in the 2021-2022 school year. The budget includes \$2.4 million in COVID-19 supports, of which \$1.6 million is funded specifically by the ministry for COVID-19 purposes. Health and safety procedures will be adapted as required moving forward, based on guidance from the Ministry of Education and Public Health Ontario.

The budget includes a \$1.08 million deficit for compliance utilizing the Board's accumulated surplus.

Budget estimates for 2021-2022 are in compliance with all Ministry of Education accountability and reporting requirements. The approved budget will now be forwarded to the Ministry.

For further information regarding this release, please contact:

**Associate Director -
Corporate Services &
Treasurer**
Amy Janssens
amy.janssens@st-clair.net

Director of Education
Deb Crawford
519-627-6762, ext. 10241
Email: media@st-clair.net

Chair of the Board
John Van Heck
519-627-5746

**Supervisor -
Communications and
Community Relations**
Todd Lozon
519-627-6762 Ext. 10243
Email: todd.lozon@st-clair.net