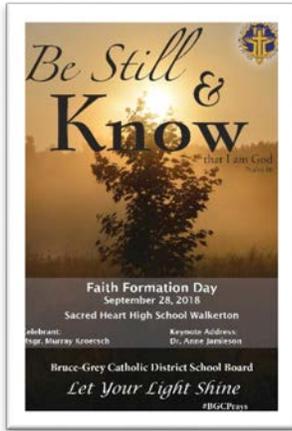


In return, 23 of our students will travel to Igloolik October 30th to November 8th to visit their new friends. While in Nunavut the students will be participating in activities such as dog sledding, ice fishing, and throat singing. They also look forward to viewing the Northern Lights and experiencing traditional foods.

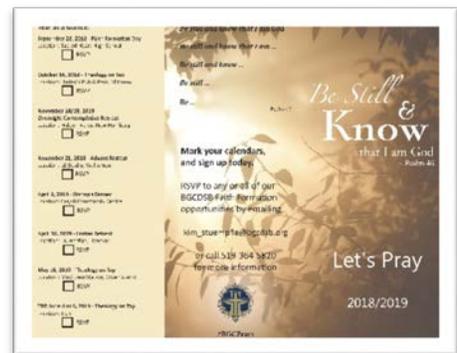


Faith Formation Day 2018

Staff of BGCSDB will participate in our annual board wide Faith Formation Day on Friday September 28. The event will be hosted at Sacred Heart High School Walkerton, and will feature a keynote address by Dr. Anne Jamieson, Director of the Office of Catechesis for the Diocese of Hamilton. Monsignor Murray Kroetsch, Chancellor of the Diocese of Hamilton, will celebrate the Eucharist with us, and staff will have the opportunity to select from a variety of workshops to further enrich their Faith journey. We will continue our theme based on Psalm 46, “Be Still and Know that I Am God”.

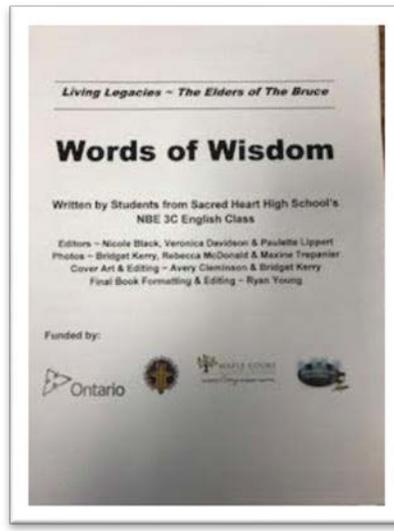
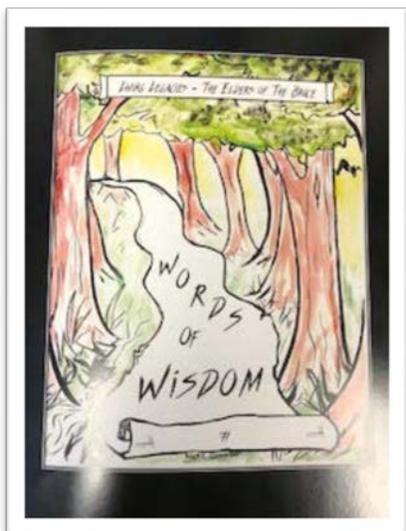
Adult Faith Formation for 2018/2019

The Faith Formation Team has prepared a full line up of opportunities for the upcoming year, including an Advent Paint Night and Lenten Culinary Evening, three Theology on Tap events, an overnight contemplative retreat, and our annual Bishop’s Dinner. [Check out the brochure](#) for details, and mark you calendar to join us for these very enriching experiences.



Living Legacies – The Elders of the Bruce

Last year students at SHHS undertook a very special project. 30 students from the NBE 3C English Class worked with 23 local Elders to produce the Elder Yearbook, “Living Legacies – The Elders of the Bruce”. The school will host a book launch on Friday October 5th, to celebrate the work. The book deeply connects to our work around mental health and wellness, and strengthening our Indigenous ties, and reflects on the value of connecting youth and elders.



Ontario Catholic Student Leadership Conference

12 students and two staff from SMHS and SHHS will be attending this years Catholic Student Leadership Conference October 17th to 21st, hosted by the Niagara Catholic District School Board in Niagara Falls. The conference will include 400 students and staff from across the province, and provide a rich experience in leadership, faith and the future. The theme for the conference is "Limitless", based on the scripture quote "I have come that you may have life, and have it abundantly".

11th Annual Diocesan Mass

A delegation from BGCSDB travelled to Holy Cross Church in Georgetown for the 11th Annual Diocesan Celebration for Catholic Education. The event brings together all 7 Catholic school boards in the Diocese of Hamilton, and St. Jerome's University to celebrate the gift that is Catholic Education. It is a terrific opportunity to look beyond our walls and to gather with our colleagues to celebrate all the work being done in Catholic schools throughout the Diocese.



Off and Running!

We are off to a great start for 2018/19, with lots of exciting things happening across the system. We continue our Design Thinking coaching innovation, and Indigenous social studies curriculum role out. PD in Math got a boost from sessions with Dr. Marion Small, and collaboration on the BNPD partnership to support STEAM is underway. IT upgrades are happening from K-12 in all of our schools. Looking forward to a great year for everyone, as an accountable organization of learning rooted in faith!

Let's Learn

Update - SMHS Excursion to Nicaragua

Due to the continued violence and civil unrest in Nicaragua, a travel warning has been elevated to avoid all non-essential travel to this region. In the best interest of our students, the decision has been made to cancel the trip for March 2019, hoping that in the future students will again be able to return.

EQAO Results

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) has released the results of the 2017-18 assessments. Superintendents Cathy DeGoey, Karyn Bruneel and Mike Bethune, provided an overview of the results.

Grade 3

Reading 74% (Provincial Average 75%)
Writing 73% (Provincial Average 72%)
Mathematics 52% (Provincial Average 61%)

Grade 6

Reading 83% (Provincial Average 82%)
Writing 78% (Provincial Average 80%)
Mathematics 44% (Provincial Average 49%)

Grade 9

Applied Mathematics 50% (Provincial Average 45%)
Academic Mathematics 83% (Provincial Average 84%)

Grade 10 OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test)

69% of first time eligible students who fully participated were successful. The provincial average is 79%.

The results from EQAO identify necessary areas for growth.

The goal for the Bruce-Grey CDSB is for our students to demonstrate global competencies supported by literacy and numeracy skills. Our educators, through collaborative learning cycles, will ensure student well-being, engagement and achievement in a healthy environment. We will continue to ensure that assessment practices are personalized and precise in meeting student needs.

Director of Education, Jamie McKinnon, maintains that “there are many ways we measure the success of our Catholic schools and EQAO is one of them. We will continue to use this and other data to meet the needs of our students through targeted support and quality instruction.”

For detailed results visit the EQAO website at www.eqao.com

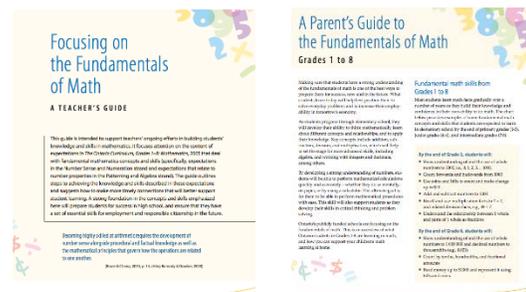
The Future of Math Instruction

Darryl Henhoeffter, Math Consultant, shared information and helped to clarify the Ministry of Education’s changes to math programming.

Two years ago the Ministry introduced its *Renewed Math Strategy*. In June, the new government announced that there would be a new focus on the ‘fundamentals of math’, and have promoted it as a ‘back to basis’ approach to math instruction. Darryl helped to clarify what this looks like in relation to the curriculum and our current math strategies.

In August the Ministry released two documents – [A Teacher’s Guide](#) and a [Parent’s Guide](#) to *Focusing on the Fundamentals of Math*. These are support documents to help teachers identify key points in the curriculum.

Generally speaking, the fundamentals are expectations in the Number Sense Strand, and the guides outlines steps to achieving the “fundamentals” and suggest how to make more timely connections that will better support student learning. This does not replace the 2005 Mathematics Gr. 1-8 Curriculum, but rather it is a support document for teachers.



Fundamental math concepts and skills include: Working with numbers; Recognizing and applying understanding of number properties; Mastering math facts; Developing mental math skills; and Developing proficiency with operations.

So what is the difference between “basics” and “fundamentals”? Darryl used a quote from Alex Lawson and his 2016 book *“What to Look For: Understanding and Developing Student Thinking in Early Numeracy”*.

“Children should learn their number facts. However, they would benefit from learning these facts by using an increasingly sophisticated series of strategies rather than y jumping directly to memorization.”

Darryl adds that basic memorization is considered low level thinking. “We want our students to be thinkers of math rather than doers of math”.

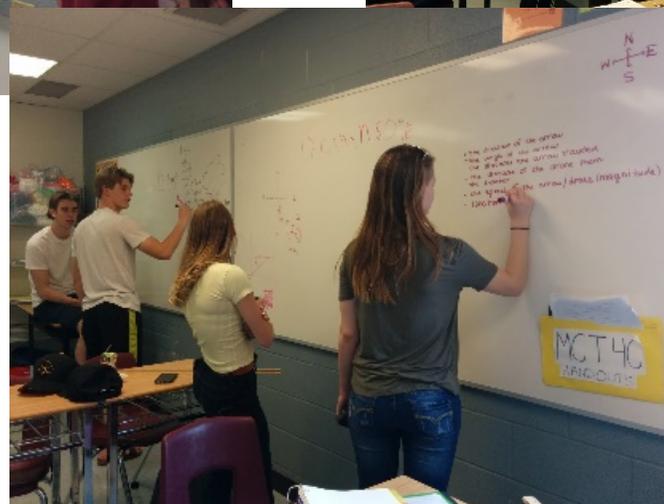
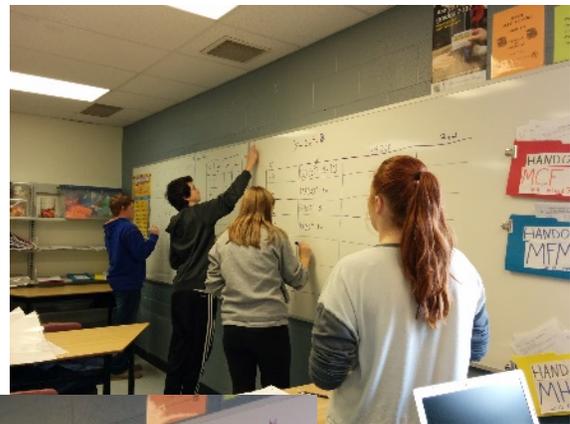
In short, the principles outlined in the new guide supports what our teachers have been working on over the past 10 years. We will continue to use strategies like number talks/string, and to support our students with games and meaningful practice. As well, we will continue to support teachers with resources to use these strategies in the classroom, and to provide more precise and personalized instruction.

With funding provided for “Focusing on the Fundamentals” we have invested in MathUP, a digital resource for teachers created by math guru Dr. Marion Small. We are excited about this new resource to help teachers “teach with intention”. MathUP will be available to all of our grades 1-8 teachers by the end of this school year. The resource models better questions, teaching for understanding, lots of lessons, and provides just-in-time teacher professional learning through videos.



Darryl has been out supporting elementary teachers, helping them to get started, and has received lots of positive feedback from staff. His is confident that we will be improving instruction and setting the bar high for our students.

Secondary teams have just wrapped up their transition meetings between grade 8 and grade 9 teachers. Their professional learning teams will focus on developing student engagement through the use of good problems and collaborative problem solving, and using research to base our professional learning networks. We will continue the good work that has begun through the use of strategies such as wall-to-wall whiteboards in the classroom, and improving the quality of the work being done.



Let's Shine

Community Use of Schools Update

Alecia Lantz, Superintendent of Business presented a proposed change to our Community Use of Schools program.

Until now, we have not charged any not-for profit groups for the use of our schools. Fees were only applied to commercial events taking place through Community Use of Schools bookings. However, in order to ensure security of board assets, we will put a program in place to provide a custodian in each school during the hours of Community Use. This will provide an added level of control over facility access to ensure the security of board facilities, and will provide added safety for patrons as Custodians are aware of board emergency protocol. We will also introduce a new fee structure to recover the costs associated with operating our facilities.

The board receives some funding from the Ministry of Education to subsidize user groups, however the funding is not adequate to cover the costs incurred to run our facilities for these after-hours programs.

In the new structure, users will now be categorized as:

Group A: Board/School Sponsored Activities

Group B: Non-Profit YOUTH Organizations (18 Years and Under) - Must be a Registered Non-Profit Organization with a Non-Profit Number to qualify

Group C: Non-Profit Adult/Community Programs

Group D: Commercial/For Profit Programs

The fee structure will be as follows: groups A and B continue to receive a 100% subsidy for the rental fee; group C will receive a partial subsidy; and as always, group D will pay the full fee for all Community Use of Schools.

The new fee structure will be effective January 1, 2019, and in addition we will be implementing the ability to pay rental fees and insurance fees online, through the current booking system. All bookings for this school year that are made prior to January 1, will follow the existing fee structure.

Alecia has researched costs at other boards across the province, and calculated our expenses related to Community Use. She emphasizes that our goal is just to recover our costs through this new fee structure.

In addition, we are also working to update our reciprocal agreements with the municipalities, which will also supersede the new rates.

Enrolment Update

Alecia Lantz presented an update on enrolment for September 2018. Total enrolment forecast is 4,610.25 students, up almost 4 students over revised estimates. In addition, we have achieved all Ministry of Education benchmarks for primary class sizes. Key statistics from the Classes report indicated that we have 138 total classes, up 3 from the previous year.

Trustee Representation on Committees

A list of committees and the Trustee representation on each was reviewed. The many active committees in the board include:

Let's Pray:

- Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC)
- Catholic Partnerships Committee
- Catholicity Committee
- Faith Formation Committee

Let's Inspire:

- Organizational Culture & Well Being
- SAL (Supervised Alternative Learning)
- Suspension/Expulsion Appeal
- Bi-Board
- Information Technology (I.T.)
- Leadership and Succession Planning
- Mental Health Advisory Committee

Let's Shine:

- Audit
- Communications
- Annual Accessibility Planning
- Bursaries
- Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

Let's Inspire:

- Effective Learning Environments
- SEAC (Special Education Advisory Committee)

Plus Ad Hoc committees as required

Student Trustee Reports:

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

CATHOLICITY

- Opening celebrations at St. Mary's church scheduled for Sept 25th, 26th and 27th (with growing student body we require three visits to the church).
- Schedule for priest to come and visit each religion class this semester has been arranged.
- Thanksgiving Food Drive with Farm Credit Canada will start soon. Food collected will be delivered to St. Mary's Parish.
- Grade 12 Retreat on September 19th at the World of Life Youth Camp.
- Grade 9 Retreat is planned to take place on October 10th at Silver Lake Camp.
- Grade 10 Retreat is planned to take place on October 18th at Silver Lake Camp.
- Grade 11 Retreat is planned to take place on October 19th to Saugeen First Nation.
- Mission trip to Nicaragua has been postponed due to a conflict with government. Mr. Kirby is investigating other options.



ACADEMICS

- There have been many College/ University visits. This includes Algonquin College, Lakehead, Brescia, University of New Brunswick, University of Toronto, Wilfrid Laurier, Conestoga, Humber, Brock, Fanshawe, and St.Clair.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- DECA has started up again this year, and students have began preparing their projects
- The football team began practicing on the first day of school. The team won their game against OSDSS on September 21st.
- Boys Sr and Jr volleyball teams have been finalized.
- Sr boys volleyball team played in a tournament in Stratford on September 8th and played in a tournament at SHHS on September 18th. The Jr boys played in a tournament on September 14th.

- Girls Sr and Jr basketball teams have been finalized and they have began practicing for their upcoming games on September 27th at SMHS.
- Club France met on September 13 to discuss their upcoming trip.
- Picture day was on September 18th for all grades
- Mr. Arnett continues the Ceramic Club this year which meets every Monday in the Art room from Sept - June. All students are welcome to join.
- Visual, Media & Photography Arts Club - Mr. Arnett continues to have the Visual, Media & Photography Arts Club meet in the Art room 239, Monday to Friday at lunch for any students in the school wanting to share, learn, and create Artworks both traditionally and digitally.
- Mr. Arnett is also organizing a Visual, Media and Photography Arts field trip to the Ripley's Aquarium in Toronto on Friday November 9th, 2018.

INITIATIVES

- Two students attended *Me 2 WE* in Toronto on September 21st. They came back enlightened with ideas that they can share with the school.
- Outreach trip is planned to Toronto on October 4th to deliver food and clothing to the homeless

Meredith Legace ~ Sacred Heart High School Walkerton

CATHOLICITY

- Father Les payed a visit to our classes on September 12 to bless the teachers, students and school.
- The school mass will be happening on Oct 4
- The *Me to We Club* is working on selling ice cream bars for their school in rural china
- They also attended *We Day* in Toronto on September 20th
- Two grade nine retreats will be happening on the 26th



ACADEMICS

- Visitors from different universities have started recruiting seminars this week
- Many preparations had been made to welcome the Nunavut students for when they arrived on the 21st. Students are looking forward to engaging and learning about the similarities and differences between the two cultures.

ATHLETICS

- The junior and senior boys volleyball teams have been dedicatedly practicing since the beginning of the school year in preparation for the coming season and had their first tournament on the 18th
- Pilar Dietrich, a grade 12 student, is participating in the World Kickboxing Championships in Italy
- The boys golf team have been practicing very hard and have successfully won a spot in the CWOSSA tournament on the 26th.
- Boys rugby, soccer and girls basketball have all been practicing in preparation for the upcoming season

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- The Sacred Heart Outers Club had their first meeting recently and are excited about the amount of grade nine interest in the extracurricular activities
- Photo day took place on the 14th
- On the 21st Student Council hosted the annual Grade Nine appreciation day, an event enjoyed by many who participated and also had the welcome back assembly where they had many interactive games and provided SHHS cookies at the end.

- On the 27th the school will have their Terry Fox run and the 28th will be the first PD day of the school year

Let's Inspire

Board Policy and Administrative Procedures

The next Policy Review Committee meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2018.

The following policies and procedures will be reviewed:

- Flag Raising – New
- BP 7-1 Admission of Students
- BP 10-1 Religion and Family Life Education
- BP 7-9 Health Services and Medication
- Performance Appraisal Director of Education –New
- BP 11-01 Responsible Use of Technology – New
- BP 7-12 School Preparation for Response to Anaphylaxis
- BP 1-1 Guiding Principles
- BP 2-8 Electronic Meetings
- BP 9-2 Student Services Program
- BP 2-1 Inaugural Meetings
- BP 6-30 Catholic School Councils
- BP 9-11 Physical Restraint of a Student

[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:

September 28, 2018 – Board-wide Faith Formation Day

October 15, 2018 – CPIC at the Catholic Education Centre

October 16, 2018 – Theology on Tap at Harley's Pub and Perk, Mildmay

October 22, 2018 – Municipal Elections

Next Board of Trustees meeting is **Monday October 22, 2018 10:30a.m.**, at the Catholic Education Centre.