



# 2016-2017 Year in Review



**Elizabeth Crowe**  
Aurora/King/  
Whitchurch-Stouffville



**Theresa McNicol**  
East Gwillimbury/  
Georgina/Newmarket



**Carol Cotton**  
Markham (Thornhill/  
Unionville)



**Marlene Mogado**  
Markham (Milliken/  
Markham/Unionville)



**Dominic Mazzotta**  
Richmond Hill



**Ann Stong**  
Richmond Hill



**Teresa Ciaravella**  
Vaughan (Maple/  
Kleinburg)



**Dino Giuliani**  
Vaughan (Woodbridge/  
Area 2, Ward 2)



**Maria Marchese**  
Vaughan (Woodbridge/  
Area 3, Ward 3)



**Cathy Ferlisi**  
Vaughan (Concord/  
Thornhill)



**Nicolas Bottger**  
Senior Student Trustee



**Ben Smith**  
Junior Student Trustee

The 2016-17 school year was a great success and we are very proud of the excellent work taking place in our schools. The Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) continues to guide our decision-making process within the framework of its four commitments: the Integration of Our Catholic Faith, the Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement, the Effective Use of Our Resources and Engaging Our Communities. View our MYSP at: [www.ycdsb.ca/strategicplan/](http://www.ycdsb.ca/strategicplan/).

### Integration of Our Catholic Faith

- Purchased texts and digital resources for the new Religious Education Curriculum for Grade 2 students, "Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ."
- Initiated the *Welcome Ambassador Retreat* for established newcomers in Grades 6-7. The retreat provided students with training to enable them to become 'Welcome Ambassadors' to future newcomer students.
- Our Catholic schools participated in charitable activities:
  - \$142,238.46 for ShareLife.
  - \$45,112.80 for earthquake victims in Italy.
  - \$16,655 for humanitarian relief in Haiti following the damage caused by Hurricane Matthew.

### Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

- YCDSB achieved the highest Graduation Rate among all English-language school boards in the province.
- YCDSB students continued to outpace their provincial peers in EQAO and OSSLT. EQAO and OSSLT results are available on the Board website, [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca).
- Implemented the Renewed Math Strategy, which included designating math leads for all elementary schools. Teachers and administrators participated in professional learning and were provided additional online math resources to support students and families.
- Continued our work with the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Policy Framework. Workshops and in-services were held for staff teaching Native Studies.

### Effective Use of Our Resources

- This is a most challenging time for the Board as it works to implement strategies which will address our budget deficit. The creation of a Multi-Year Financial Recovery Plan will ensure prudent fiscal management with the least possible disruption to our classrooms and school communities. Provincial funding continues to decrease in areas where costs and needs are increasing, notably: Special Education and Excess Pupil Places due to declining enrollment. The Board continues to lobby the government with regards to inequitable funding as it relates to the impact of Provincially Negotiated Labour Agreements on our budget.
- Staffing reductions through retirements and attrition, staff restructuring, as well as program consolidations were approved this year to address budget constraints.
- Opened Pope Francis CES in Kleinburg.
- Ministry funding was secured for a new school site in Stouffville and a child care centre at Pope Francis CES. Additional child care spaces will be provided at St. Joseph the Worker CES and St. Rene Goupil-St. Luke CES.

### Engaging Our Communities

- Parent workshops for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Together with the York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee the Board hosted successful parenting conferences: "Connected Parenting" and "Creating a Culture of Wellness in our Schools".
- Students starting high school who were new to Canada were invited to take part in the annual *Newcomer Orientation Week Program*.
- The Board approved the YCDSB Land Acknowledgement.

### Student Voice

High school students and staff from across Ontario engaged in the three-day Ontario Catholic Student Leadership Conference in April entitled, *Responding to the Call*. The conference was designed to enhance students' leadership skills and provided opportunities for students to deepen their faith. 5,000 health kits were assembled for the homeless. The event concluded with a Mass at St. Michael's Cathedral.

## Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP)

Year two of the Board's Long Term Accommodation Plan was implemented to assist with addressing the over 6,000 excess pupil spaces in schools. School closure decisions are among the most difficult for the Board of Trustees. This year, the Board made the very difficult decision to close three schools at the end of June 2017: Holy Family CES, St. Francis of Assisi CES and Our Lady of Peace CES. The Board also voted on the closures of St. Mother Teresa CES and St. Vincent de Paul CES for June 2018. Trustees extend a sincere thank you to the many stakeholders for their invaluable input throughout the consultation process, and to the parents and staff who participated on the Transition Committees for their dedication and commitment to ensuring a smooth transition for students to their new schools.

## School Start-Up

### Elementary

- Elementary school offices and St. Luke sites open on Monday, August 28, 2017.
- The first day of school for elementary students is **Tuesday, September 5, 2017**.

### Secondary

- Secondary school offices open on Monday, August 21, 2017.
- Grade 9 Orientation Day is **Tuesday, September 5, 2017** (*Grade 7 for Our Lady of the Lake CCS*).
- The first day of school for students in Grades 10-12 is **Wednesday, September 6, 2017** (*Grades 8-12 for Our Lady of the Lake CCS*).

## Transportation

Over the course of the summer, adjustments are made to bus routes, bus route schedules and/or bus route numbers to accommodate new students and/or new schools. **We advise parents to confirm** bus stop service times for September by visiting the STSYR website at: [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com), beginning the fourth week in August. For busing eligibility, please visit the STSYR website.

## Partners in Education

Our collaboration between the home, school and parish provides the foundation for student success. We give special thanks to:

- Administrators, teachers and staff for their unwavering commitment to helping us achieve our mission and vision, and who encourage our students to become responsible citizens who integrate Catholic values into their daily lives;
- Our Bishop, our Priests and their Parish Teams for their continued support and ongoing spiritual guidance;
- The York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (YCPI) members whose hard work promoting parent engagement and involvement in our schools continue to help students succeed; and,
- The parents who volunteer their time on Catholic School Councils and support initiatives in our schools – your dedication to working with our schools and staff is sincerely appreciated.

## Supporting Our Catholic Schools

Each time you change your residence, you must declare yourself an English-language Catholic Separate Board supporter/elector. To determine if you are currently an English-language Catholic Separate Board supporter/elector, check your property tax bill, contact the Municipal Property Assessment Office at 1-866-296-6722, or visit [www.mpac.ca](http://www.mpac.ca). One can also obtain an Application for Direction of School Support at your local school, by calling our Admissions Office at 905-713-2711, ext. 12434, or by visiting [www.ycdsb.ca/admissions](http://www.ycdsb.ca/admissions).

## Board Policies

**New Policies:** Policy 206: Protection of Students with Asthma – June 21, 2016, Policy 615: Educational Partnerships – January 31, 2017

**Updated Policies:** Policy 115: Perquisites, Policy 106: Delegations to the Board and Input to Agenda Items, Policy 208: Student Disability Accommodation, Policy 226A: Admission to Elementary Schools, Policy 309: Assessment and Evaluation of Student Achievement, Policy 404: Teacher Recruitment and Selection, Policy 409: Occupational Health & Safety, Policy 425: Workplace Harassment, Policy 427: Workplace Violence, Policy 602: Safe Arrival, Safe Dismissal & Attendance – Elementary, Policy 611: Criminal Background Checks – Service Providers, Policy 808: Travel, Meals and Expense Reimbursement

For more information, please visit the Board website at [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca)

Follow us on Twitter @YCDSB

### Mission Statement

Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

### Vision Statement

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

### Core Values



### Strategic Commitments

Integration of Our Catholic Faith

Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

Effective Use of Our Resources

Engaging Our Communities