

Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board Strategic Plan Process

The Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board provides a Catholic education to approximately 4,000 junior kindergarten to grade 12 students in the Counties of Bruce and Grey. Services are provided through eleven elementary schools, two secondary schools and a Catholic Education Centre in Hanover.

The Board of Trustees and the Director of Education in the fall of 2007, identified an opportunity to undertake the development of a new Strategic Plan for the Board. The need for this particular Plan emerged from the fact that the previous strategic planning process is now approximately seven years old, a new Director of Education had been appointed in the spring of 2007 and a new Board of Trustees had been elected in the fall of 2006.

Fred Galloway of F. J. Galloway Associates Inc. Of London, Ontario was retained to facilitate the strategic planning process. The process was developed in three phases:

- The development of an Environment Scan Report that involved approximately twenty stakeholder focus groups and the assessment of selected statistical and policy-based information;
- The hosting of a strategic planning workshop;
- A review and assessment of the Draft Strategic Plan prior to Board approval.

The Environmental Scan Report was completed in November of 2007 and was one of the primary resources in support of the development of the Draft Strategic Plan. Nineteen focus groups or interviews were undertaken with a wide diversity of stakeholders involved with the Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board. These sessions were approximately one hour in length and were facilitated based on three key questions:

- What are the key strengths and attributes of the Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board?
- What are the concerns, issues, weaknesses or gaps that you see within or around the

Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board?

- What are the considerations and trends that you see over the next five to seven years that you believe will impact and / or influence the future delivery of Catholic education in Bruce-Grey area?

On Monday evening, December 10, 2007 and Tuesday, December 11, 2007, fifteen representatives of the Board of Directors, the senior management team, principals and union representatives met with the facilitator to develop the next generation Strategic Plan for the Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board. The agenda for the strategic planning workshop involved the following tasks:

- Review and discussion of the results of the Environmental Scan Reports;
- Review and assessment of the Board's vision;
- Review and reconstruction of a Mission Statement for the Board;
- Identification of key Board Principles and Values;
- The identification of the Areas of Effort and priorities that the Board will undertake over the next three to five years, as well as action areas / objectives in support of each of the Areas of Effort.

As a result of the workshop, a draft strategic plan has been completed. It will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval in February. Once approved, the Strategic Plan will move to the development of the implementation plan and the ongoing implementation and progress reviews of the Strategic Plan over the next three to five years.

Thank you to those who participated in the Environmental Scan either by attending the Focus Group Sessions or by taking the time to complete the Board website survey.

Let Your Light Shine