



**Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board
Board of Trustees ~ Meeting Highlights
November 26, 2018**

December's Virtue ~ Hope

As we enter into December and the Advent season, it is very appropriate that our virtue for the month is HOPE. Hope is rooted in the knowledge that God loves us and is always faithful to us, protecting and helping us. Hope is having a joyful trust in the future, even when we are experiencing difficulty in the present time. For Christians, the virtue of hope leads us to look forward with confidence to the day when we will live forever with God in heaven.



Our scripture passage that guides us for the month of December comes from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 5.2-5:

And so we now boast of the hope we have of sharing God's glory! We also boast of our troubles, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance brings approval, and his approval creates hope. This hope does not appoint us, for God has poured out his love into our hearts by means of the Holy Spirit, who is God's gift to us.

Board of Trustees



Back Row (left to right): Lori Di Castri, Mike Lemme, Sam Finnie, Robyn Garvey.

Seated: Vice-Chair Norm Bethune and Chair Bev Eckensweiler

Let's Pray

Director's Report ~ Jamie McKinnon, Director of Education



Have Questions? We're Listening!

We have completed 2 of our four community consultations, and look forward to another gathering at Sacred Heart High School Walkerton November 27, and January 15 at St. Joseph's School in Port Elgin.

A copy of the presentation was shared with Trustees. In general, we have been getting out, sharing our story and our work, and gathering feedback.

Let's Pray ~ Let's Inquire ~ Let's Listen ~ Let's Shine

Have Questions?
about the future of learning?

We're listening!

Share your ideas! Hear what others are saying!
It's our what is important to our community.

Have an idea or question? We're listening about it. From Greg Galt to the Board of Trustees, we're listening to you.

Thursday, November 15 7:00pm St. Joseph's School in Port Elgin	Monday, November 20 7:00pm St. Mary's School in Walkerton	Monday, November 27 7:00pm Sacred Heart High School in Walkerton
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Monday, November 19, 7:00pm
St. Mary's School in Walkerton



Everyone is welcome to join us for one of the upcoming evenings, and let your voice be heard!

Recent Retreat Opportunities

Facilitator Paul Tratnyek led a group of staff through the experience of contemplative prayer in a variety of forms within the tradition of our faith during the overnight contemplative retreat held November 14/15. Participants experienced how both contemplation and action are necessary and essential for individual and collective renewal grounded in the experience of Christ dwelling deep within us (Roman 8:9). Each participant has shared how blessed they feel to work for an organization that places value in growing their spiritual lives, and growing their faith.

Our Advent Sign Making Retreat was held November 21 at LE Studio in Walkerton. Participants choose from several designs to create an advent themed sign for their home. It was a wonderful evening of prayer, friendship and creativity.



[Check out all of our upcoming Faith Formation opportunities for 2018/19](#)

Let's Shine

Student Trustee Reports:

Mackenzie Finamore ~ St. Mary's High School Owen Sound

Let's Pray

- To help achieve our Let's Pray Goal 1 - Growth in Prayer:
 - Christian meditation training is taking place for teachers this fall.
 - There is a training examination of the conscience for teachers.
 - Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday morning prayer is held in the chapel for all staff and students. This gives us the chance to reflect at the beginning of our day.
- Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI), where students use a Project Based Learning model to deepen their understanding of local charities and social injustices. Groups will present their case as to why their chosen local charity deserves \$5000.00. The presentations begin at the start of December
- The Priest has been visiting different classrooms weekly



Let's Learn

- There has been more university/ college presentations. Grade 12 and victory lap students have been applying to university as well.
- Midterm report cards went home Monday November 19th
- There was a math that contest took place on November 21st.

Let's Shine

- The football team took home the title of BAA's on November 2nd. This event was a buyout for students to support the team and bring school spirit.
- The Wes for youth tournament took place on November 20th. Strong efforts were made, and the boys and girls came gave it their all till the end of the tournament.
- There was a Visual, Media and Photography Arts field trip to the Ripley's Aquarium in Toronto on Friday November 9th, 2018
- Mr. Arnett continues the Ceramic Club this year which meets every Monday in the Art Room
- Mr. Arnett continues to have the Visual, Media & Photography Arts Club meet in the Art Room 239, Monday to Friday at lunch for any student in the school wanting to share, learn, and create Artworks both traditionally and digitally.

- Students continue to rehearse for the school play James and the Giant Peach which will be shown at the Roxy Theater in May
- The chess team has started up and members are eager to compete in tournaments that are coming up.
- The improv team has hosted open improv Fridays at lunch and continues to practice once a week.
- The girls basketball and boys volleyball has come to an end. Both teams had a strong finish to their season.
- Girl volleyball and boys basketball has begun tryouts.

Let's Inspire

- On November 17, 30 St. Mary's students put together a float for the Santa Clause parade.
- A group of grade 12 students has created a "cooking for grads" club where every Friday they bring in ingredients and learn how to make simple, easy, delicious meals to prepare them for further years.
- The mental Health Committee has proposed to have a "wellness day" for students to have a class period to participate in mindfulness activities in the classroom and have independent work time to catch up on any homework they might have.

Meredith Legace ~ Sacred Heart High School Walkerton

Let's Pray

- On November 9th Mrs. Legace, Mrs. Auger and many students, volunteered their time to host a Remembrance Day prayer service over the morning announcements.
- The grade 10 and 11 Religion retreats, were hosted at Sacred Heart Parish. Guest speakers included Sam Zettel, Nikki Billington and Deacon Charles. It was a great day that many students looked forward to and thoroughly enjoyed!



Let's Learn

- Guest speaker Cody Nault visited many classes on November 9th to speak about the importance of remembrance and careers in the Royal Canadian Armed Forces. He was able to talk about a few of his experiences and answer questions about what life is like in the military. His message was well received by many students and his presentation gave insight into future jobs.
- Midterm Report cards were handed out on Friday the 9th.

Let's Shine

- Curling tryouts have begun for the upcoming season and two full varsity teams are in the middle of being assembled. Mrs. Auger, Ms. Gato and Mrs. Legace are excited to start the season and have hopes for reaching CWOSSA
- The boys' volleyball teams, both Junior and Senior, unfortunately, have faced rough losses that have not permitted them to continue into CWOSSA. The teams, however, have had an amazing season with many personal goals being met.
- On November 20th and 21st, the Wes for Youth tournament was held. Two boys and one girl's hockey team played in the competition with great results. The Wes for Youth buy-out is always a success put on by the student activities council and many students enjoyed getting out of class to support their friends and the Wes for Youth organization. We are so thankful to be apart of the event every year and on behalf of all of the students involved we send a huge thank you to Mr. Hambrock and the Wes for Youth organization.

Let's Inspire

- For over a week now students have been raising money for the orphanages in Nicaragua. Due to the political climate, the mission trip for the 2017-2018 year was cancelled but many students still wanted to help out in some way. With the help of Mr. Joe Ryes Crispy Cream donut sales were organized so that money could be sent over to continue to provide support. Sales have been going extremely well and they expect to have more than 300 sales!
- Friday, November 16th was the school-wide Rock Your Mocs spirit day. Many students showed their support for aboriginal rights by wearing their favourite moccasins.
- The student council had a great time down at the Ontario Student Leadership Conference in Niagara Falls at the end of October. They returned to SHHS full of ideas and excited to start many new projects. Ms. McCormack, Ms. Cook, Mr. Koebel and all of the Student Activities Council send a huge thank you to the board for allowing them to take advantage of the amazing opportunity that is OSLC.
- Reach for the Top, the school trivia club has started its games with students of all grades signed up. Reach, as it's more commonly known, is an exciting and intense club to be involved in with many interesting team names like the Back Street Boys, The Lesser Known Nerds and Van Straten's Boys.

Year End Financials

The Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board of Trustees approved the 2017/2018 Year-End Financial Statements at the November 26 board meeting.

The work of the board completed in 2017-2018 is a reflection of our mission, our vision and our strategic direction to: Pray, Learn, Inspire and Shine. We have planted the seeds of innovation and we continue to capitalize on opportunities to form strong partnerships with key stakeholders to provide our students with a quality education rooted in a culture of deep caring, reflective of our gospel values and in accordance with our Catholic Graduate Expectations.

Key Highlights of 2017-2018:

Enrolment

- ✦ Total Average Daily Enrolment: 4,364 pupils (Compared to 2016/2017 Actual: 4,209)

Revenues

- ✦ Total Revenues \$66,027,173
 - ✦ Provincial Legislative Grants - \$53,681,579
 - ✦ Provincial Grants Other - \$1,937,937
 - ✦ School Generated Funds - \$1,961,325
 - ✦ Federal Grants and Fees - \$718,580
 - ✦ Investment Income - \$146,164
 - ✦ Other Fees and Revenues - \$487,765
 - ✦ Amortization of Deferred Capital Contributions - \$3,252,616
 - ✦ Capital - \$3,841,207

Expenses

- ✦ Total Expenses \$66,330,419
 - ✦ Operating Expenditures - \$62,489,212
 - ✦ Capital Expenditures - \$3,841,207

Expenditures in relation to total expenditures:

- ✦ Instructional Expenses – 73.4%
- ✦ Administration Expenses - 4.9%
- ✦ Transportation Expenses – 7.0%
- ✦ Pupil Accommodation Expenses – 11.6%
- ✦ School Generated Fund Expenses – 3.0%

Tangible Capital Assets

† \$3,841,207 was invested into capital assets

Staffing

† Total Staffing – 526.8 FTE

Ontario has four publicly funded school systems: English Catholic, English Public, French Catholic, and French Public. All boards are funded on a per pupil basis, with other grants added to provide equal educational opportunities for all students (i.e. Special Education, Learning Opportunities, Transportation, etc.)

In addition, boards across the province have maximized efficiencies through shared services. In Bruce-Grey we are able to share transportation and purchasing with the Bluewater District School Board, resulting in efficiencies for both boards.

The Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board looks forward to continuing its tradition of serving the families of Bruce and Grey counties, offering quality programming in a culture of deep caring that nurtures students in body, mind and spirit. Accountability and strong fiscal management, in accordance with our Catholic School Graduate expectation to be ‘responsible citizens’, supports the future of our schools and those that they serve.

Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL)

Trustee Robyn Garvey attended the SAL committee meeting on November 6th at St. Mary’s High School Owen Sound. The committee reviewed the progress of a current SAL student, who is doing well and will continue with the program. Robyn notes that the SAL reports are not detailed because of the confidential nature of the committee.

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Trustee Mike Lemme attended the SEAC meeting on October 23rd at Sacred Heart School Teeswater. The Principal provided her update, noting that their school is small but mighty. Co-chairs will continue to be Carole Zoldy representing the Grey-Bruce Down Syndrome Association, and Elisabeth Groenewegen from VOICE. An update on the Lexia program was shared. This is software that was piloted last year for 20 students with great success. This year we have purchased a three year licence for 500 students, making it available to all grade 2 students in our system.

Lexia® Core5® Reading supports educators in providing differentiated literacy instruction for students of all abilities in grades pre-K–5. Lexia’s research-proven program provides explicit, systematic, personalized learning in the six areas of reading instruction, targeting skill gaps as they emerge, and providing teachers with the data and student-specific resources they need for individual or small-group instruction.

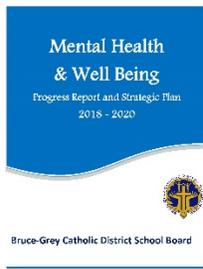
- Engages and motivates students in a game-like environment
- Provides progress-monitoring data without a test
- Accessible via iPad, Android tablets, Chromebook, browser, or download

(www.lexialearning.com)



The committee also reviewed updates to Special Education related policies. The next meeting is December 18th at Holy Family School Hanover.

Mental Health Advisory Report



Trustees Mike Lemme and Norm Bethune attended a meeting for the Mental Health Advisory Committee. Our staff work with a number of other agencies, including public health, Roots of Empathy, and our mental health champions. The meeting included a number of people speaking about their programs. It was very enlightening, with great work being done in our schools. The [Mental Health & Well Being Progress Report and Strategic Plan for 2018-2020](#) can be viewed on our website.

Audit Committee Update

Alecia Lantz, Superintendent of Business, presented a Memo outlining the Audit Committee meeting of August 27, 2018. It is noted that the new chair is Don Butland.

Thank you to Trustee Sam Finnie



Director of Education Jamie McKinnon and Chair Bev Eckensweiler expressed heartfelt gratitude to Sam for his recent term as Trustee. Sam stepped in when Trustee Jules Van Haelemeesch retired in December of 2016, to complete Jules' term as Trustee for Saugeen Shores, Arran-Elderslie, Chatsworth, Georgian Bluffs, Northern Bruce Peninsula, and South Bruce Peninsula. Sam did not seek re-election during the October 2018 campaign, so this will be his last official meeting. Thank you Sam. We admire your commitment and passion for Catholic Education, and thank you for your dedicated service.

(pictured left to right: Jamie McKinnon, Bev Eckensweiler, Sam Finnie, Norm Bethune)

Let's Inspire

Board Policy and Administrative Procedures

The following policies approved as revised:

- BP 1-1 Guiding Principles
- BP 2-8 Electronic Meetings
- BP 2-1 Inaugural Meetings
- BP 7-1 Admission of Students

The following new policies were approved:

- BP 5-28 Flag Protocol
- BP 7-9 Student Health Supports
- BP 4-3 Performance Appraisal Director of Education
- BP 11-01 Responsible Use of Technology

The following policies were rescinded:

- BP 6-32 Acceptable Use Policy for Telecommunications
- BP 6-33 School, Student and teacher Web Pages
- BP 6-15 Email Use

- BP 7-9 Health Services and Medication
- BP 7-12 School Preparation for Response to Anaphylaxis
- AP 7-1 Admission of Students

Future Policy Review (February 12, 2019 and May 22, 2019)

- BP 5-8 Community Use of Schools
- BP 6-30 Catholic School Councils
- BP 9-2 Student Services Program
- BP 9-11 Physical Restraint of a Student
- BP 10-1 Religion and Family Life Education
- Acceleration and Retention - New

[Policies and Procedures](#) as well as [Policies and Procedures under review](#) can be viewed on the board website at www.bgcdsb.org

Dates of Interest:

November 28, 2018 – SEAC at Notre Dame

December 3, 2018 – Inaugural Board Meeting

December 18, 2018 – SEAC at Holy Family School Hanover

April 2, 2019 – Bishop’s Dinner, Cargill Community Centre

April 16, 2019 – Lenten Retreat, LaunchPad Hanover

May 16, 2019 – Theology on Tap, Mudtown Station, Owen Sound

Next Board of Trustees meeting is **Monday December 3, 2018 10:30a.m.**, at the Catholic Education Centre.