



*The Niagara Catholic District School Board through
the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership,
nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all
to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.*

AGENDA AND MATERIAL

BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2015
7:00 P.M.**



*FATHER KENNETH BURNS, C.S.C. BOARD ROOM
CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE, WELLAND, ONTARIO*

9:30 p.m. Timed In Camera Item

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer – Trustee Nieuwesteeg -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Minutes of the Board Meeting of February 24, 2015 A5

B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Brock University Niagara Principal's Entrance Award B1

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program
Ontario Early Years Centre – Niagara Catholic C1
2. Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
Meeting of January 7, 2015 C2
3. Niagara Catholic Mental Health and Addiction Strategy C3
4. Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities C4
5. Preparation of System Priorities and Budget 2015-2016 – March 2015 Update C5
6. Financial Reports
6.1 Monthly Banking Transactions for the Month of February 2015 C6.1
6.2 Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at February 28, 2015 C6.2

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence
1.1 Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board Letter D1.1
2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

- | | | |
|-----|--|------|
| 3. | General Discussion to Plan for Future Action | - |
| 4. | Trustee Information | |
| 4.1 | Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – March 2015 | D4.1 |
| 4.2 | Calendar of Events – April 2015 | D4.2 |
| 4.3 | Holy Week 2015 | - |
| 4.4 | Bishops Gala 2015 – April 10, 2015 | - |
| 4.5 | Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast – April 13, 2015 | - |
| 4.6 | Advance Questions for OCSTA 2015 Spring Regional Meetings | D4.6 |
| 5. | Open Question Period | |
| | <i>(The purpose of the Open Question Period is to allow members of the Catholic school supporting public to ask about items on that night's public agenda or any previous agendas, and the Board to answer and react.)</i> | |

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

G. REPORT ON IN CAMERA SESSION

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24 , 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 24, 2015**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of February 24, 2015, as presented.



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, in the Father Kenneth Burns C.S.C. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson MacNeil.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Charbonneau

2. Roll Call

Chairperson MacNeil noted that all Trustees and Student Trustees were in attendance.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik		✓		
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Pat Vernal		✓		
Student Trustees				
Demizio, Chloe	✓			
Di Pasquale, Jessica	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Scott Whitwell**,

Controller of Facilities Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of February 24, 2015, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

A Disclosure of Interest was declared by Trustee O'Leary with Item F8 of the In Camera Agenda. This Trustee has family members who are employees of the Board. He left the meeting during discussion of this item.

5. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 27, 2015

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau
Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 27, 2015, as presented.

CARRIED

B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. None

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program – Niagara Catholic Continuing Education

Director Crocco provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education introduced Principal Robert Di Persio, Niagara Catholic Continuing Education.

Principal Di Persio, with the assistance of students and staff, showcased Niagara Catholic Continuing Education as part of the School Excellence Program.

Chairperson MacNeil thanked Principal Di Persio, the staff and students for their presentation and performance. Trustee Burtnik also expressed her thanks.

2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2015 and Consideration of Recommendations

Moved by Trustee O'Leary
Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2015, as presented.

CARRIED

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 10, 2015.

2.1 Approval of Policies

2.1.1 Accessibility Customer Service Policy (800.8.1)

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revised Accessibility Customer Service Policy (800.8.1), as presented.

CARRIED

2.1.2 Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7)

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revised Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7), as presented.

CARRIED

2.1.3 Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11)

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revised Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11), as presented.

CARRIED

2.1.4 Occupational Health & Safety Policy (201.6)

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revised Occupational Health & Safety Policy (201.6), as presented.

CARRIED

3. Long Term Financing For Capital Projects Approved by The Ministry Of Education

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services presented the details of the approved funding.

Superintendent Vetrone answered questions of the Trustees.

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Borrowing By-Law 2015-OFA-1 in the amount of \$117,000 and the related documents, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Financial Reports

4.1 Monthly Banking Transactions - January 2015

Moved by Trustee Fera
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of January 2015, as presented.

CARRIED

4.2 Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at January 31, 2015

Moved by Trustee Vernal
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at January 31, 2015, as presented.

CARRIED

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

1.1 United Way South Niagara - Request to attend May 2015 Board Meeting

Director Crocco presented United Way South Niagara's letter of appreciation, and request to attend the May 2015 Board Meeting for a brief presentation. The Board agreed to a May 2015 presentation to the Board.

1.2 Sophie Mary Stanko – Proposed Revitalization of McGuinty's Sex Ed

Director Crocco highlighted information contained in a copy of Sophie Mary Stanko's letter to the Premier, Minister of Education, Board of Trustees, and Fr. Paul MacNeil, Chairperson who expressed her concerns on the "proposed revitalization of McGuinty's Sex Ed" curriculum.

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

Nil Report

3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

Director Crocco reported that Senior Administrative Council continues to work on monthly reports regarding System Priorities and the 2015 Budget Report towards recommendations to the April 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Senior Staff is reviewing the utilization rates of all schools, with recommendations to the Attendance Area Review Committees with specific terms of reference once the revised ARC process is received from the Ministry of Education.

A report and recommendation from Senior Staff regarding the written request from Mayor Darte of Niagara-on-the-Lake to review the viability of a secondary school in Niagara-on-the-Lake will be brought forth to the Board when a requested data report is completed by the consulting firm.

Senior Staff continues to work on finalizing dialogue with community partners and updating property assessments to bring a report and recommendation on Board properties and the location of our Education Technology and Facilities Services Centres.

4. Trustee Information

4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - February 10, 2015

Director Crocco reviewed Spotlight on Niagara Catholic - February 10, 2015 for Trustees information.

4.2 Calendar of Events - March 2015

Director Crocco reviewed the Calendar of Events - March 2015 for Trustees information.

4.3 Letter to All Families - Measles / Information from Public Health

Director Crocco reviewed the sequence of events with the recent outbreak of measles in Niagara, the copy of the Letter to All Families – Measles and the information provided from Public Health. He also informed the Board that through the Board's Staff Wellness Coordinator, in partnership with Public Health, information and vaccine clinics for all staff will be held at all eight secondary schools in our board over the next few weeks.

4.4 OCSTA/OCSBOA Business Seminar 2015 – April 30, 2015

Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the upcoming seminar. Trustees were requested to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano, Administrative Assistant of Corporate Services & Communications.

4.5 OCSTA 85th Annual General Meeting & Conference, Toronto – April 30 – May 2, 2015

Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the upcoming AGM meeting and conference. Trustees were requested to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano, Administrative Assistant to Corporate Services & Communications.

4.6 Ontario College of Teachers Presentation

As a follow up to the February Committee of the Whole Meeting, Director Crocco presented the Ontario College of Teachers Presentation for Trustees information. Director Crocco provided two dates April 21st or May 11th 2015 for presentation. The May 11th at 7:00 p.m. was decided upon by Trustees, and invitations will be sent to NCPIC and Catholic School Council Members.

4.7 Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services provided information on the February 24, 2015 water main break at Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School.

4.8 Director Crocco provided updated information on the launch of the provinces Health & Physical Education Curriculum Revisions 2015 and the implementation plan for September 2015.

4.9 Director Crocco provided updated information on the implementation of the Attendance Support Program Policy including discussions held at the January and February 2015 Policy Committee Meetings on the review of the Attendance Support Program Policy following the first year of implementation. Superintendent Iannantuono highlighted the copy of the HR Memo #314 (2014-2015) provided to Trustees at the Policy Committee

Meeting that same night that will be sent to all staff from the Human Resources Services Department on February 25, 2015. Discussion took place regarding the memo. Trustee Charbonneau requested that feedback received from staff through the Staff Wellness Committee be submitted to the Policy Committee as part of the review of the Attendance Support Program Policy.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

1. Attendance Support Program Policy

At the January 27, 2015 Board Meeting Vice-Chair Sicoli submitted a Notice of Motion regarding the Board's Attendance Support Program Policy for presentation at the February 24, 2015 Board Meeting.

Moved by Trustee Sicoli
Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board refer the Attendance Support Program Policy to the Policy Committee for review.

CARRIED

Vice Chair Sicoli amended the Notice of Motion by deleting the four whereas statements included in the Background Information and an amendment to the recommendation, to include submission to the March 2015 Policy Committee with a recommendation by September 2015.

Following a discussion, the recommendation was amended to include at the next Policy Committee Meeting of March 2015 for review, and for any changes to be effective as at September 1, 2015. Trustees want to ensure that the Policy Committee has the time to review the Attendance Support Program Policy and time to vet any draft changes with all partners as per the Board's vetting process, prior to recommending any changes to the Committee of the Whole. Any changes to the Policy would be effective, as at, September 1, 2015.

Amendment to the Recommendation

Moved by Trustee Sicoli
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the amendment to the motion to include at the next Policy Committee Meeting of March 2015 for review and for any changes to be effective as at September 1, 2015.

CARRIED

Following the amendment of the recommendation, the Board voted on the amended main Notice of Motion which did not include the four whereas statements included in the Background Information and included the Board approved amended recommendation.

Moved by Trustee Sicoli
Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT Niagara Catholic District School Board refer the Attendance Support Program Policy to the Policy Committee Meeting of March 2015 for review and for any changes to be effective as at September 1, 2015.

CARRIED

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting at 8:34 p.m. and reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of January 27, 2015, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of February 10, 2015, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of January 27, 2015, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of February 10, 2015, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the February 24, 2015 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **February 24, 2015**.

Approved on **March 24, 2015**.

Fr. Paul MacNeil
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: BROCK UNIVERSITY NIAGARA PRINCIPAL'S ENTRANCE
AWARD**

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: March 24, 2015



PRESENTATION BACKGROUND

Board Meeting
March 24, 2015

BROCK UNIVERSITY NIAGARA PRINCIPAL'S ENTRANCE AWARD



Announcement: The Brock University – Niagara Principal's Entrance Award

Brock University is pleased to announce a new entrance scholarship program for Niagara area secondary schools which is founded upon our institution's core values – academic excellence and a lasting commitment to our Niagara community.

It is our hope that this award will provide a catalyst for local students, prompting them to:

- pursue their post-secondary education right here in our Region
- continue to develop their leadership potential as active participants of our community
- prepare to be among the next generation of Niagara's leaders

Recipients will be selected by their school principal. Each principal may select up to two candidates to receive this entrance scholarship. The value of each award is \$2,500. A work-study opportunity will also be made available to recipients in Year 2 of their program at Brock.

We look forward to recognizing highly engaged students from each of Niagara's secondary schools to continue their tradition of scholarly achievement and contribution to school and community, as they begin studies at Brock University in the fall of 2015.

The principal at each Niagara secondary school will select two recipients based on a combination of the following factors:

1. Academic achievement
 2. Extracurricular activities beyond the students' school requirements and/or significant citizenship contributions to their community
- For additional information please see <http://discover.brocku.ca/awards/niagara-principals-scholarship/> or contact Rico Natale, Director, Student Awards and Financial Aid at rnatale@brocku.ca

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRE – MARY WARD
CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – NIAGARA FALLS**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM
ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRE – MARY WARD
CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – NIAGARA FALLS**

The School Excellence Program report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: March 24, 2015

**SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM
ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRE – MARY WARD CATHOLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, NIAGARA FALLS**

Contact Info

2999 Dorchester Road
Niagara Falls, ON
L2J 2Z9
Ph: 905.357.2398
Fx: 905.357.1288
www.ontarioearlyyears.ca

Age

Birth to Age 6

Co-ordinator

Donna Dalglish

Superintendent of Education

Mark Lefebvre



*Children are born ready to learn.
Parents can help them succeed.*

The Ontario Early Years Centres are places where children (birth to age six) can:

- play and learn with their parents/caregivers
- explore and experience activities to stimulate brain development and curiosity
- interact, play and socialize with other children

Parents, Grandparents, Caregivers can:

- participate in activities with the child in their care and enjoy play-based early learning together
- drop in to participate in play-based learning activities
- interact with your child and program staff
- attend workshops and learn parenting tips
- receive answers to questions concerning child development
- obtain support and guidance related to concerns about their child
- meet other parents and caregivers
- borrow resources from the Resource Room/Library
- learn about other early years services

As the only District School Board in Ontario, since 2002 the Niagara Catholic District School Board has administered the Ontario Early Years Centres in Niagara Falls. There are a variety of locations. The main site is at Mary Ward Catholic Elementary School with satellite sites at St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School, Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School, Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary School and the MacBain Community Centre. Everyone is welcome. There are no fees for programs, there are flexible hours and the Centre is open year round.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEETING OF
JANUARY 7, 2015**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 7, 2015 as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2015

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held on Wednesday, January 7, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Superintendent Baldasaro.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Superintendent Baldasaro.

2. Roll Call

Members	Affiliations	Present	Excused	Absent
Anna Racine	The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario	✓		
Rob Lavorato	Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara)	✓		
Carol Baldinelli	VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children		✓	
Sarah Farrell	Learning Disabilities Association – Niagara	✓		
Bill Helmeczi	Pathstone Mental Health	✓		
Trustees				
Pat Vernal		✓		
Maurice Charbonneau		✓		
Student Senate Representative				
Thomas Dedinsky		✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education; **Jim Whittard**, Principal, Secondary; **Lisa Selman**, Principal, Elementary; **Colleen Atkinson**, Coordinator Special Education; **Tina DiFrancesco**, Recording Secretary

Introductions

Superintendent Baldasaro welcomed Pat Vernal, new Trustee on the Special Education Advisory Committee.

3. Election of Chairperson

Moved by Rob Lavorato

THAT Anna Racine be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Superintendent Baldasaro asked Anna Racine if she wished to stand for the position of Chairperson of the Special Education Advisory Committee. Anna Racine accepted the nomination.

Superintendent Baldasaro asked if there were any more nominations.

There were no further nominations forthcoming.

Anna Racine was acclaimed as the Chairperson of the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Superintendent Baldasaro turned over the Chairship of the Special Education Advisory Committee to Chairperson Racine.

Election of Vice-Chairperson

Moved by Anna Racine

THAT Rob Lavorato be nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Chair Racine asked Rob Lavorato if he wished to stand for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Special Education Advisory Committee. Rob Lavorato accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations forthcoming.

Rob Lavorato was acclaimed as the Vice-Chairperson of the Special Education Advisory Committee.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Sarah Farrell

Seconded by Rob Lavorato

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of January 7, 2015 as amended to include the Election of a SEAC Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) under section K, New Business.

CARRIED

5. Disclosure of Interest

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

6. **Approval of Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of December 3, 2014**

Moved by Rob Lavorato
Seconded by Sarah Farrell

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of December 3, 2014 as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. VISIONING

1. **Goals and Vision for 2014-2015**

1.1 **Discuss New Goals for 2014-2015**

Chair Racine reviewed the following new goals that the SEAC will focus on for the 2014-2015 school year: *SEAC Presentation at the New Teacher Induction Program (NTIP)* and *SEAC's Participation in the Review of the Special Education Plan: Assign Members Sections of the Plan*. A discussion was held regarding which goal to focus on first. A suggestion was made to focus on the review of the Special Education Plan and to do the NTIP presentation over a 2 year plan to give the members more time to prepare.

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 3, 2014

1. **Learner Advocacy**

2. **Parent Outreach**

3. **Program and Service Recommendations**

4. **Special Education Budget**

5. **Annual Review, Special Education Plan**

6. **Other Related Items**

7. Policy Review

The following policies were presented; 1) *Accessible Customer Service Policy, Occupational Health and Safety Policy, Employee Workplace Violence Policy and Employee Workplace Harassment Policy*. The deadline to respond is January 13, 2015: 2) *Educational Field Trips Policy, Volunteer Driver Policy and Volunteer Recognition Policy*. The deadline to respond is February 6, 2015. Chair Racine suggested that any comments can be sent to her and she will respond on behalf of the SEAC. Individual responses are also welcome.

E. SEAC REPORT

1. Review and Approval of SEAC Insert for Catholic School Council Agenda

- A current list of the SEAC membership will be sent to Principals to include in their Catholic School Council agenda.

2. Review and Approval of SEAC Insert for School Newsletters

- A current list of the SEAC membership will be sent to Principals to include in their school newsletter.

F. AGENCY REPORTS

1. VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children – Carol Baldinelli Report Submitted

- Voice's next coffee night is this Friday, January 9th, 7:00p.m.-9:00p.m. at McDonalds Restaurant at 385 Ontario Street in St Catharines. Please RSVP to Kim Rosati at kim.rosati@holliswealth.com or text 289-219-1550 if you are planning on coming out.
- Also here is a link to a magazine subscription "Hearing our way". This is recommended by some of our families. It is a magazine for kids and teens. <http://www.hearingourway.com/>

2. Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Rob Lavorato

- The Down Syndrome Caring Parents Kids Christmas party was well attended.

3. The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario – Anna Racine

- Nil Report

4. Learning Disabilities Association (Niagara) – Sarah Farrell

- We are accepting Winter applications until January 12, 2015. We are currently recruiting many volunteers for our programs, particularly our one-on-one literacy volunteer-tutors for the Winter. Anyone that is interested is encouraged to complete a Volunteer Intake Form at www.Ldaniagara.org.
- We will be offering our full-day summer program called SLAM again! Children will spend half the day on hands-on literacy activities and the other half on recreational activities to

keep them on their toes this summer. Further details (program and application dates) will be confirmed soon and posted on our website in a few weeks.

- LDA-Halton will be hosting the 4th Annual Solutions for Learning Conference on Thursday, March 26, 2015 from 8:00a.m. – 3:15p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Burlington. This conference is open to all and featured sessions include:
 - Linking Assisted Technology Tools to Students with Learning Profiles
 - Reading Rocks: An Approach to Support & Motivate Vulnerable Readers (LDANR's very own John McNamara will be presenting)
 - Executive Functioning
 - Training the Mind: A Case for Mindfulness-Based Interventions & LDs
 - Empowering Students Through Self-Advocacy

More information is on the flyer - To register online, please visit www.ldahalton.ca. Registration before March 13th: non-members \$195, LDA members \$145; after March 13th: all \$225

- Thinking about awareness weeks/months, we are beginning to think of various ideas to increase awareness of LD Awareness Month, which is in October. We are hoping to apply for a mini grant and partner with the school boards in the hopes of increasing awareness (e.g. have an agency banner at each school).

5. **Pathstone Mental Health – Bill Helmeczi**

- Nil Report

G. STAFF REPORTS

1. **Lisa Selman – Principal, Elementary**

St. Therese

St. Therese is continuing their partnership with the Learning Disability Association and with Niagara College.

St. Joseph Snyder

Before Christmas – the E.L.F.S. group (Everyone Learns From Someone) had their craft sale (items ranged \$.25 to \$2.00) and raised \$650. They purchased \$100 worth of toys and the remaining \$550 in food vouchers for the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. George.

Sacred Heart

Sacred Heart is pleased to announce the introduction of its life skills program that will focus around the culinary arts. The program takes place twice a month and each session is an hour in length. The program will be centered around core curriculum expectations, with a specific focus on Literacy and Numeracy. Using the new kitchen area at Sacred Heart, the students with the assistance of support staff are creating their own recipes and filing them in their personal recipe book. They are then asked to use proper measurements to bring their creations to life.

2. Jim Whittard – Principal, Secondary

Denis Morris

- Our Best Buddies Team met on December 9, 2014 for some holiday cheer. An afternoon of friendship, crafts, hot chocolate and cookies were enjoyed by all. Plans are in the works for our Best Buddies Valentine's Day event.
- Denis Morris Catholic High School has always enjoyed close collaboration with Autism Ontario to support our students with Autism and to provide them with pathways to individual success at school, at home and in the community. Autism Ontario is working with Denis Morris on providing transitional supports for high school students with Autism to college and is currently working on a proposal to Niagara College to offer the Community Integration Through Cooperative Education Program (CICE) at Niagara College. This program is currently being offered, with great success, at ten colleges across Ontario to support students with exceptionalities to transition to college life and into the community.

Holy Cross

- Our Special Education students at Holy Cross helped make Christmas sparkle and shine because they learned how to polish silver. More joy was shared by us at the Christmas Concert during our dance routine which brought a great response from our audience. Our advent calendar was comprised of the envelopes numbered 1-24 and each student was responsible for secretly filling them with items that represented that number. It was a great way to learn how to ask probing questions and make predictions. During exams our senior students will be part of a pilot project run by NTEC called “Designing your Future” and we are looking forward to see what information they share with our students.

Saint Michael

- Saint Michael will be hosting the Special Education Valentine's semi-formal on February 13.
- Semester one IEPs go home with report cards and Semester 2 IEPs will be created in early February.
- Transition meetings with incoming Grade 8's and their teachers are continuing. Visits to our Family of Schools will take place during exams.
- We are contacting parents of Saint Michael students with a Developmental Disability (and other high needs students) to see if they would like to participate in annual transition meetings as part of the Integrated Transition Process. This ensures that students are adequately transitioned into the community upon graduation from Saint Michael.

Saint Paul

- The students of the Saint Paul Special Education class continue to do great things! Several students in the Culinary Class planned, prepared, and served a lunch to staff members. The meal was phenomenal!
- Our co-op students continue to do valuable work at their respective placements of Sobeys, Project Share, and Goodwill.
- Lastly, we are winding up a successful semester one and getting ready for the new experiences and challenges that semester two will bring!

3. Yolanda Baldasaro – Superintendent of Education

- Superintendent Baldasaro informed the SEAC members that the proposed 2015-2016 School year calendar is forthcoming.
- Annual System Wide Open House for Early Learning Kindergarten Program is being held on Wednesday, January 14.
- Catholic Secondary School Open Houses are being held in January 2015.
- Distinguished Alumni Award – Deadline for submission is February 27, 2015. The award will be presented at the 12th Annual Bishop's Gala being held on Friday, April 10, 2015 at Club Roma.
- EQAO is seeking feedback from various stakeholder groups on how the agency can best serve as a catalyst for student improvement. They are holding a strategic planning session at the Holiday Inn Kitchener Waterloo on February 2, 2015 from 5:00p.m. -7:30p.m. for anyone who is interested in attending.
- Superintendent Baldasaro outlined the process regarding SEAC membership, stating that SEAC members are appointed by the Board. Currently there are 5 local association representatives and a letter has been received by Community Living Welland Pelham pending approval.

4. Colleen Atkinson – Coordinator Special Education

- Nil Report

H. TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. Pat Vernal – Trustee

- Nil Report

2. Maurice Charbonneau – Trustee

- The Ministry is revising legislation regarding the Attendance Area Review for school closures.

I. STUDENT REPORT

- At the last Student Senate meeting a discussion was held regarding the *Keep the Flame Burning* magazine, Catholic Youth Day activities and the idea of having a SEAC Presentation.

J. NCPIC REPORT

- Nil Report

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. *Learner Advocacy*
2. *Parent Outreach*
3. *Program and Service Recommendations*
4. *Special Education Budget*
5. *Annual Review, Special Education Plan*
6. *Other Related Items*

6.1 SEAC Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC)

Superintendent Baldasaro asked if any SEAC member would be interested in the position of SEAC Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC).

Election of SEAC Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC).

Moved by Anna Racine

Seconded by Rob Lavorato

THAT Anna Racine be nominated for the position of SEAC Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC).

Anna Racine accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations forthcoming.

Anna Racine was acclaimed as the SEAC Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC).

7. *Policy Review*

L. CORRESPONDENCE

M. QUESTION PERIOD

N. NOTICES OF MOTION

O. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

1. Special Needs Strategy
2. Highlight students/schools in the system

P. INFORMATION ITEMS

Q. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 7:00p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre

R. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Rob Lavorato

Seconded by Bill Helmeczi

THAT the January 7, 2015 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: NIAGARA CATHOLIC MENTAL HEALTH AND
ADDICTIONS STRATEGY**

The Niagara Catholic Mental Health and Addiction Strategy is presented for information.

Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education
Andrea Bozza, Mental Health Lead

Presented by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education
Andrea Bozza, Mental Health Lead

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: March 24, 2015



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING MARCH 24, 2015

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS STRATEGY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Niagara Catholic Mental Health and Addictions strategy reflects the mission, vision and values of the Board, as a response to mental health and addictions in school communities. Positive mental health for students and staff involves a positive sense of spiritual and emotional well-being which respects the dignity of each individual. The enabling strategies *Design Pathway to Care Program*, *Design awareness, prevention and intervention program*, and *Design clinical support counselling services*, from the Board's Strategic Plan Vision 2020, provide supports for the success of all students:

The Board's Mental Health and Addictions strategy includes short, medium and long term goals for implementation in the elementary and secondary schools of the Board. The plan contains activities, programs, and training sessions in order to support students in the three stages of mental health and addictions initiatives: promotion, prevention and intervention. In addition, the Niagara Catholic internal and external protocols for mental health and addictions detail the contacts and actions to respond to the needs of students who may be at imminent risk and may require emergency support. The Community Agency List acknowledges the community resources and partnerships that are available to Niagara Catholic staff and students as additional supports for students.

The Mental Health and Addictions Strategy, as a Board resource, will be provided to schools to assist with building capacity about the mental health and addictions. By building capacity in schools, students and staff have opportunities to improve mental health and addictions literacy and to foster resilience and mental wellness in school and in their lives.

A copy of the Mental Health and Addictions Strategy has been provided for information. (Appendix A)

The Niagara Catholic Mental Health and Addictions Strategy is presented for information.

Prepared by:	Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education Andrea Bozza, Mental Health Lead
Presented by:	Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education Andrea Bozza, Mental Health Lead
Approved by:	John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Date:	March 24, 2015



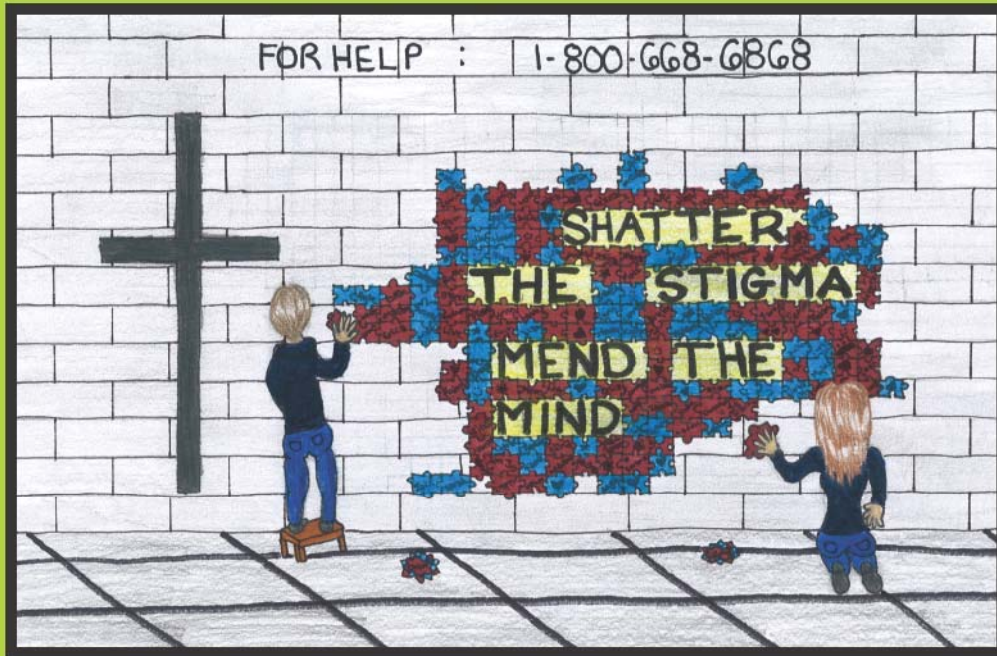
NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Mental Health and Addictions Strategy

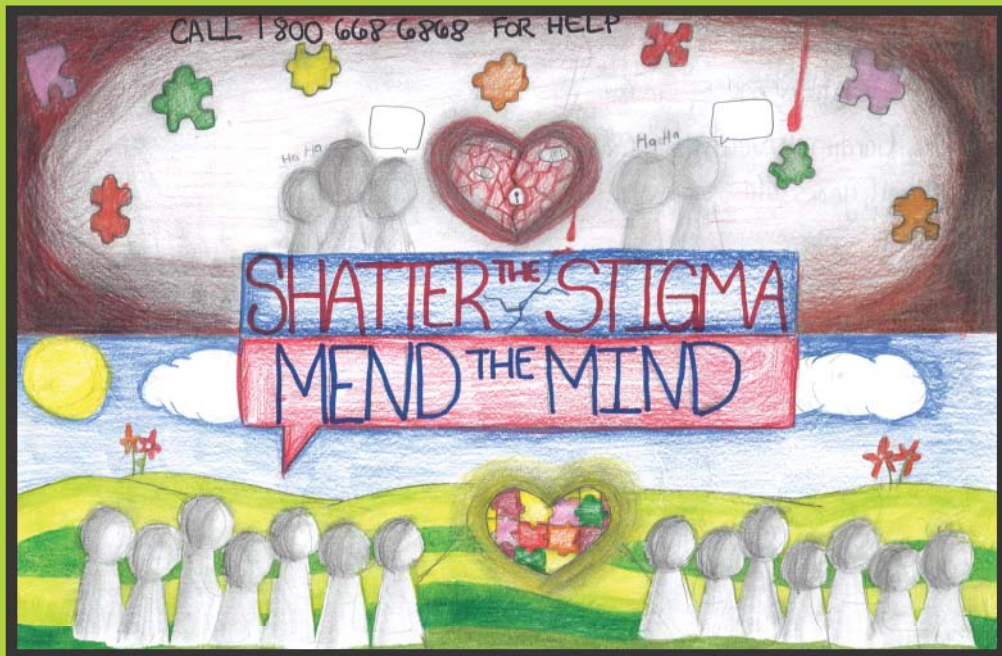
Mission Statement

The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and becoming living witnesses of Christ.

March 2015



Christine Mesicek, Grade 8, St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School, Grimsby



Tiffany Truong, Grade 6, Cardinal Newman Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Message from the Director of Education

The Mental Health and Addictions Strategy of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, recognizes and honours the responsibility of the entire community to reach out in faith, hope and love to serve students and staff struggling with the challenges of mental health and addictions.

The image of Christ dying on the cross reflects the brokenness, suffering and struggles of the world and the hope and promise that our Lord provides through prayer and faith. In Niagara Catholic, this suffering and brokenness is often recognized in the students and staff of our school communities who are struggling with matters of mental health and addictions. As a Niagara Catholic family, our Mission, Vision and Values places the needs of its struggling members at the heart of its concern.

The letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians reminds us that we are the Body of Christ in the world and "if one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together." (1 Cor 12:26). As a Catholic community, we are called to bring healing, hope and a true sense of belonging to those who are suffering. True faith does not end at the image of Christ broken on the cross, but instead focuses on His Resurrection, and the hope and promise to new life and new beginnings.

Through the Niagara Catholic District School Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, the annual System Priorities, the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and the Niagara Catholic Mental Health and Addictions Strategy, the Board is committed to the facilitation and implementation of resources, programs, professional development and training.

Our multifaceted plan is in cooperation with a variety of local community partners that support the physical, social, emotional and spiritual well-being of our students and staff. Our multilayered strategy brings a focused awareness of mental health issues to students, teachers, administrators and all support staff to assist in eliminating the negative stereotyping often associated with mental health disorders. These plans will promote and sustain student and staff well-being and positive student behavior within our inclusive, safe and healthy learning and work environment for staff and students at all Niagara Catholic District School Board sites.

Given the breadth, scope and impact of mental health and addictions challenges facing students and staff, Niagara Catholic recognizes the need for a continuous strategy and focus. The Niagara Catholic District School Board is committed to enhancing our Mental Health and Addictions Strategy based on resource mapping and the needs identified by our school communities and central office staff.

With the continued leadership, support and commitment of our expert and dedicated staff and community partners, we will continue to create loving, caring, inclusive, positive and safe environments for all students and staff.

As a Niagara Catholic family, together we can and will, continue to make a positive difference in the lives of our students and staff.

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer



Nurturing Souls and Building Minds

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Mission Statement

The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and becoming living witnesses of Christ.

DEFINING MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

The definitions for mental health and addictions terminology are quoted from current research papers and reports, and provide a context for plan development.

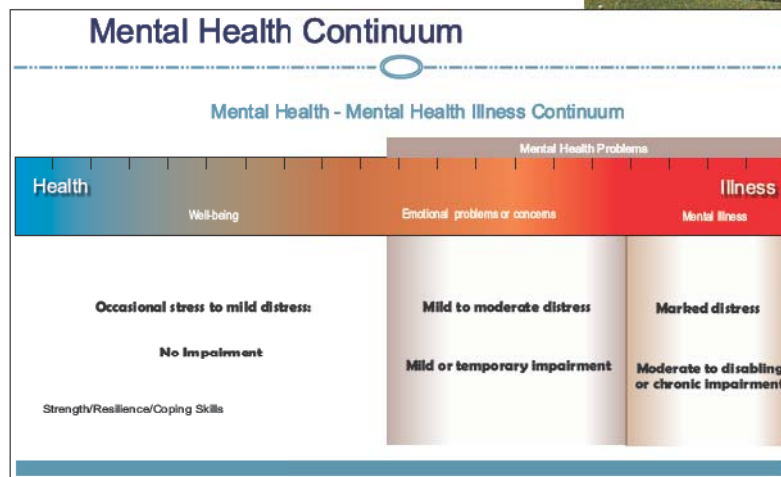
Positive mental health has been defined by the Public Health Agency of Canada as “the capacity of each and all of us to feel, think, and act in ways that enhance our ability to enjoy life and deal with the challenges we face. It is a positive sense of emotional and spiritual well-being that respects the importance of culture, equity, social justice, interconnections, and personal dignity” (Public Health Agency of Canada [PHAC], 2006,p.2).

Mental health is a state of successful performance of mental function, resulting in productive activities, fulfilling relationships with other people, and the ability to adapt to change and to cope with adversity. Mental health is indispensable to personal well-being, family and interpersonal relationships, and contribution to community or society (Santor, Short, & Ferguson, 2009).

Mental illness is the term that refers collectively to all diagnosable mental disorders. Mental disorders are health conditions that are characterized by alterations in thinking, mood, or behaviour (or some combination thereof) associated with distress and/or impaired functioning (Santor et al., 2009).

Mental health problems [refers to] signs and symptoms of insufficient intensity or duration to meet the criteria for any mental disorder. Mental health problems may warrant active efforts in health promotion, prevention, and treatment (Santor et al., 2009).

“Addiction is a primary, chronic, neurobiologic disease, with genetic, psychosocial, and environmental factors” (Savage et al., 2003).



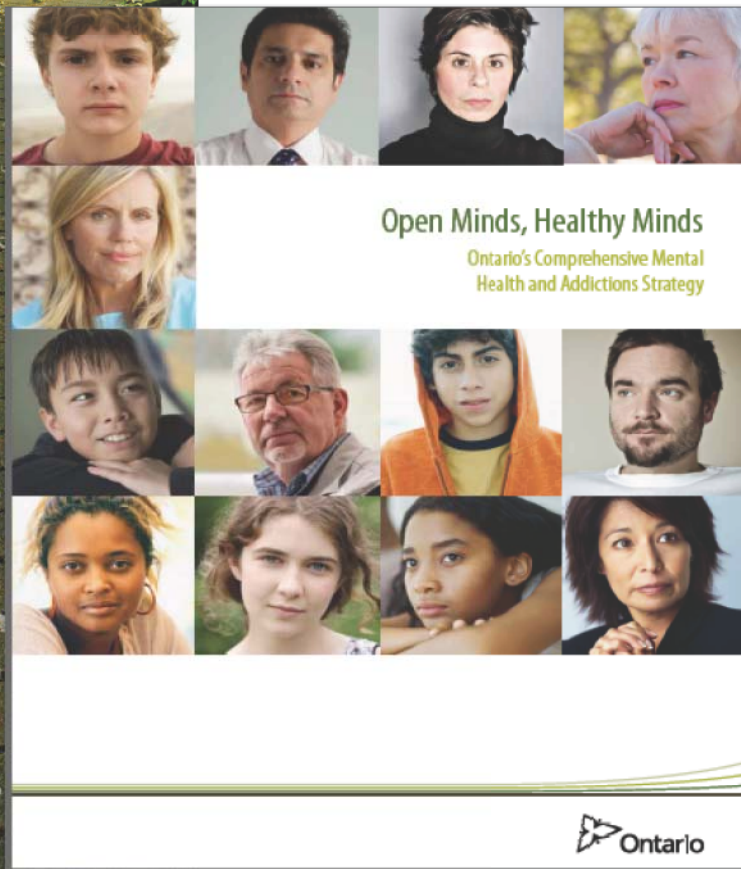


The Mental Health Continuum provides an overview of how states of mental health are differentiated by the amount of stress/distress and impairment involved. The lines differentiating states of mental health are not precise because it is not clear at which exact point a concern becomes a problem, or a problem becomes an illness.

Open Minds, Healthy Minds, Ontario's Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy, lists one of its guiding goals as "improve mental health and well-being for all Ontarians".

The following excerpt from the comprehensive strategy provides the rationale and key strategies to support this goal:

Good mental health is a resource for living. It enhances physical health and helps people succeed in school, at work and in their relationships and to contribute to our communities. People who feel good about themselves and their lives are more productive and less likely to take sick days. To improve their mental health, Ontarians must know how to manage stress and enjoy work-life balance. They need constructive ways to deal with negative emotions such as anger, sadness, fear and grief. They also need activities and interests that help them feel more self-confident and form supportive friendships.



These key strategies will help Ontarians develop the skills they need to manage stress and enhance their well-being:

- i. Laying the foundation for good mental health early in life.
- ii. Improving mental health literacy, fostering resilience and mental wellness.
- iii. Building school-based capacity.
- iv. Developing workplace programs.

(Open Minds, Healthy Minds - Ontario's Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy, June 2011)



Niagara Catholic District School Board

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS STRATEGIES A Plan for Improving Mental Health and Addictions Supports

Short	Medium	Long
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a suicide protocol that addresses prevention, crisis and postvention • Communicate the Mental Health and Addictions Strategy to all staff • Facilitate the roll out of the mental health curriculum in all Grade 9 Religion classes and pilot in Grade 10 classes • Increase staff mental health literacy through presentations, professional development workshops and educational sessions • Collaboration with local agencies and community partners to develop a community protocol • Implementation of suicide alertness training (safeTALK) to Educational Assistants, all Grade 7 and 8 teachers, Grade 9 Religion teachers and NTIP program • Implementation of suicide intervention (ASIST) training to Senior Administration, Principals, Vice-Principals, Chaplaincy Leaders, Child and Youth Workers, ERTs, SSTs, CTCC Teacher, Success Teachers and Learning Strategy teachers • Hiring of Social Workers and Implementation of social work program • Implementation of evidence based programs (Zones of Regulation, Roots of Empathy and Girls Talk) • Implementation of parenting program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to facilitate the implementation of evidence-based promotion and prevention programs for staff and students • Implementation of PD with the inclusion of Religion, Health and Physical Education and Student Success consultants • Tracking of referral numbers provided by community partners (CASON (counsellors), MHAN (nurses) and Pathstone (Mental Health workers)) • Sustainability of evidence based programs (Zones of Regulation, Roots of Empathy and Girls Talk) • Inclusion of mental wellness and mental health education in faith formation • Training programs and mental health literacy for elementary school staff • Data collection for social work program (number of referrals, students in service) • Training with students about courageous conversations with school staff about friends in need of help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systemic mental health awareness and literacy training for all staff • Expansion of all of the existing services and awareness and prevention programs in the schools • Implementation of prevention programs at different stages of development • Development of creative and effective strategies to increase family engagement and participation • Focus groups with students to identify needs and programs that students find beneficial or effective • Setting up mental health teams in each school • Continue to sustain ASIST and safeTALK training annually • Introduction of programs that focus on resiliency • Expansion of the social work program

Provide Support for Success Goals:

- Design Pathway to Care Program
- Design awareness, prevention and intervention programs
- Design clinical support counselling services

Child and Youth Mental Health and Addictions Initiatives



TIER ONE: PROMOTION

BUILDING CAPACITY IN CHILDREN AND YOUTH AWARENESS INITIATIVES



The journey of learning for students enrolled in Catholic Education is guided by the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations which promote the knowledge, skills, values, attitudes and actions informed by faith. As disciples of Christ, students are empowered to search for true happiness and meaning in life. The promotion of good mental health, early identification and prevention of mental illness supports this awareness.

The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (Institute of Catholic Education, 2nd Edition, 2011), are addressed through this Mental Health and Addictions Strategy:

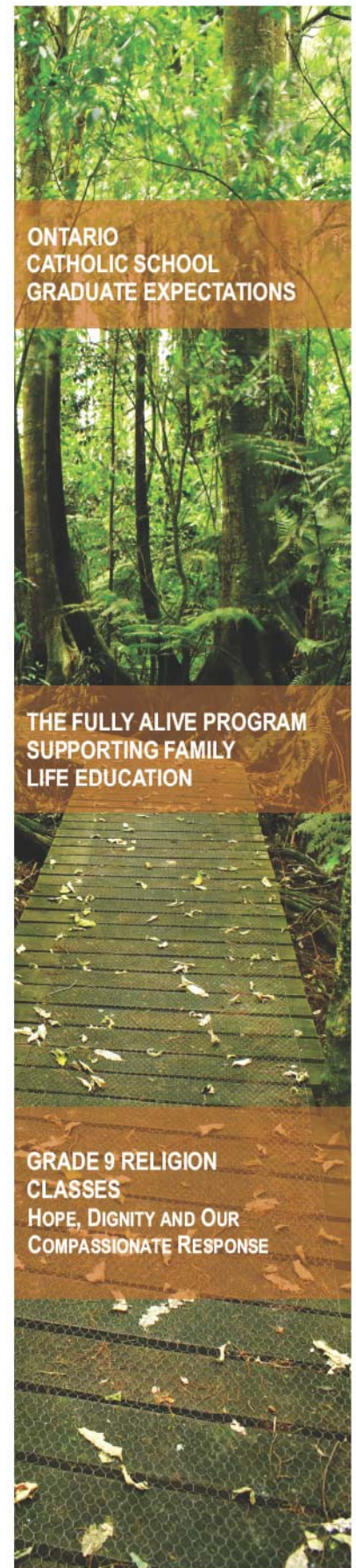
- a discerning believer formed in a Catholic community,
- a self-directed, responsible life-long learner,
- a collaborative contributor,
- a caring family member, and
- a responsible citizen.

The *Fully Alive Program* supporting Family Life Education has been designed to encourage students enrolled in Niagara Catholic elementary schools to become people who are fully alive in the spirit of God. The program provides a distinctively Catholic view of human life, sexuality, marriage, and family complementing the efforts of parents. The five themes focus on positive self-esteem, identifying and living with emotions including grief and stress, promoting healthy relationships and decision making, and managing familial change, which supports awareness and age-appropriate education about mental health and addictions.

Teachers of Grades 7 and 8 students can also access supplementary lessons from the Catholic Association of Religious and Family Life Educators of Ontario (CARFLEO) on stress and grief, bullying prevention, suicide prevention and mental health and addictions.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board has committed to educating our students on the importance of mental wellness and how to cope with difficult situations. These lesson plans include:

- Dignity of the Human Person, Stigma
- Mental Health and Mental Illness
- The Stigma of Mental Illness
- Addressing the Stigma of Mental Illness
- Primary and Secondary Relationships
- Discerning Healthy Relationships
- The Triple A: Anxious About Anxiety
- Letting Go of Our Anxieties
- Substance Abuse
- Self-Care Kits and How to Cope





**THREE YEAR
THEOLOGICAL THEME AND
ADULT FAITH FORMATION
PROGRAM**

**HEALTH AND
PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**FEMALES USING ENERGY
FOR LIFE (FUEL)**

**TEAMS OF ADULTS
LISTENING TO KIDS (TALK)**

ROOTS OF EMPATHY

The Niagara Catholic District School Board's theological theme of *Growing in Wisdom to Worship and Witness*, the theological virtues of love, hope and faith and the cardinal virtues of temperance, justice, fortitude, and prudence, support awareness and education related to mental health and addictions. The call to lead a virtuous life allows each person to better understand the role that faith plays in recognizing human weakness and suffering, the grace that comes from reaching out for help, and the call to promote human dignity and the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable, especially for those who may suffer from mental illness and addictions in our community.

The Living Skills Expectations in the Health and Physical Education Curriculum are critical to the delivery of the overall and specific expectations identified in the three strands in the curriculum document. The Living Skills are taught and evaluated as an integral part of the Healthy Living, Movement Competence and Active Living Strands and are not to be delivered in isolation. The Living Skills sub-groups of Personal Skills, Interpersonal Skills and Critical and Creative Thinking encourage teachers to consistently address critical issues in Mental Health throughout the entire Health and Physical Education curriculum.

Females Using Energy for Life (FUEL) is an after-school, girls-only, non-competitive physical activity program designed to encourage female youth to be more active and learn more about all aspects of health, including mental health and addictions.

The Niagara Cluster Group of the Student Support Leadership initiative (SSLI), Teams of Adults Listening to Kids (TALK) conducts a series of focus group sessions between the Niagara Catholic District School Board and Pathstone Mental Health. The purpose of these focus groups is to invite school board and agency staff to discuss the education and servicing of students with mental health problems. As part of the SSLI mandate, these focus groups facilitate the development of coordination and joint initiatives between school boards and mental health agencies in the province of Ontario, in meeting the needs of students with mental health problems.

Roots of Empathy (ROE) is an evidence-based program that has shown dramatic effect in reducing levels of aggression among school children while raising social and emotional competence and increasing empathy. The program reaches elementary children from Early Years to Grade 8. Roots of Empathy focuses on raising levels of empathy, resulting in more respectful and caring relationships and reduced levels of bullying and aggression. In the Niagara Catholic District School Board, Roots of Empathy is facilitated by Child and Youth Workers and Early Childhood Educators.

The Girls Talk program provides a safe place for young women to connect with each other and to learn about depression and its contributing factors. Young women will develop self-awareness, coping strategies and critical thinking skills through artistic and recreational activities. The topics covered during the sessions were determined through the validity project (from the voices of young women) and through research conducted by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health about factors influencing young women and depression. They include depression, stigma, stress, relationships, self-esteem, media and body image. The purpose of this program is for young women to focus on their own personal power, self-esteem and sense of purpose. This program is facilitated by Child and Youth Workers in all Niagara Catholic secondary schools.

The Zones of Regulation program is a systematic, cognitive behaviour approach used to teach self-regulation by categorizing all the different ways we feel and states of alertness we experience into four concrete zones. This curriculum provides strategies to teach students to become more aware of, and independent in controlling their emotions and impulses, managing their sensory needs, and improving their ability to problem solve conflicts. By addressing underlying deficits in emotional and sensory regulation, executive functions, and social cognition, the curriculum is designed to help move students toward independent regulation. Child and Youth Workers facilitate the Zones of Regulation program in all Niagara Catholic elementary schools.

In partnership with community agencies, the Niagara Catholic District School Board hosts a community support information evening for families. This evening provides parents with information about community resources available for children and youth with autism, developmental disabilities, learning disabilities and mental health concerns. Representatives from each of the agencies are present to speak directly with parents and provide information regarding supports and how to access services.

Members of the Special Education Department have been involved in the development of a mental health and addictions place mat to further support Educational Resource Teachers within all the elementary and secondary schools of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. The place mat is designed to provide educators with basic mental health and addictions information and resources around social, emotional and behavioural characteristics of mental illness as well as best practices for supporting students and talking with parents about mental health.



STRENGTHENING
FAMILIES

PATHSTONE MENTAL
HEALTH ANTI-STIGMA
COMMITTEE

SAFE AND ACCEPTING
SCHOOLS TEAMS:
CLIMATE SURVEYS

Strengthening Families is a parent event funded by Family and Children Services (FACS) Niagara. The goal of the project is to produce an evidence-based program model appropriate for families and communities with at-risk youth between the ages of 12 to 16 years, in the Niagara Region. The program has evaluated outcomes, increased positive parenting practices, increased overall family strengths and resilience and improved social skills in youth.

In partnership with Pathstone Mental Health, another component of the mental health literacy initiative is the implementation of the Anti-Stigma Committee. The committee membership comprises a cross-section of volunteers from district school boards and community agencies interested in reducing stigma in schools and in the workplace. Further information on the committee's initiative is found at www.mendthemind.ca.

The School Climate Surveys are part of a comprehensive bullying prevention strategy to reduce incidents and fundamentally change attitudes toward bullying. The Ministry of Education and Niagara Catholic District School Board is committed to building and sustaining a positive school climate for all students in order to support their education so that all students reach their full potential.

School Climate Surveys are tools that can help Safe and Accepting Schools Teams identify the nature and extent of bullying problems. The survey includes students (Grades 4 – 12), teachers and school staff, and will invite parents in the community to provide timely input and /or recommendations to school administrators on bullying prevention strategies. Initial assessment provides a baseline. Ongoing assessment determines whether programs are effective at reducing bullying and improving the school climate, and whether they continue to be relevant for schools over time. The survey results assist Safe and Accepting Schools Teams in determining the needs of the school and making decisions on effective bullying-prevention programming.

CHARTER of RIGHTS

ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING SIX INALIENABLE RIGHTS REGARDING
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING:

THE RIGHT TO RESPECT

To live and grow in a culture of care and respect, where an individual's emotions and mentalities are to be treated with dignity.

THE RIGHT TO ACCEPTANCE

To not simply be tolerated but be accepted; to not face discrimination or be treated differently on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, aboriginal identity, sexual orientation, social class, disability, language, faith/religion, body image or on any other physical, social, mental, emotional, or cultural representation.

THE RIGHT TO SUPPORT

To be able to approach individuals within school and the community who are knowledgeable and compassionate in dealing with mental health concerns, and who are representative of the cultural diversity of the children and youth that they serve.

THE RIGHT TO SERVICE

To receive equitable and timely access to mental health supports and services, in an individual's preferred language and be made aware of such supports and resources regardless of where they live.

THE RIGHT TO SUCCESS

To be supported in achievement, and thrive in a fun and engaging environment that emphasizes learning and living at one's own pace; to be fairly assessed in schools; to be understood and accommodated.

THE RIGHT TO PROTECTION

To be safe from harm, bullying, or any form of harassment; to be able to freely voice opinions and input without reprimand.



OSTA AECO



Student Trustees from across Ontario worked closely with the Coalition for Child and Youth Mental Health to produce the Charter of Rights for Mental Health and Well-Being. The Charter was published by OSTA - AECO in May 2010.

TIER TWO: PREVENTION

BUILDING CAPACITY MENTAL HEALTH IN CHILDREN AND YOUTH PREVENTION INITIATIVES



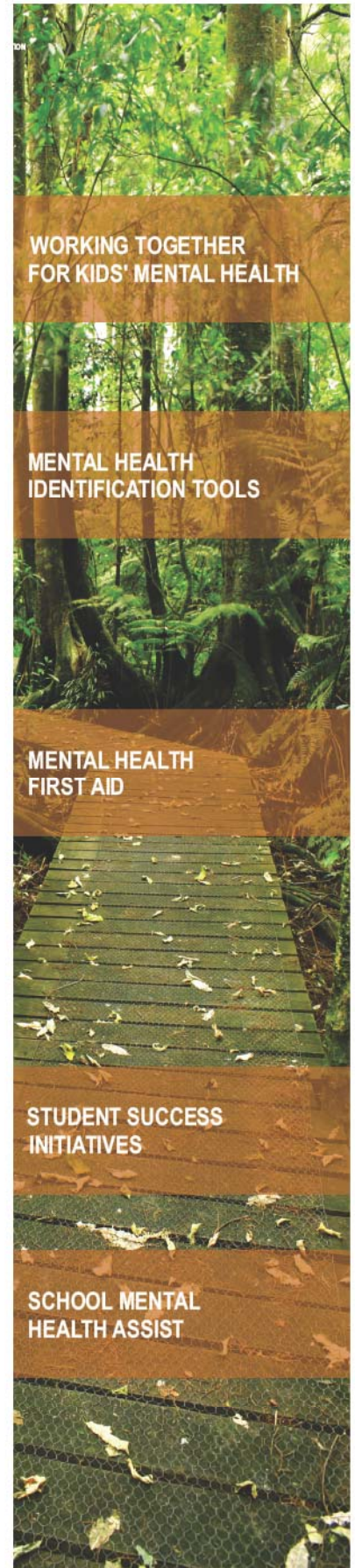
In partnership with the Ministry of Child and Youth Services (MCYS), the Ministry of Education (EDU) and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), Working Together for Kids' Mental Health is a provincial strategy to support better outcomes for children and youth with mental health needs. Working Together is implemented at a community level, and is supported by a lead child and youth mental health agency identified for each community.

As part of the year two implementation initiative, facilitated through the Niagara Catholic District School Board Special Education Department, elementary and secondary Educational Resource Teachers (ERT), and secondary Child and Youth Workers (CYW) have been trained on the implementation and use of Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ), Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Education Edition (CANS-EI) and Global Appraisal of Individual Needs Short Screen (GAIN-SS) identification tools. The mental health identification/screening tools are used so that staff can identify students with potential mental health needs and link them to the appropriate professional community services.

Over 100 Niagara Catholic staff have participated in the Mental Health First Aid: For Adults Who Interact With Youth Ages 12 to 24 training. Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is the help provided to a person developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. Just as physical first aid is administered to an injured person before medical treatment can be obtained, MHFA is given until appropriate treatment is found or until the crisis has been resolved. Staff include: Child and Youth Workers, Secondary Success Teachers, Stay-in-School-Coordinator, Secondary Health and Physical Education Teachers, Health and Physical Education Consultant, Chaplaincy Leaders, Religion Consultant and Special Education Department Staff.

Under the umbrella of Student Success, professional development workshops have been offered on several mental health related topics in partnership with Niagara Region Public Health Department (NRPH), Pathstone Mental Health, Schizophrenia Society of Hamilton, Dr. Jean Clinton, Community Addictions Services of Niagara, Community Care Access Centre and the Niagara Health System.

The School Mental Health ASSIST (SMH-ASSIST) is a provincial implementation support team designed to build system and school capacity to support students with mental health and addictions needs. The ASSIST team supports educator professional learning opportunities and capacity building with online and paper resources focused on addressing mental health and addictions needs.



ASIST (APPLIED SUICIDE INTERVENTION SKILLS TRAINING) ROLLOUT

The Niagara Catholic District School Board has invested in internal Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) trainers to continue to train staff in suicide intervention. Trained staff include:

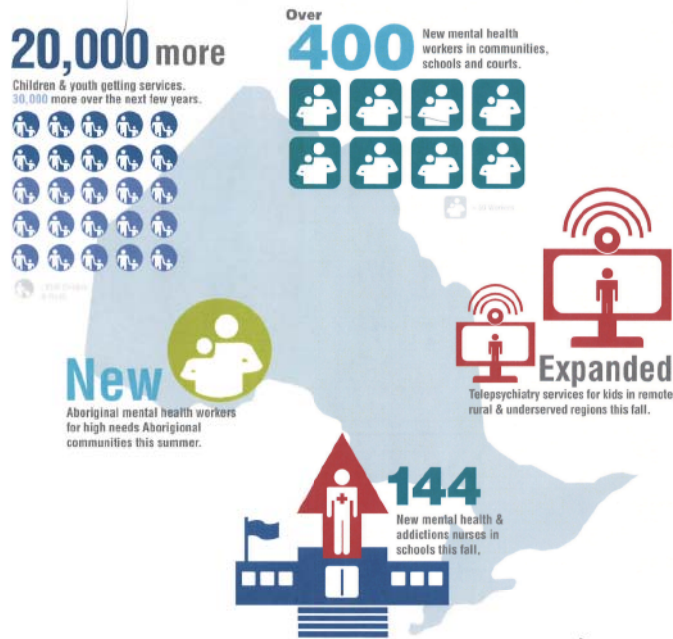
- Board Staff
- Behaviour Resource Teachers
- Chaplaincy Leaders
- Child And Youth Workers
- Educational Resource Teachers
- Guidance Staff
- Human Resources Staff
- Senior Staff
- Special Education Coordinators
- Student Success Teachers
- Vice-Principals

SAFETALK

The Niagara Catholic District School Board has invested in internal safeTALK trainers to continue to train staff in suicide awareness. Trained staff include:

- Educational Assistants
- All Grades 7 and 8 teachers
- All Grade 9 Religion teachers
- Child and Youth Workers
- Select staff and students in secondary schools

Ontario's Mental Health and Addictions Strategy: Children and Youth
The First Year



TIER THREE: INTERVENTION

BUILDING CAPACITY MENTAL HEALTH IN CHILDREN AND YOUTH INTERVENTION INITIATIVES



The Mental Health Lead for the Niagara Catholic District School Board, assists in the coordination of mental health services internally and externally. The Lead implements and facilitates training and acts as a liaison for community agencies in regards to mental health initiatives and system level changes.

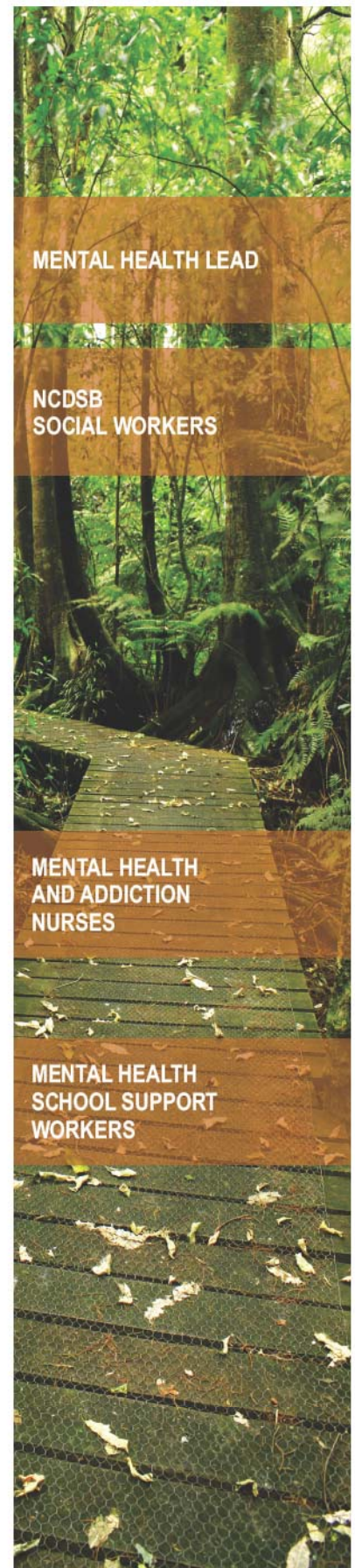
Niagara Catholic District School Board has two Social Workers who consult with schools about behaviour management, social-emotional issues, social skills development and anger management, to facilitate academic success for students. The Social Workers provide services to students with mild to moderate mental health and addiction issues, and youth whose clinical presentation is appropriate for treatment within a school-based setting.

In addition the Social Workers offer clinical crisis intervention and support to students and families and provide psycho-social assessments and develop treatment plans for students. They liaise with community agencies to ensure effective responses to students and families through community referrals.

While working with students the Social Workers also consult, mediate, advocate and problem solve with principals and school teams and work cooperatively, as part of a multi-disciplinary team, with staff and students.

Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) has partnered with the Niagara Catholic District School Board to support schools in recognizing and responding to student mental health concerns. The Mental Health and Addictions Nurses (MHAN) work with students who may have mild to complex mental health and/or substance abuse issues. They also consult with school staff regarding a mental health diagnosis, or about students who are transitioning back to school from hospital/institution.

Pathstone Mental Health has been allocated resources for mental health workers to support students. The Mental Health School Support Workers provide direct services to students, which may include counselling, therapy, short term and crisis intervention, group therapy and support for key transitions to enhance student achievement.



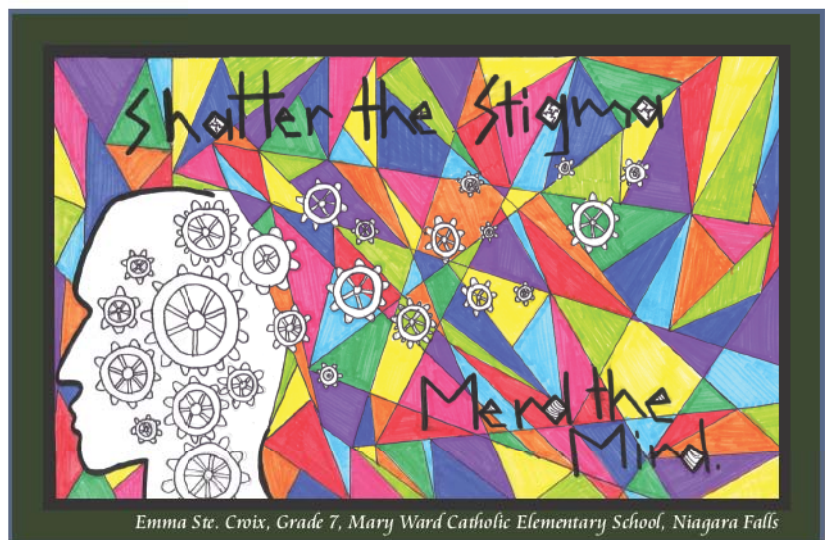


Threat Assessment/Crisis Intervention (related to self-harm/suicide threat or other crises) is provided by the Niagara Catholic Supervisor of School Counselling Services as requested by the Niagara Catholic District School Board Safe and Accepting School Teams. Some school administrators have completed Level 1 Threat Assessment training delivered by Kevin Cameron.

The Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Program enables the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee of Niagara Catholic to excuse students from 14 to 17 years of age from attending school, while they continue to participate in learning under the supervision of the Board or a school of the Board. The goal is to maintain a connection to learning for these students and to support their continued progress towards graduation or achievement of other educational and personal goals.

The Learning Strategies Social Skills Classes are specialized low ratio placement classes for primary and junior students. The classes create a learning environment to support students to reach their spiritual, academic and social emotional potential with the support of a teacher and Child and Youth Worker. Strategies and opportunities are provided for students to develop self-regulation, and problem solving strategies in social conflict situations using a Christ-centered, faith-based approach. Each student's Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) is developed, reviewed and monitored on a regular basis.

The Niagara Regional Police Service School Resource Officer (SRO) Program aims to reduce the barriers between youth and police. The School Resource Officers engage with students, staff and parents in a proactive and positive way, providing a consistent police presence and developing meaningful relationships with area youth. School Resource Officers become part of the school community, with the goals of assisting and ensuring safe learning environments for all members of the school community.

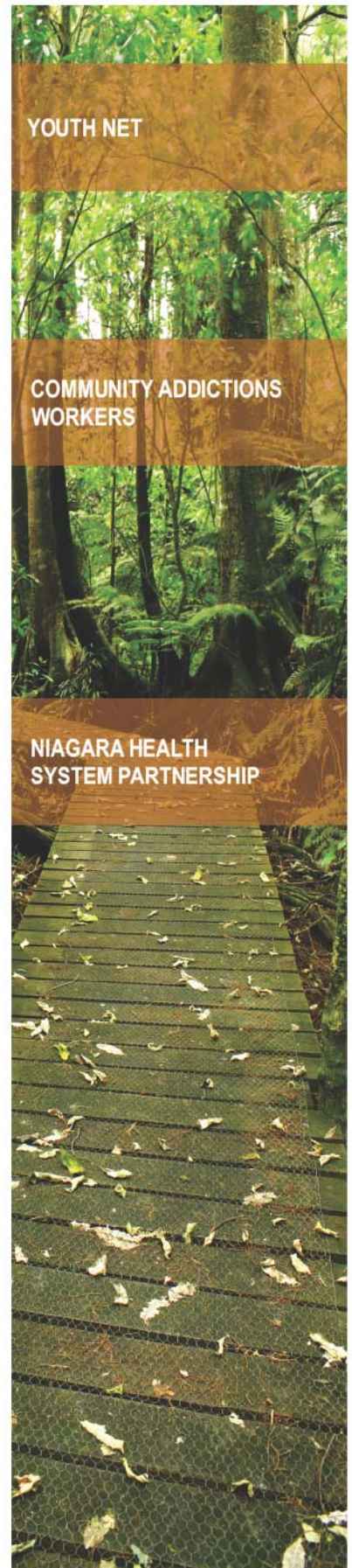


The Niagara Region Public Health Department (NRPH), implemented Youth Net in Grade 9 classes in secondary schools throughout the Board. Youth Net is a mental health promotion and early intervention program run by youth for youth. The main goal of Youth Net is to provide a forum for young people to express, explore and discuss their views and concerns about mental health. Youth Net trains youth facilitators to run focus groups with youth between the ages of 12 to 20 to discuss their opinions on mental health, the issues they face and how they deal with these issues. Youth facilitators are “older youth” between the ages of 16 to 30.

Community Addiction Services of Niagara (CASON) is a member of Addictions Ontario and the Ontario Federation of Community Mental Health and Addictions Programs. CASON is funded by the provincial government through the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (HNHB LHIN).

CASON is committed to excellence and collaboration in the provision of a comprehensive client-centered community based service for individuals and families with addiction concerns. The practice offers services to the youth community with alcohol, drug and gambling issues and values family involvement. CASON has a positive history of supporting Niagara Catholic District School Board secondary students in their schools.

The Niagara Health System (NHS) and the Niagara Catholic District School Board have open communication about students who have been hospitalized for mental health concerns or thoughts of suicide. The Niagara Catholic District School Board is informed about the discharge meeting so that a representative can attend the meeting to participate in the creation of a transition plan back into the school. The NHS is currently in the process of creating a Student Care Coordination Plan for schools to support students.





Niagara Catholic Alternative Learning The Pope Francis Centre

The Pope Francis Centre motto is "A Place where all are welcome". The Pathway to Care Program provides students who may struggle with learning in a traditional school setting with a supported learning environment, where they can work on independently selected programming, credits and receive individualized supports.



The Pope Francis Centre offers **Fresh Start, Jump Start, Parent Support and Mental Health and Addictions** programs to support students.

These programs and supports are integrated with the following opportunities:

Independent Learning: With the guidance and support of staff, students work on and complete their course of study.

Community Involvement: Students participate in community service activities.

Healthy Living: Students participate in Healthy Living activities including physical education, addiction and mental health guest speakers.

Nutrition for Learning: Providing healthy breakfasts, lunches and snacks for students to help them be ready to learn.

Pathways Planning: Career planning, Co-operative Education, trips to Niagara College, connections with Job Gym and experiential learning activities.

Personal Life Management: Regular meetings with the CYWs to discuss personal, socio-emotional, and behavioural issues and to develop the problem solving skills.

Goal Setting: To develop goals related to the successful reintegration of the home school.

Mental Health Supports

- Access to counselling and social work services are provided by Social Workers, including drop-in sessions for students two mornings per week.
- Access to drop in sessions with a Mental Health and Addictions counsellor from Community Addictions Services of Niagara two mornings per week.
- Support from two Child and Youth Workers to assist with emotional and self-regulation.
- Access to programs that allow students to target individual needs and interests, along with physical activities working with the Child and Youth Workers to learn life skills.
- The Pope Francis Centre has various community partners visiting the site to engage students in activities including Job Gym through the John Howard Society, and guest speakers.

Shatter the Stigma Mend the Mind

Be fair don't Compare!

BE KIND FOR EACH OTHER!

Be Your Self!

NOMORESTIGMA!



Shatter the Stigma
Mend the Mind

2014 Poster Contest
Grade 1 to 3 Category Winner
Bianca Brereton, Holy Name Catholic Elementary School
Welland

Pathstone
Mental Health



NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Employee Mental Health and Addictions Initiatives

Workplaces play an important role in our mental health. Many individuals find their workplaces can be a major source of stress. Workplaces should be key partners in Ontario's Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy, adopting policies and programs that help employees enhance their mental health. When employees are functioning with optimal mental health their productivity is higher. The Niagara Catholic District School Board acknowledges that building a healthy workforce is a system priority. Niagara Catholic continually designs programs and services to support employees' healthy habits and lifestyles for improved physical and mental health and to perform at their optimum in order to improve student achievement.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board's Faith Formation program provides a variety of faith formation activities for staff to deepen their faith and community experience. Extensive research has shown a deep connection between faith, community belonging and well-being (Ellison, 1991). Participation by staff in faith formation activities may prove to increase an overall sense of well-being which is a strong preventative indicator in mental health issues.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board has established a Staff Wellness Committee to focus on the personal wellness of all employees. Implementation of the activities of this committee will support the mental health and well-being of students and staff. The Board believes that the personal wellness of an employee will contribute to the overall well-being of staff and students.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board's Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP) provides employees, trustees and their immediate families support through education and information on lifestyle and wellness issues. This is attained by providing up to five (5) counselling sessions, at no cost to the employee or immediate family member, wishing to partake in the services of Lidkea, Stob, Venema and Associates. At the employer's request, group sessions or presentations on lifestyle and wellness issues may also be offered by Lidkea, Stob, Venema and Associates.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board recognizes that a healthy mental state also depends upon a healthy physical state. In partnership with Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) and Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association (OECTA), Niagara Catholic provides recreational activities for all employees of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

The CAREpath Navigation System and Survivor Support Program is available to members contributing to the OTIP Long Term Disability (LTD) Benefits Plan. Available to the cancer patient, cancer survivors and their immediate family, this service offers ongoing emotional and medical support (1-800-290-5106).

FeelingBetterNow® is available to employees, their spouse and dependent children, as part of the OTIP LTD benefits plan. FeelingBetterNow® is Canada's only medically-based and approved website designed to assist family physicians and patients in the early diagnosis, treatment and ongoing management of mental and emotional health problems using medical best practices. The website provides a preliminary assessment of your emotional and mental health using a set of online tools (www.feelingbetternow.com/otip).

Proaction Plus services are available to Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) employees working 20 hours or more with Niagara Catholic District School Board. These services are provided by a national network of specialists qualified in the psychosocial professions. These counsellors are chosen for their skills and experience by Solareh, Services for Progress in Human Resources Inc (1-800-668-0193).





The Niagara Catholic District School Board focuses training for all administrators on the challenges of mental health and addictions through the Human Resources Certification for Administrators.

In addition, the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario (CPCO), offers school administrators in Niagara Catholic District School Board professional learning opportunities regarding Mental Health and Addictions.

The following sessions are available to administrators:

i) Mental Health in the Workplace

This workshop explores the need for leaders to understand the three dimensions of wellness: physical, psychological and spiritual. All three need to be understood, nurtured and developed to become fully human. Using this thesis as a backdrop, the workshop will use the resource, Comprehensive Workplace Mental Health developed by the Canadian Mental Health Association to provide participants with an understanding of mental health and mental illness in the workplace and how to minimize workplace issues that affect employee mental health.

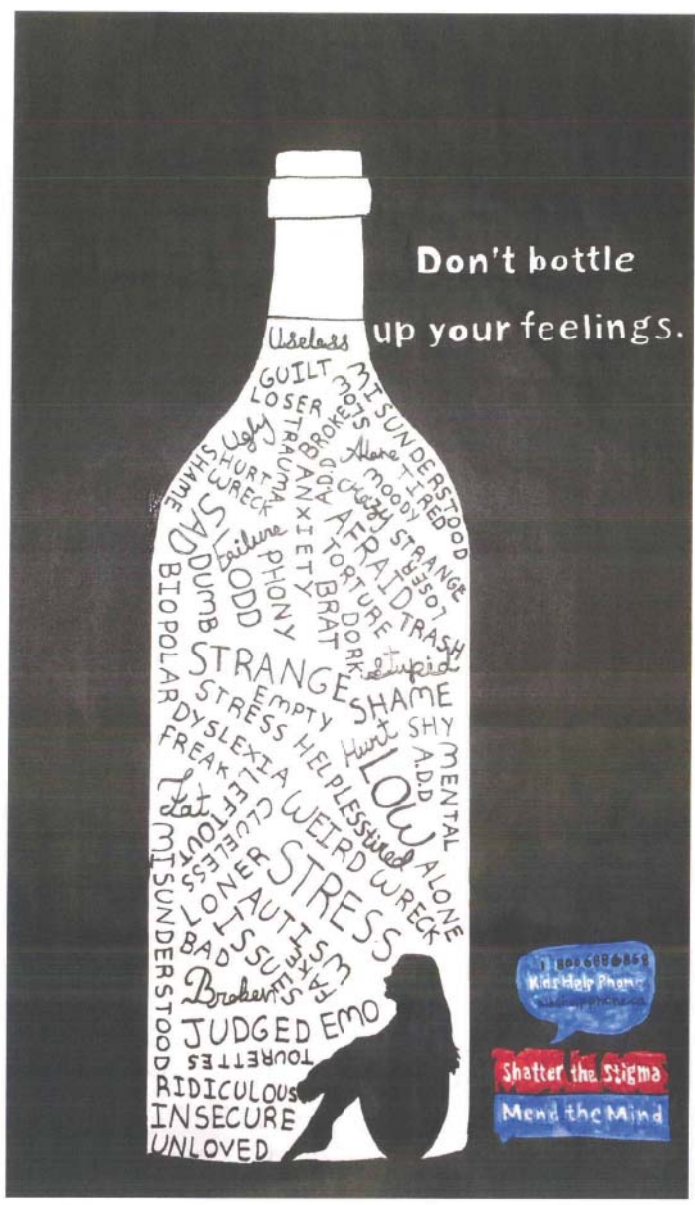
ii) Having Hard Conversations

This training seminar explores how administrators often face situations where difficult topics must be addressed. What do we know about the best strategies for those moments? What questions should we be asking ourselves before we speak, and what environments are best for when we do speak? Based on research around conflict and interpersonal communications, this professional learning opportunity provides participants with an action plan and scripting tools for having those necessary hard conversations.

iii) Finding Balance in Your Leadership Role

Principals and Vice-Principals have reported in recent surveys that they understand their roles as leaders and culture builders in their school communities. However, the increasing demands can bring disequilibrium to their work day. Balancing the demands of being an instructional, cultural and organizational leader can produce frustration in not being able to devote time and attention to details that school leaders believe are necessary to fulfill the mission of the school community. This session explores practical ways that Principals and Vice-Principals can create balance to achieve the results they desire in their school communities.

Don't bottle
up your feelings.



Shatter the Stigma
Mend the Mind

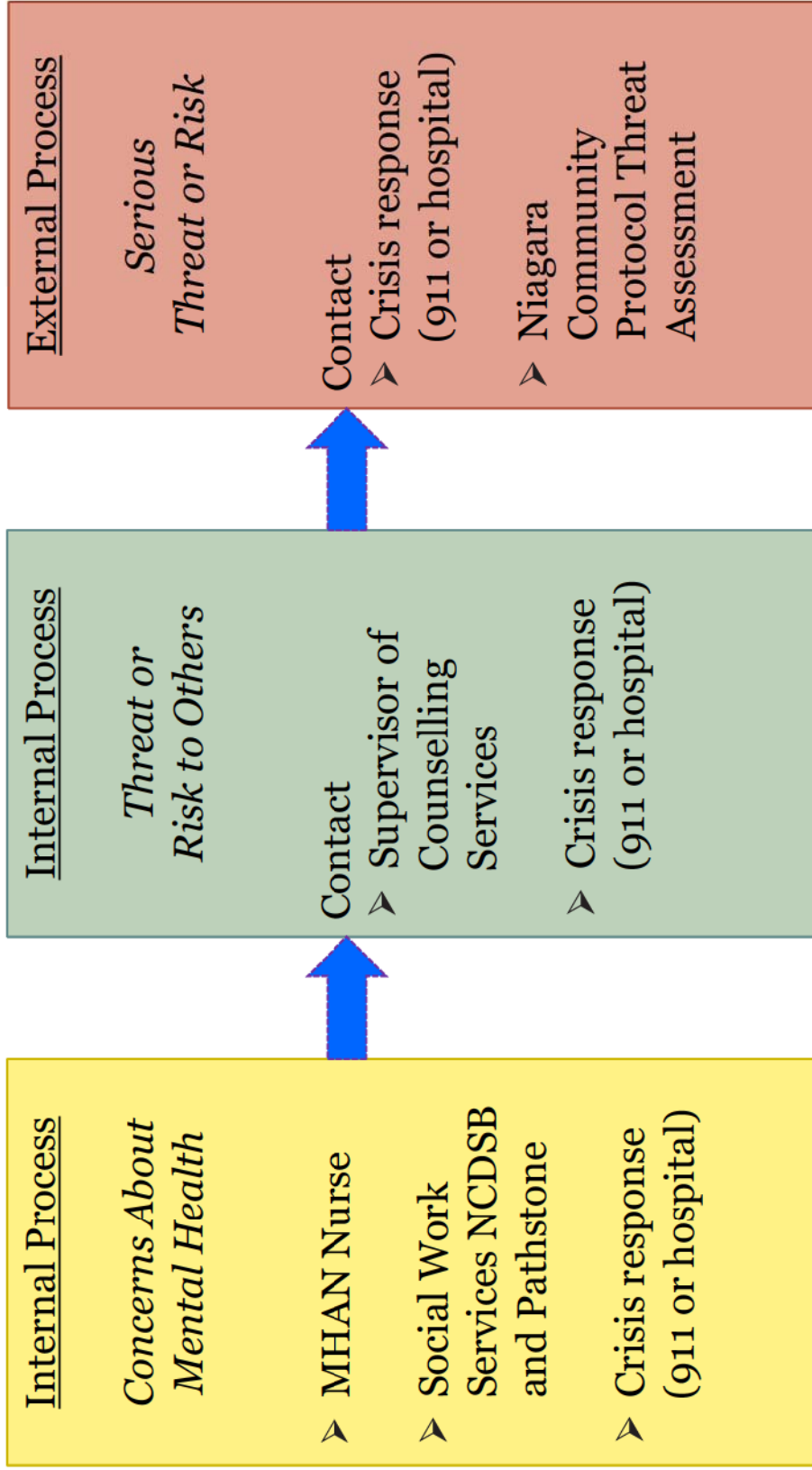
2014 Poster Contest
Grade 7 to 8 Category Winner
Angelica Anderson, St. Mary Catholic Elementary School,
Niagara Falls

Pathstone
Mental Health



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Internal and External Protocols



Niagara Catholic District School Board – Threat Protocol Threat to Self (Suicide Intervention) and Threat to Others



Notify Principal or Designate

**No Emergency/
No Imminent Risk**

**Emergency/
Imminent Risk**

Principal/Vice Principal completes interview with student about threat to self or others.

Principal/Vice Principal must:

- ✓ complete ASIST intervention (if necessary)
- ✓ contact parent/guardian
- ✓ identify level of risk with school team, and
- ✓ **create student safety plan**

CALL:

- ✓ 911;
- ✓ parent/guardian; and
- ✓ Supervisor of Counselling Services

DO NOT leave a message or e-mail the information

STUDENT is MILD to MODERATE RISK...

- complete *Referral Form for Mental Health Services* to access social work services
- complete Niagara Catholic Use, Share and Disclose Personal Information Consent Form with parent/guardian
- send electronic copies to Mental Health Lead
- retain original copies at school in a confidential file

This student has presented concerns that need counselling or follow-up services (i.e. depressive symptoms, anxiety concerns, self-harm; body image/eating concerns, etc.).

STUDENT is HIGH RISK...

- complete *Mental Health and Addictions (MHAN) Referral Form* to access a Mental Health and Addictions Nurse
- complete Niagara Catholic Use, Share and Disclose Personal Information Consent Form with parent/guardian
- send electronic copies to Mental Health Lead
- retain original copies at school in a confidential file

This student exhibits high risk behaviours or concerns, such as suicide attempts or suicidal ideation. This student may have been hospitalized. This student is in IMMEDIATE need of service(s) due to safety concerns.

Next Steps:

- document and share report of emergency with school team
- consult with designated Board and clinical staff
- following student's return to school ensure completion of Mental Health and Addictions (MHAN) Referral Form



Referral Form for Mental Health Services

DATE OF REFERRAL: _____

Student Name:	Date of Birth:
School:	Grade:
Reports on File: <input type="checkbox"/> Psycho Educational Assessment <input type="checkbox"/> Speech/Language <input type="checkbox"/> Medical <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> IEP : <input type="checkbox"/> Identified Exceptionality:	
Home Address:	Home Phone:
	Cell #:
Lives with: (Name)	Relationship to Student:
Legal Guardianship:	Cultural Considerations:
Attached: <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Counselling Report (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Attendance Profile <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of OSR cover (schools attended) <input type="checkbox"/> Last Report Card <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Profile	

Presenting Concerns:

<u>Social Behaviour</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Impulsive (i.e. acts before thinking) <input type="checkbox"/> Suspected substance use/abuse: <input type="checkbox"/> alcohol and/or <input type="checkbox"/> drugs <input type="checkbox"/> Changes in friends and/or peer group <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn from <input type="checkbox"/> peers <input type="checkbox"/> staff <input type="checkbox"/> Physical aggression <input type="checkbox"/> Verbal aggression <input type="checkbox"/> Others concerns about his/her behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Socially immature; inappropriate behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of concern for others; insensitive <input type="checkbox"/> Bullying: <input type="checkbox"/> Victim <input type="checkbox"/> Victimizer <input type="checkbox"/> Threatening behaviours: <input type="checkbox"/> to self <input type="checkbox"/> to others <input type="checkbox"/> Sexualized behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____ _____	<u>Mood/Sense of Self</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed mental health diagnosis: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Psychotropic medication <input type="checkbox"/> Mood swings <input type="checkbox"/> Secretive <input type="checkbox"/> Uncooperative <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn <input type="checkbox"/> Depressed <input type="checkbox"/> Expresses feelings of hopelessness/helplessness <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty concentrating; easily distracted; bored <input type="checkbox"/> Poor self-esteem <input type="checkbox"/> Anxiety <input type="checkbox"/> Sudden outbursts of anger <input type="checkbox"/> crying <input type="checkbox"/> Past <input type="checkbox"/> self-harm <input type="checkbox"/> suicidal ideation <input type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> self-harm <input type="checkbox"/> suicidal ideation <input type="checkbox"/> Sensory concerns <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____
<u>Classroom Conduct</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeps in class <input type="checkbox"/> Appears unmotivated <input type="checkbox"/> Disruptive <input type="checkbox"/> verbal <input type="checkbox"/> physical <input type="checkbox"/> Skips classes <input type="checkbox"/> Is often late <input type="checkbox"/> Drop in grades <input type="checkbox"/> Poor organizational skills <input type="checkbox"/> Refuses to complete work <input type="checkbox"/> Poor problem-solving skills <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently sent to office <input type="checkbox"/> Suspensions <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 days <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 days <input type="checkbox"/> 15-20 days <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete homework/work not submitted <input type="checkbox"/> Informal time-outs <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<u>Physical Concerns</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Poor hygiene <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive absences due to illness <input type="checkbox"/> Significant weight loss or gain <input type="checkbox"/> Frequently fatigued <input type="checkbox"/> Complaints of aches and pains <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy <input type="checkbox"/> Physical disability <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____
	<u>Student Strengths:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____

Primary Concerns:

1.

2.

External Agency Interventions/Supports:

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONTACT Niagara | <input type="checkbox"/> past | <input type="checkbox"/> present | Contact: | Phone: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FACS involvement | <input type="checkbox"/> past | <input type="checkbox"/> present | Contact: | Phone: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NHS | <input type="checkbox"/> past | <input type="checkbox"/> present | Contact: | Phone: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pathstone | <input type="checkbox"/> past | <input type="checkbox"/> present | Contact: | Phone: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bethesda | <input type="checkbox"/> past | <input type="checkbox"/> present | Contact: | Phone: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Probation Services | <input type="checkbox"/> past | <input type="checkbox"/> present | Contact: | Phone: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Psychiatrist/Psychologist | <input type="checkbox"/> past | <input type="checkbox"/> present | Contact: | Phone: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | | | | |

Attempted Action(s) at School Level:

- Positive Behaviour Plan/Safety Plan IST Student Success Team
- Area Team (i.e. Educational Resource Teacher, Central EA)
- Call Home Sent to Office Teacher Detention Office Detention
- Attendance Counsellor Child and Youth Worker
- Supervised Alternative Learning Program
- Sent Home Total # of Days:
- Parent/Teacher/Student Meeting
- Suspension
- Expulsion Pending Expelled
- Other:

Referring Staff Name: _____

Principal Name and Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian consented to involvement of Mental Health Services (attached)

Date: _____

Mental Health Lead Signature: _____

Date Received: _____

Please scan and send electronic copies of completed forms, including consent forms and any accompanying documents to Mental Health Lead, Andrea Bozza (andrea.bozza@ncdsb.com). Retain original copies at school.



Niagara Catholic District School Board
CONSENT TO USE, SHARE and DISCLOSE PERSONAL INFORMATION

This information is being collected pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and under the Authority of the Education Act, and will be used by the Special Education Department. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Superintendent of Special Education, Niagara Catholic District School Board, 427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario L3C 7C1 (905-735-0240).

I, _____
 (Print full name of person)

of _____
 (Address)

hereby consent that Niagara Catholic District School Board can collect, use and disclose personal information from/with the following agencies:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Niagara | <input type="checkbox"/> Pathstone Mental Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Niagara Health Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Speech Services Niagara |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family and Children Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District School Board of Niagara | <input type="checkbox"/> Niagara Children's Centre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HNHB – Community Care Access Centre (MHAN) | <input type="checkbox"/> HNHB – Community Care Access Centre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (MHAN) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

of the following information:

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____

with respect to _____

D.O.B. _____

I understand that the purpose for collecting and disclosing this information is noted above. I understand that I can refuse to sign this consent.

 Parent/Guardian Name and Signature

 Student Name and Signature

 Witness Name and Signature

Date: _____

Please note:

- *Consent may be revoked at any time. If consent is not revoked, then the above consent will be in effect for one year.**
- *Personal information includes personal, health, and educational information.**



Mental Health & Addictions (MHAN) – Referral Form

Student's Last Name:		Student's First Name:	
Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		Date of Birth (YYYY/MM/DD):	
Health Card Number:		Phone Number:	
Home Address:			City:
Province:	Postal Code:	Allergies:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian		<input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian	
Name: _____		Name: _____	
Home: _____		Home: _____	
Cell: _____		Cell: _____	
Bus: _____		Bus: _____	
Other Emergency Contact: Name & Relationship:			Phone:
Languages Spoken in Home (Maternal Tongue): <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> French <input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
Interpreter required? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Specify:			
School Board:	School Name:	Grade:	
School Address: _____			
City:	Province:	Postal Code:	
Telephone:		Fax:	
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED WITH THE STUDENT:			
Reason for Referral: (please ensure Student and/or Parent/Guardian consents to share health information)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Changes in behavior:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical concerns/diagnosis or Medication Management:			
<input type="checkbox"/> System Navigation:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Addictions/Substance abuse:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Return to school support from section class/in-patient/ED:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up with student from youth justice system:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Safety concerns:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
Consent For CCAC Referral to Assess for Treatment			
I _____ agree to the referral to CCAC.			
<input type="checkbox"/> MHAN can arrange to see student by contacting school staff.			
<input type="checkbox"/> MHAN can arrange to see student by contacting parent/guardian.			
Signature: _____		Relationship: _____	Date: _____
(Parent/Guardian or Student (16 years+))			
Referral Source/Contact Number:		Referral Date (D/M/Y):	
Principal or Designate/Contact Number:		Referral Date (D/M/Y):	
Special Education Coordinator/Mental Health Lead:		Referral Date (D/M/Y):	
A CCAC MHAN will contact the student or parent/guardian to determine/confirm consent.			

Please Fax Completed Referral To: 1-866-655-6402

HNHB Community Care Access Centre - Toll Free Phone #: 1-800-810-0000



Community Agency List

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the following agencies may provide support and resources to students and staff that are in alignment with the Board's Policies and Administrative Guidelines.

Consumer/Survivor Initiative – Support, education, advocacy and self-help groups. 1-877-734-0025

Depressive & Manic Depressive Support Group – Support and education for those affected by bi-polar illness. 905 934-1445

Family Mental Health Support Network of Niagara - Offers education and support to families who have a relative with a serious mental health problem. 905 894-6808
www.familysupportniagara.com

National Network for Mental Health - Advocacy, resources, information, education to benefit the mental health consumer. 905 682-2423

Parents for Children's Mental Health - A support group for parents of children who suffer from mental health issues. 905 931-5249 cope.niagara@yahoo.com

Niagara Region Sexual Assault Centre (CARSA INC) - Crisis support, counselling and assistance to victims of sexual violence, past or present, including child sexual abuse. 905 682-4584 24 hour answering service. Office 905 682-7258

Design for a New Tomorrow - Supports adults who experienced abuse in intimate relationships 905 689-1223

Niagara Victim Crisis Support - Practical/emotional support for victims/families of tragedy or crime. 905 682-2626

Contact Niagara - Identifies appropriate local resources for children experiencing emotional and behavioural difficulties, and people of all ages with a developmental disability. 905 684-3407 / 1-800-933-3617 www.contactniagara.org

Mental Health Helpline - 24 hour access to information about mental health services across the province. 1-866-531-2600 www.mentalhealthhelpline.ca

Centre For Addiction and Mental Health – Information about addictions and mental health issues. 1-800-463-6273

Information Niagara - Three digit phone number providing free information about community, social, health and government services. 211 or 905 682-6611 or 1-800-263-3695 www.incommunities.ca

Niagara Health System – Support for individuals experiencing a psychiatric crisis.

Greater Niagara General Hospital Site 905 378-4647 ext. 53803/53804

St. Catharines General Hospital Site 905 378-4647 ext. 43230

Welland County General Hospital Site 905 378-4647 ext. 33407 & 33408

Distress Centre – 24 Hour Crisis Line

Free, anonymous, confidential.

905 688-3711 St. Catharines

905 734-1212 Welland/Port Colborne

905 563-6674 Grimsby/Beamsville

905 382-0689 Fort Erie

Kids Help Phone – 24 Hour Crisis Line

A 24 hour bilingual telephone service providing counselling and information/referral services. 1-800-668-6868

CMHA Safe Beds – 24 Hours

Community crisis care at hospital, mental health agency referrals for individuals 16 years of age and older.

905 641-5254

Canadian Mental Health Association CMHA Niagara Branch – Counselling Services, rehabilitative programs, housing programs and support groups

905 641-5222 St. Catharines

905 354-4576 Niagara Falls

905 994-1905 Fort Erie

Bridges Community Health Centre – Mental health assessments, supportive counselling, and community referrals 905 871-7621

Quest Community Health Centre – Health care and social services to residents of St. Catharines area without a family physician 905 688-2558

Family Counselling Centre Niagara – Counselling to individuals, couples, and families with problems contributing to marital or family difficulties

905 937-7731 ext. 3345 St. Catharines

905 937-7731 ext/ 3345 Niagara Falls

West Niagara Mental Health Program - Consultation services, treatment and case management for adults 16 years and older who are having problems with the way in which they are feeling thinking or behaving. 905 309-3336



**EMERGENCY
AND CRISIS
SERVICES**

**COMMUNITY
BASED SERVICES**



**CHILD AND
YOUTH SERVICES**

Niagara Region Public Health Community Mental Health Program – Provides assessment, case management and counselling for persons 16 years and older experiencing mental health problems.

905 688-2854, ext. 7262 Thorold
905 871-6513 Fort Erie
905 356-1538 Niagara Falls
905 735-5697 Welland

Bereavement Resource Council – Provides information about support groups/services for those dealing with the pain of grief and loss. 905 680-6400

Centre De Sante Communautaire Hamilton/Niagara – A multi-disciplinary agency serving the French speaking population providing individual and group counseling. 905 734-1141

Gateway Residential and Community Support Services of Niagara – For serious and persistent mental health issues. 905 735-4445

St. Joseph Healthcare Hamilton Mood Disorder Clinic – Provides consultations for individuals with mood disorders. Requires a referral from family physician or psychiatrist. 905 522-1155

Schizophrenia Society of Ontario – Provides public education and access to information about schizophrenia. 905 688- 2543, ext. 632

Pathstone Mental Health - Offers a broad spectrum of treatment services and programs to strengthen children up to 18 years of age and their families.

www.pathstonementalhealth.ca 24 Hours Crisis Care Line: 1-800-263-4944, 905 688.6850

Kristen French Child Advocacy Centre Niagara -Is a safe place to help, heal and cope with life altering impacts of child abuse for Niagara's children and youth. www.cacniagara.org. 905937-5435

Niagara Health System – Assessment, diagnosis and treatment of mental health disorders in youth and their families.

St. Catharines General Hospital Site – Children's Clinic 905 684-7271 ext. 46573

Greater Niagara General Hospital Site – Mental Health Services 905 378-4647 ext. 53803/53804

Welland County General Hospital Site – Child/Adolescent Mental Health Clinic 905 732-6111 ext. 33522

The FORT - A support/resource centre providing youth and their families with supportive listening, information, options and referrals in time of need. Also offers a teen clinic. Serves residents of Lincoln, West Lincoln and Grimsby. 905 309-3678

Boys and Girls Club of Niagara-Night Youth Shelter - 905 358-3678

Provides short term residence for youth aged 16-30 who are homeless or are without secure stable housing. www.boysandgirlsclubniagara.org

Rainbow Youth/Niagara Pride Support Services – Individual and group support to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth and their families. 905 380-4576

The RAFT – Youth centre providing emotional support, advice, companionship, crisis intervention, emergency shelter and referrals to community services. 905 984-4365

Youth Gambling Awareness Program – Prevention and education program designed to reduce potential harm of youth gambling. 905 684-3500

PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) 905 937-0202

Niagara Eating Disorders Outpatient Program – Provides information and resources on eating disorders and weight preoccupation. 1-866-633-4220 905 378-4647 ext. 32532

Alateen – Children and youth affected by someone else's drinking. 905 328-1677

Alanon – For family and friends of alcoholics. 905 328-1677

Alcoholics Anonymous – 24 hours 1-866-311-9042

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) 1-800-463-6273

Community Addiction Services of Niagara – Youth, adults, and family members can access treatment resources designed to help individuals with alcohol, drug, and gambling problems. 905 684-1183

Drug and Alcohol Treatment Line – Substance abuse treatment information. 1-800-565-8603

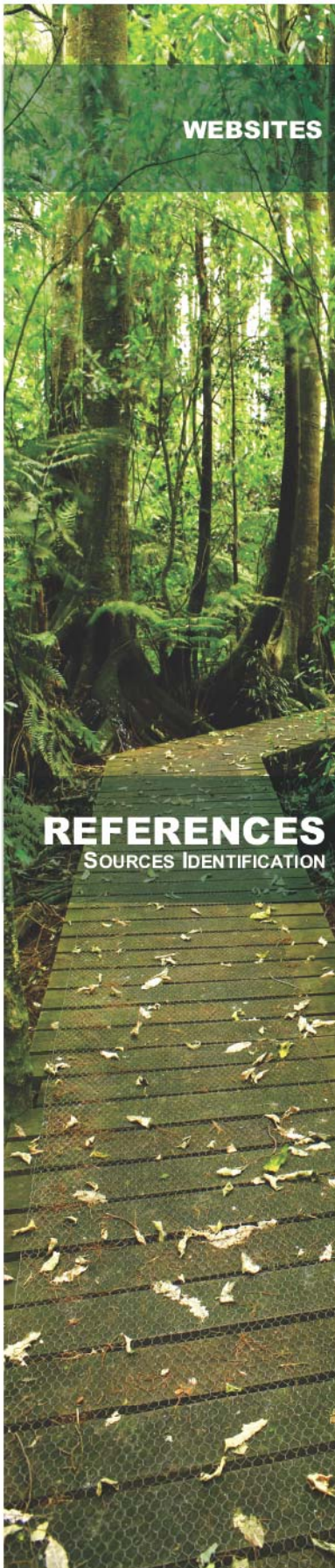
New Port Centre – A residential program for individuals recovering from alcohol and substance abuse. 905 378-4647 ext. 32500

Narcotics Anonymous – 905 685-0075

Gambling Support Services – 905 684-1859

Niagara Multilingual Prevention/Education Problem Gambling Program – Provides problem gambling prevention/education information. All information available in several languages. 905 682-6411 ext. 63849





WEBSITES

www.mindyourmind.ca – For youth/emerging adults – info, resources, tools to manage stresses, crisis and mental health.

www.beautifulminds.ca – Adds positive change in people's knowledge of mental health/stigma around mental health issues.

www.camh.net/education/online-courses-webinars/mha101

Starting point to understand substance abuse, mental health problems, factors to understand those problems.

www.teenmentalhealth.org – Improving youth mental health by effective translation, transfer of scientific knowledge.

www.loveisrespect.org – About teen dating, abuse and provides resources for all ages. Peer advocate, government officials, law enforcement officials and general public. 1-866-331-9474

www.bullyingcanada.ca – Canadian anti-bullying site. (877)-352-4497

www.mentalhealth.ca – Resources/events in Niagara

www.yourlifecounts.org – Helping youth change addictive/self-destructive behaviours that can lead to suicide. 1-866-531-2600

www.surf.to/nnfed - A web site to raise awareness on a range of body image issues and weight and eating problems.

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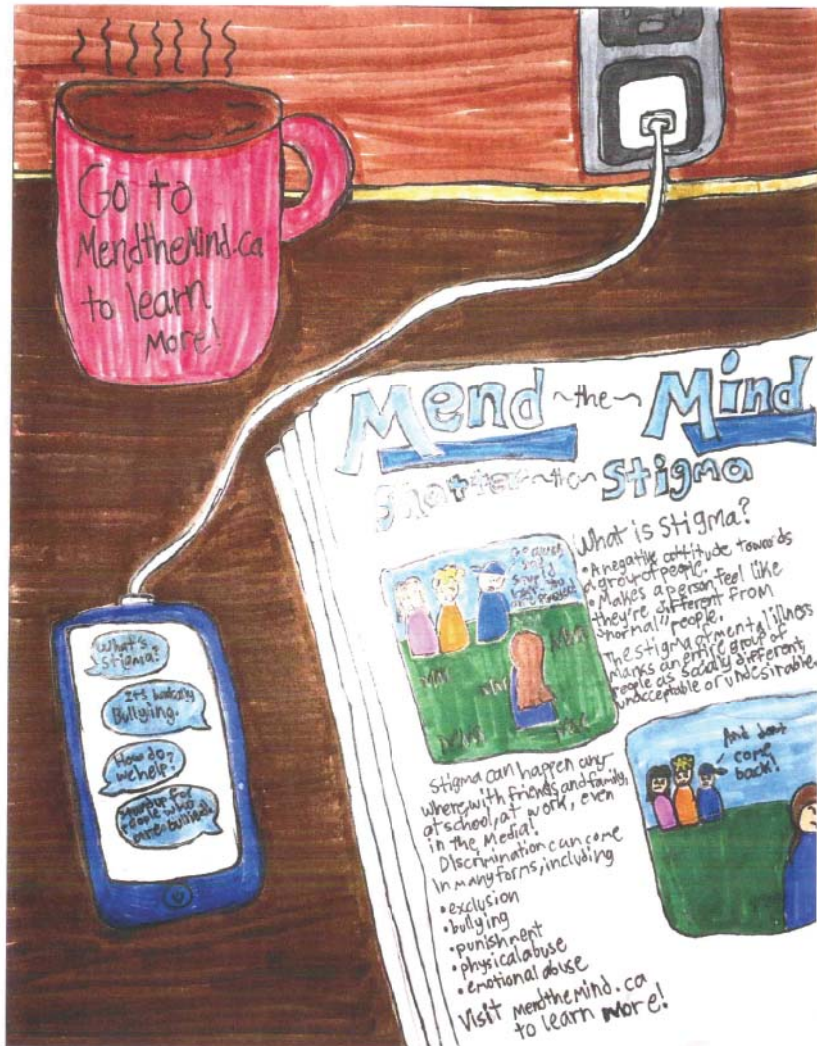
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Shatter the Stigma
Mend the Mind

2014 Poster Contest
 Grade 4 to 6 Category Winner

Alyssa Mozzoni, St. Ann Catholic Elementary School,
 St. Catharines

Pathstone
 Mental Health

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The report on Staff Development Department: Professional Development Opportunities
is presented for information.

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: March 24, 2015



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING MARCH 24, 2015

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In alignment with the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and annual System Priorities, the Department of Staff Development, as an integral aspect of its mandate, acts as the point of co-ordination among various departments. Thus ensuring that all professional development opportunities for staff, both teaching and non-teaching, occur in a seamless fashion so as to minimize disruptions to the myriad services provided within our Niagara Catholic community.

The following is a listing of activities occurring during the period February 10, 2015 through March 10, 2015.

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Nurturing independent Reading in Applied English Classrooms (Monsignor Clancy)

- The struggle to engage certain students in meaningful independent reading is a persistent one. Students in Applied English classes are often dependent readers and therefore spend much less time reading than their peers enrolled in the academic courses. In order to reverse what is often coined "The Mathew Effect" (Stanovich 1986) in reading, poor readers need to do much more reading than their already successful peers.
- Secondary Schools will be involved in this initiative. They will have a chance to collaborate and devise a plan to increase the quality and quantity of independent reading in Applied English classrooms. How we go about this will be decided by the group and could include, but is not limited to, building functional classroom libraries, goal setting, conferencing and marks for independent reading.

Friday, February 13, 2015

Professional Development for Tutors (CEC)

- To help support the important work tutors in the classroom and after school tutors are doing, including FNMI and FSL tutors, the Program Department is offering a half day in-service on Friday, February 13, 2015, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Father Burns Room at the Catholic Education Centre. The Tutors will have the chance to review current resources, participate in hands-on activities and learn new strategies to enhance program delivery, to close gaps and increase student engagement.

Thursday, February 19, Tuesday, March 3 and Wednesday, March 4, 2015

Early Development Index ELKP Teacher Training and Completion (CEC)

- Early Development Index (EDI) is a population measure of children's developmental health and well-being as they enter school. Research has demonstrated that developmental health and well-being are connected to success in school and in life. The EDI measures early childhood

development in five areas: physical health and well-being; social competence; emotional maturity; language and cognitive development; and communication skills and general knowledge.

- Each Kindergarten Teacher will be given one half day of release (February 19, March 3 or March 4 a.m. or p.m. session) to complete the e-EDI (electronic format of the EDI) during a training session at the CEC (Vincentian Sisters of Charity - Computer Lab).

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Roots of Empathy Training (Alexander Kuska Catholic School)

- The Niagara Catholic District School Board has been a champion of the Roots of Empathy program. Child and Youth Workers are required to attend a mid-year training session. This mid-year training is a required component of Instructor Certification. It is important to note that Instructors must be certified in order to deliver subsequent years of the Roots of Empathy program.

Thursday, February 26, 2015

Early Learning Principal Meetings - Session #2(CEC)

- The second of four sessions titled: The Language of Play: How to Promote Good Oral Language Skills in Kindergarten to Grade Two focuses on oral language skills being vitally important to the ongoing development of students in all subject areas. This workshop will show what oral language should look and sound like in K to 2 classrooms.

Wednesday and Thursday – February 25 & 26, 2015

First Nations metis and Inuit (FNMI) Cultural Competency Training for Secondary Teachers and Elementary Resource Teachers (Riverstone Event Centre)

- First Nation, Metis and Inuit people are the fastest growing population across in Canada with the largest growth in Ontario. Provincial EQAO data continues to demonstrate a growing disparity in student achievement between the aboriginal and non-aboriginal students.
- At Niagara Catholic, student achievement is the goal for all students. Becoming culturally competent of First Nations, Metis and Inuit culture and rich histories will help develop a broader understanding of these students, their stories and how their culture impacts achievement.

Monday, March 2, 2015

Carol Todd Staff Presentation (Denis Morris Catholic High School)

- The Niagara Catholic District School Board in collaboration with the Niagara Regional Police Service, Child Abuse Unit are pleased to announce that Carol Todd, mother of Amanda Todd, a 15 year old girl from British Columbia who ended her short life after enduring bullying at school and cyber-bullying, made a presentation to Niagara Catholic staff. The Amanda Todd Legacy presentation entitled “Making the Difference” supports youth mental health, anti-bullying, and social media safety.

The Report on Staff Development: Professional
Development Opportunities is presented for information.

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: March 24, 2015

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: PREPARATION OF THE SYSTEM PRIORITIES
AND BUDGET 2015-2016 – MARCH 2015 UPDATE**

The Preparation of the System Priorities and Budget 2015-2016
March 2015 Update is presented for information.

Prepared by: John Crocco, Director of Education, Secretary/Treasurer
Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Senior Administrative Council

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education, Secretary/Treasurer
Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Senior Administrative Council

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: March 24, 2015



REPORT TO THE BOARD MARCH 10, 2015

PREPARATION OF THE SYSTEM PRIORITIES AND BUDGET 2015-2016 – MARCH 2015 UPDATE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the January 13th, 2015 Committee of the Whole Meeting, the Director of Education and Superintendent of Business and Financial Services presented the initial report on the Preparation of the System Priorities and Annual Board Budget 2015-2016 for the information of the Committee of the Whole.

The information report began the monthly dialogue with the Committee of the Whole towards the consideration of a recommendation for the System Priorities and Annual Board Budget 2015-2016 in the spring of this school year. As noted in the initial report, the annual System Priorities and balanced annual Board Budget will continue to be in alignment with the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, Mission, Vision and Values, the two Strategic Directions and the four goals of the Ministry of Education.

The Director of Education and Senior Administrative Council continue to be committed to two fundamental principles in preparing the 2015-2016 System Priorities and Budget along with balanced financial sustainability for 2016-2017 and beyond. The two principles are:

- a) A commitment to providing Catholic educational excellence through programs and services for all students.
- b) A commitment to achieving the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and Annual System Priorities through balanced and sustainable annual budgets.

In preparing recommendations for the 2015-2016 System Priorities and balanced Budget for the consideration of the Board, the Director of Education and Senior Administrative Council continually monitor and review a wide variety of data and information about Niagara. The data includes city demographics, economic and employment statistics and trends; current and projected enrolment in elementary, secondary and continuing education schools; provincial educational directions; provincial grants for student needs (GSN), Educational Funding Other (EPO) grants and capital funding of district school boards.

As part of the design, consultation and decision making process, the Director of Education, the Superintendent of Business and Financial Services and members of Senior Administrative Council will continue to engage, update and inform, through graphical reports, the March 2015 Board Meeting.

The Consultation and Decision Making Process towards finalizing the System Priorities and the Annual balanced Budget for 2015-2016 is as follows:

System Priorities and Annual Budget 2015-2016 Consultation & Decision Making Process

Continuous discussion and consultation:

- ❖ Senior Administrative Council
- ❖ Committee of the Whole – Trustees
- ❖ Principals at Director’s Meetings
- ❖ Family of Schools Meetings
- ❖ Academic Council
- ❖ Elementary and Secondary Curriculum Councils
- ❖ Management Council Meetings and School Staff Meetings

In collaboration with our partners:

- ❖ Student Senates – Elementary and Secondary
- ❖ Catholic School Councils
- ❖ Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
- ❖ Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC)
- ❖ Niagara Elementary Unit – OEETA
- ❖ Niagara Secondary Unit – OEETA
- ❖ CUPE 1317

System Priorities 2015-2016 recommendations to April 2015 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Balanced Annual Budget 2015-2016 recommendation to May 2015 Committee of the Whole Meeting

As we progress towards a final report and recommendation to the April 2015 Committee of the Whole Meeting for the 2015-2016 school year, the Director of Education and Senior Administrative Council will continue to update, inform and engage in continuous discussions with the Board.

The report on Preparation of the System Priorities and Budget 2015-2016
– March 2015 Update is presented for information.

PREPARED BY: John Crocco, Director of Education, Secretary/Treasurer
Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Senior Administrative Council

PRESENTED BY: John Crocco, Director of Education, Secretary/Treasurer
Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Senior Administrative Council

DATE: March 24, 2015

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: FINANCIAL REPORTS
MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS
FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2015**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of February as presented.

Prepared by: Rosa Rocca, Controller of Business & Financial Services

Presented by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: March 24, 2015



**REPORT TO THE BOARD
MARCH 24, 2015**

**MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS
FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2015**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the Monthly Banking Transactions for the Niagara Catholic District School Board for the month of February 2015 as follows:

February 2015 Appendix A

As required by the Policy, a monthly list of payments is available in the Holy Cross Community Room for the Trustees to review at their convenience.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of February 2015 as presented.

Prepared by: Rosa Rocca, Controller of Business & Financial Services

Presented by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: March 24, 2015

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON BANKING TRANSACTIONS		
SUMMARY OF BANK TRANSACTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF:		FEBRUARY, 2016
DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS		BANK ACCOUNT
CASH BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF MONTH	(A)	20,104,596
CASH RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH		
1. GENERAL LEGISLATIVE GRANTS		16,279,199
2. CAPITAL GRANTS		4,116,299
3. OTHER GRANTS		207,019
SUB-TOTAL - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION GRANTS		20,602,517
4. ONTARIO EARLY YEARS CENTRE		39,793
6. INTEREST REVENUE		28,332
6. MUNICIPAL TAXES		27,632
7. TUITION FEES REVENUE - A.C.E. & OTHER		264,241
8. COMMUNITY USE		46,738
9. CHARITABLE DONATIONS		650
10. GOVERNMENT REBATES (HST 83% REBATE ON TAXABLE PURCHASES)		323,200
11. RECOVERY OF COSTS (LTD, WCB, BENEFITS, OTHER REIMBURSEMENTS)		89,320
12. OTHER CASH RECEIPTS		
- Other receipts and refunds		17,986
- Donations Collected from Employees - Other		0
- Other		0
13. TRANSFER FROM SINKING FUNDS		0
14. PROCEEDS FROM DEBENTURE ISSUE (NET)		0
15. O.F.A. LOAN PRINCIPAL ADVANCES		0
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	(B)	21,425,388
CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH		
1. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (NET OF CANCELLED CHEQUES AND DEBT REPAYMENTS)		-4,431,002
2. TEACHER PENSION DEDUCTIONS		-1,291,796
3. O.M.E.R.S. PENSION DEDUCTIONS		-594,497
4. CANADA SAVINGS BONDS DEDUCTIONS		-126,666
6. TRANSFER TO 4 OVER 6 TRUST ACCOUNTS		-6,894
6. OTHER DEBITS		-318
7. PAYROLL TRANSFERS AND GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS		-14,598,122
8. TRANSFER TO SINKING FUND ASSET		-87,052
9. INTEREST PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT		0
10. PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT		0
TOTAL CASH DISBURSEMENTS	(C)	-21,136,346
CASH BALANCE AT END OF MONTH	A + B - C = D	(D) 20,393,637

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON LOAN BALANCES				
SUMMARY OF LOAN BALANCES AS AT : FEBRUARY, 2016				
The Debentures & Capital Loans are made up as follows:				
Loan Description	Opening Balance	Loan Advances	Loan Repayments	Ending Balance
1. OFA - GPL1 Loan 25 YR.	-11,086,369.91			-11,086,369.91
2. OFA - GPL2 Loan 25 YR.	-8,639,910.63			-8,639,910.63
3. OFA - GPL3 Loan 25 YR.	-4,124,471.46			-4,124,471.46
4. OFA - 2010-11 DEBENTURE - GPL 3	-1,224,329.10			-1,224,329.10
5. OFA - 2010-11 DEBENTURE - PCS 1	-3,020,730.09			-3,020,730.09
6. OFA - PTR - Completed 2010/11	-7,522,937.23			-7,522,937.23
7. OFA - 2001-A1 Debenture	-1,746,361.35			-1,746,361.35
8. OFA - 2013 PCS Stage 1	-948,676.79			-948,676.79
9. Debenture (Niagara Region)	-824,000.00			-824,000.00
10. Debenture (Niagara Region)	-856,000.00			-856,000.00
11. Capital Projects - Completed 2001	-12,201,374.95			-12,201,374.95
12. Capital Projects - Completed 2002/03	-18,760,499.65			-18,760,499.65
13. Capital Projects - Completed 2004/05	-3,967,395.01			-3,967,395.01
14. Capital Projects - Completed 2005/06	-6,743,951.59			-6,743,951.59
15. Sinking Fund Asset	621,463.77	87,062.37		708,516.14
Total Debentures & Capital Loans	-81,034,543.98	87,062.37	0.00	-80,947,481.61

PREPARED BY : Rosa Rocca
PRESENTED BY: Giancarlo Vetrone

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: FINANCIAL REPORTS
UNAUDITED INTERIM STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
AS AT FEBRUARY 28, 2015**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at February 28, 2015, as presented.

Prepared by: Rosa Rocca, Controller of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: March 24, 2015



**REPORT TO THE BOARD
MARCH 24, 2015**

UNAUDITED INTERIM STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, please be advised that a summarized Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at February 28, 2015 will be presented to the Trustees at the Board Meeting. (See Appendix A)

As required by the Policy, a copy of the Interim Statement is available in the Holy Cross Community Room for the Trustees to review at their convenience.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at February 28, 2015, as presented.

Prepared by: Rosa Rocca, Controller of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: March 24, 2015

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
UNAUDITED INTERIM STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
AS AT FEBRUARY 28, 2015**

For presentation at Board Meeting on March 24, 2015

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	2014-15 ANNUAL BUDGET	2014-15 ACTUAL As at February 28	2013-14 ACTUAL As at February 28	% CHANGE FROM PRIOR YEAR
TOTAL REVENUES	253,193,727	126,592,686	126,069,795	↑ 0.41%
EXPENDITURES				
BOARD ADMINISTRATION	7,520,820	4,547,845	4,182,483	↑ 8.74%
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	127,892,618	64,436,812	64,410,599	↑ 0.04%
SECONDARY SCHOOLS	67,912,660	33,850,732	34,082,413	↓ -0.68%
CONTINUING EDUCATION	5,513,307	2,661,590	2,922,022	↓ -8.91%
PLANT OPERATIONS	18,553,272	9,007,913	9,192,093	↓ -2.00%
PLANT MAINTENANCE	3,408,125	1,588,995	1,731,911	↓ -8.25%
TRANSPORTATION	9,721,468	5,844,155	5,975,464	↓ -2.20%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	240,522,270	121,938,042	122,496,986	↓ -0.46%
AMORTIZATION	10,630,054	5,315,033	4,717,662	↑ 12.66%
INTEREST EXPENSES	4,387,683	2,224,526	2,456,378	↓ -9.44%
OTHER	117,487	0	0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	255,657,494	129,477,601	129,671,026	↓ -0.15%
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	-2,463,767	-2,884,915	-3,601,230	↓ -19.89%
ADJUSTMENTS FOR COMPLIANCE PURPOSES				
AMORTIZATION OF EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS	934,433	467,216	467,216	↓ 0.00%
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR COMPLIANCE	-3,398,200	-3,352,131	-4,068,447	↓ -17.61%

Notes:

- 1 Current year figures include manual adjustment for transportation accruals, as well as amortization of monthly lease costs.
- 2 Prior year figures have been revised to conform to current year treatment.

Variance Analysis of Expenditures as at February 28, 2015

1. **Board Administration** - Payment of retirement gratuities, professional fees and hardware maintenance costs are up during the current fiscal year compared to the prior period. These are all timing related variances. Current year also includes the cost of upgrades to Security and Surveillance equipment as well as repairs to exterior concrete.
2. **Elementary Schools** - Current year saw increases in staffing for Early Childhood Educator due to full ELKP implementation.
3. **Secondary Schools** - Savings were seen in the area of teacher replacement costs when compared to the prior period.
4. **Continuing Education** - Savings were seen in the areas of classroom instructor costs and classroom supplies when compared to prior period.
5. **Plant Operations** - Current year expenditures are comparable to prior period. Increases in staffing costs were offset by savings in other areas, such as utilities and plant supplies.
6. **Plant Maintenance** - Savings were seen in the area of building maintenance when compared to prior period.
7. **Transportation** - Current year expenditures are comparable to prior period. Difference can be attributed to the timing of receipt of invoices.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: CORRESPONDENCE
BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD LETTER**



February 18, 2015

Fr. Paul MacNeil, Chair of the Board of Trustees
Niagara Catholic DSB
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON L3C 7C1

Dear Chair MacNeil and Board of Trustees:

On behalf of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board, I am writing to request the support of your board for an upcoming resolution that our Board will be presenting at the Ontario Catholic Schools Trustees' Association Annual General Meeting in April.

As you are aware, the Association is divided into regions that are governed by the Association By-Laws; however, the By-Laws do not contemplate or provide a mechanism to modify how a local Board can request a change in region for any reason other than enrolment.

Currently, the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board belongs to Region 4, which has served our Board well in the past, but we believe that our Board shares more in common with Region 11, which has prompted this request.

Our rationale for our request to move to Region 11 include many factors, but the major points are as follows:

- Region 11 is geographically contiguous to our board, as we neighbor both the Region of Niagara and the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth.
- The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board belongs to the dioceses of Hamilton, St. Catharines (Niagara), and London.
- We belong to the same Ministry of Education region (London East) as both Hamilton-Wentworth and Niagara Catholic District School Boards.
- We share numerous economic interests, many of our staff live in both the Hamilton and the Niagara areas, and many of our elementary students in parts of Haldimand County attend secondary school in Niagara Region.
- This requested realignment will not result in any change to the number of directors for either Region 4 or Region 11; and accordingly, there would be no impact on the current composition of the OCSTA Board of Directors.

... p. 2

Notwithstanding our common interests with Region 11, and notwithstanding the will of the membership, there is currently no mechanism in place other than enrolment changes that would allow our Board to move to a different Region. As a result, the request for a region change would require two separate By-law resolutions in order to permit the requested change. I have attached the By-Law resolutions that have been submitted to OCSTA for your reference.

The first proposed resolution would focus on providing a mechanism under the OCSTA By-laws to allow for movement of boards within regions as long as the alteration is in the best interests of Catholic Education in Ontario, and that the constituent member Boards proposed to be in the same region share common religious, educational, geographic, and economic characteristics. The second proposed resolution would be that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board be included in Region 11 instead of Region 4. At the upcoming OCSTA Annual General Meeting, we will be seeking the support of the Association and all member trustees in order to make these two minor changes to the By-Laws.

As Chair of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board, and on behalf of all trustees who represent our Board, I humbly request your Board's support for this change to the OCSTA By-Laws, and for our request to move from Region 4 to Region 11.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Rick Petrella
Chair of the Board

c. Board of Trustees

Attachment



Moved by: Rick Petrella **Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board**

Seconded by: Cliff Casey

Topic: **Region Designation**

Step 1 – By Law Amendment

Whereas: the current OCSTA By-laws only allow for amendment of the boundaries of the regions when it is required as a result of student enrolment as stipulated in Article 6.1;

Whereas: the Board is seeking to expand the circumstances in which the boundaries of regions can be amended to better address the needs of Catholic District School Boards;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

The current By-laws be amended by adding a new Article 6.5 which states:

6.5 In addition to Article 6.4 above, region boundaries may also be altered, by Ordinary Resolution, for reasons other than those necessitated by Article 6, as long as the alteration is in the best interests of Catholic Education in Ontario and the constituent member Boards proposed to be in the same region share common religious, educational, geographic and economic characteristics.

Step 2 – Change from Region 4 to 11

Whereas: the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board is currently in Region 4;

Whereas: the Trustees of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board wish to join Region 11;

Whereas: the rationale for the request for the change in Region is based on the following reasons:

- the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board shares common geography with Hamilton and Niagara, its district bordering them both;
- the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board also belongs to both the Diocese of Hamilton and the Diocese of St. Catharines (Niagara);
- the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board also shares economic, religious and demographic interests more closely with Region 11 boards; in particular, many of its constituents work in the greater Hamilton and Niagara areas;

(see over)

- in addition to these economic and religious interests, many of its staff live in the Hamilton and Niagara areas while commuting to its district for employment;
- some of its students (from the Haldimand area) attend secondary school in Niagara district after they graduate from Grade 8;
- the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board recognizes that realignment may be resisted if it resulted in a reallocation of the number of regional directors that sit on the Board of Directors; however, this requested realignment will not result in any change to the number of directors for either Region 4 or Region 11 and accordingly there would be no impact on the current composition of the Board of Directors;
- finally, the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board states that this change in Region currently accords with the enrolment criteria set out in Article 6;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board be included in Region 11 instead of Region 4.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC – MARCH 10, 2015**



March 10, 2015

Throughout February, Niagara Catholic students in Grades 7 and 8 crafted speeches on the topics of their choice, carefully researching topics and crafting their words into the perfect presentation, which they shared with students and staff.

In late February, three are Speak Out! competitions were held, bringing together the top public speakers from each Family of Schools. In the end, the following students were invited to share their speeches at the Speak Out! Showcase at the Catholic Education Centre on March 9. Four of these students presented their speeches at the March 10 Committee of the Whole Meeting.



Team 1 Speak Out!

First Place: Erica DaSilva, Grade 8, St. Martin Catholic Elementary School; *Why Nursery Rhymes are Bad for You.*

Second Place: Colin Kwiatowski, Grade 7, St. Ann Catholic Elementary School (SC); *Dial Down Your Devices.*

Catholic Messenger: Makenzie York, Grade 7, Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School; *Blake Mycoskie.*

Team 2 Speak Out!

First Place: Madison Caldwell, Grade 8, Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School; *The Real Cost of the Oil Sands Project*.

Second Place: Michael Solomon, Grade 8, Mary Ward Catholic Elementary School; *Unsung Heroes*.

Catholic Messenger: Jonathan Krekorian, Grade 8, Assumption Catholic Elementary School; *Stewardship*.

Team 3 Speak Out!

First Place: Julia Sacco, Grade 8, St. Andrew Catholic Elementary School; *Loss of Innocence in the Age of Information*.

Second Place: Melissa Loeffen, Grade 8, St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School; *Memory*.

Catholic Messenger: Grace-Anna Pielt, Grade 7, St. George Catholic Elementary School; *Live Life the Way You Want to be Remembered*.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
CALENDAR OF EVENTS – APRIL 2015**

APRIL 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 <i>Good Friday</i>	4
5 <i>Easter</i>	6 <i>Easter Monday</i>	7 SAL Meeting CW Meeting	8 <i>SEAC Meeting</i>	9	10 12th Annual Bishop's Gala	11
12	13 Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast	14 Elementary Chess Tournament	15 Elementary Chess Tournament	16 Elementary Chess Tournament	17	18
19	20	21 <i>Earth Day</i>	22 Heritage Fair	23	24	25
26	27	28 Gr. 7 Faith Festival Inspiring Thinkers	29 Gr. 7 Faith Festival Inspiring Thinkers	30 OCSTA AGM Festival of Arts		

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2015**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
ADVANCE QUESTIONS FOR OCSTA 2015 SPRING REGIONAL
MEETINGS**



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Trustees' Association

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Kathy Burtnik, *President*
Bob Schreder, *Vice President*
Kevin Kobus, *Executive Director*

March 9, 2015

MEMO TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
- All Catholic District School Boards

OCSTA Board of Directors

FROM: Sharon McMillan, Co-ordinator, Communications and Media Relations

SUBJECT: **2015 OCSTA Spring Regional Meetings – Discussion Questions**

In advance of the OCSTA Spring Regional Meeting Session, to be held during the last day of the 2015 OCSTA AGM and Conference (May 2), the following questions are being provided to all Chairs. We ask that you discuss these questions with your board members, in advance of the Regional Meetings.

These questions were determined by members of the OCSTA Conference Committee and are designed to address current issues or concerns in Catholic education.

2015 Spring Regional Meeting Questions:

1. How has your board dealt with structural deficits? Given current economic pressures having impact on boards province-wide, the feedback generated by this question will serve as a resource for OCSTA member boards.
2. What programs and approaches for students are garnering good results at your board with respect to student achievement measurements?
3. What current challenges and opportunities do trustees face in fulfilling their role at your board?
4. Please identify a local issue/question for discussion at the Spring Regional Meetings.

To facilitate the sharing of responses at the Spring Regional Meetings in Toronto, **please document your board's responses and any feedback generated during your local discussion, and come prepared to share this information at your respective Regional Meeting on May 2.**

Your support and leadership in this matter is greatly appreciated.