



# York Catholic District School Board

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## FAREWELL LETTER FROM TRUSTEE ANN STONG

Dear Parents and Supporters of Catholic Education,

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve the Catholic community of Richmond Hill as Trustee on the York Catholic District School Board for the past 21 years. This year I made the decision to retire from the position of Trustee in order to spend more time with my growing family, including five grandchildren, (ages 8, 6, 3, 1, 4 months), and a new baby expected in March. This decision is bitter-sweet as I still very much enjoy my work as Trustee.

I want to thank the members of the community for your trust, support, assistance and partnership in my efforts to represent Richmond Hill on our Board, supporting student learning and well-being throughout York Region and advocating for Catholic Education in the province of Ontario.

I believe all students want to learn. I am proud to have been a part of the team of wonderful teachers, staff, and administrators at all levels in our York Catholic system who are so skillful, innovative and hardworking in their tireless efforts, enabling our children to succeed in their academic learning and to grow in their knowledge of God and His love for each and every one of us.

Thank you to all who serve students both directly and indirectly. We all know it takes a team to do great work and "a village to raise a child."

Thank you to parents and community representatives who volunteer or serve as members of Catholic School Councils. It is amazing to see how your efforts enrich and support the learning experience for all children in our schools.

Thank you to our parish priests and lay pastoral staff who come into our schools to deepen student knowledge of Jesus, His love and forgiveness, to celebrate Mass, and to prepare students to receive the sacraments.

I also wish to extend a special thank you to those parents who partnered with trustees, staff and support workers to work through individual situations.

It has been a tremendous journey for me, an experience of learning and growth as well as service. While public office was never a goal for me in life, I cherish the experience. It has deepened my faith in God, in the Church and in our Catholic school system.

May God bless you and our students. May He keep Catholic Education strong in the province of Ontario.

Ann Stong  
Trustee, Richmond Hill