



Director's

P R I O R I T I E S

AUGUST 28, 2006

1. *Spiritual Theme 2006/07*
Empowered by the Spirit: "I will pour out my spirit upon all."
ACTS 2:17
2. *Sacraments of Initiation*
Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist - with a focus on Eucharist
3. *Religion and Family Life Program*
Implementation Review Committee
4. *Teacher as Catechist*
5. *Celebration of our Liturgical Year*
6. *Distinctive Nature of Catholic Education*
7. *System Initiatives 2006-2007*



Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board

1. Spiritual Theme

Empowered by the Spirit: “I will pour out my spirit upon all”

ACTS. 2:17

- ❖ Jesus is the ultimate example of being “spirit-filled”
- ❖ The Holy Spirit leads us into Christ’s presence and Christ’s character
- ❖ The Holy Spirit works to help us take on the character that others would recognize as Christ’s
- ❖ The Holy Spirit guides us through:
 - ◆ scripture
 - ◆ circumstances
 - ◆ other believers
 - ◆ prayer
- ❖ The Holy Spirit pours faith into us
- ❖ The Holy Spirit gives us gifts which make the BODY work effectively and powerfully

The Holy Spirit makes us able to take part in God’s work in the world and makes it personal. The Kingdom becomes my vision for living. God’s hope for all becomes my hope for all. God’s sorrow over people’s situations and actions becomes mine, too. If the Holy Spirit has me, God is not distant but close up and real. The human spirit soars because of the Holy Spirit.

SEND US YOUR SPIRIT

Jesus, send us your spirit and renew the face of the earth. You know our strengths and weaknesses. Transform us into messengers of your Gospel for those who yearn for you.

Jesus, send us your spirit and renew the face of the earth. You know our history, with its beautiful and painful experiences. Help us to be untiring promoters of the society based on love, justice and peace.

Jesus, send us your spirit and renew the face of the earth. You know our longing for love and community. Make us instruments of unity and service, especially for those who are lonely.

AMEN

2. Sacraments of Initiation

Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist

Through the Sacraments of Christian Initiation we are filled with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

- i) **BAPTISM** — we are sealed with the “Gifts of the Holy Spirit”.
- ii) **CONFIRMATION** — we are awakened to these gifts of the Holy Spirit.
 - ❖ **Wonder and Awe** — enables us to acknowledge the greatness of God in the world around us.
 - ❖ **Reverence** — enables us to honour and respect God and all people as children of God, created in the image and likeness of God.
 - ❖ **Knowledge** — enables us to see God, reflected in all creation.
 - ❖ **Courage** — enables us to overcome obstacles that stand in our way of loving God and others.
 - ❖ **Right Judgement** — enables us to make practical decisions to live out our faith.
 - ❖ **Understanding** — enables us to discover the meaning of our faith.
 - ❖ **Wisdom** — enables us to see how all of creation reflects the power and love of God.

iii) **EUCCHARIST**

We ask the Holy Spirit to do two things:

- ❖ change bread and wine into Body and Blood of Christ
- ❖ change us who eat and drinks

St. Augustine reminds us “If then you are the body of Christ and his members, it is your sacrament that reposes on the altar of the Lord ... Be what you see and receive what you are” and “There you are on the table, and there you are in the chalice.”

The event of Eucharist is seen as:

- ❖ personal and tranformational
- ❖ communal and prophetic
- ❖ communication - word and response
- ❖ memorial
- ❖ action of the Holy Spirit
- ❖ a meal that nourishes, transforms, unifies
- ❖ bread broken sacrificially in self-giving
- ❖ service oriented
- ❖ celebration and commissioning

Gathering — Greeting, **welcoming**, hospitality, friendship, assembled in community

Liturgy of Word — Listening and hearing, **word** nourishes us spiritually

— Creed is an affirmation of our faith

— Intercessions offer prayer for world, local and individual needs

Liturgy of Eucharist — in the power of God's Spirit, bread and wine are changed into His Body and Blood. He becomes really, truly present and we become what we are – the Body of Christ – a community of **worship**.

Concluding — We are sent out into the world to serve others and attend to them

— We are sent out as God's messengers - **welfare**

— We are Christ to one another by our lives, our **witness**, our mission

3. Religion and Family Life Program

Implementation Review Committee

- ❖ In God's Image (K)
- ❖ Born of the Spirit (1-6)
- ❖ We are Strong Together (7-8)
- ❖ Be with Me (9)
- ❖ Christ and Culture (10)
- ❖ Faith and Culture (11)
- ❖ Church and Culture (12)



4. Teacher as Catechist

- ❖ Educator, Mentor, Witness
- ❖ Before students observe and study anything else, they observe and study their teachers
- ❖ In the power of the Holy Spirit, catechists proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ by their word and action and invite their students to do the same
- ❖ Religious Education seeks to **FORM, INFORM** and **TRANSFORM**.

5. Liturgical Year 2006-07 – Cycle C, Year 1

The celebrations throughout the year of the mysteries of the Lord's birth, life, death and Resurrection are presented in such a way that the entire year becomes a “year of the Lord's grace”. The cycle of the liturgical year and the great events constitute the basic rhythm of the Christian's life of prayer, with its focal point at Easter.

6. Distinctive Nature of the Catholic School

“The Catholic school tries to create within its walls a climate in which the pupil's faith will gradually mature ... It will give you pride of place in the education it provides through Christian Doctrine to the gradual formation of conscience in fundamental, permanent virtues ... the life - giving spirit which transforms a person of virtue into a person of Christ.”

SACRED CONGREGATION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION, 1977

Characteristics of a Catholic School

- 1. CHRIST-CENTRED** — Christ is the foundation of the whole educational enterprise.
- 2. TEACHING** — of Church Doctrine, formal academic programs in Religious and Family Life Education as well as integration of faith into all curriculum.
— Catholic Graduate Expectations.
- 3. COMMUNITY** — resonates with Christ's presence, values and message.
(Welcome, Word, Worship, Witness, Welfare)
- 4. PRAYER/WORSHIP** — daily conversation with God, celebration of Sacraments.
- 5. EVANGELIZATION** — sharing the “Good News” of the Gospel.
- 6. CHARITY/SERVICE/
SOCIAL JUSTICE** — help one another and the environment, empowers all members to challenge unjust structures.

Our Gospel Values

- ❖ **COURAGE** “Be not afraid” (PSALM 31)
We are encouraged to show courage in living Christ’s message of love, peace and justice in our daily lives.

- ❖ **COMMUNITY** “We are one body” (CORINTHIANS 10)
We are called to build a community of faith, to move beyond ourselves and establish relationships with others.

- ❖ **SERVICE** “Do just what I have done for you” (JOHN 13)
A key component of Christian living is the call to serve. We must share our gifts and talents with others.

- ❖ **LOVE** “Love one another as I have loved you” (JOHN 13)
By the love we show one another, we will be known as Christ’s disciples.

- ❖ **HOPE** “It was by hope that we were saved” (ROMANS 8)
We must have hope for the future, Christ is the anchor in our lives where we find safety and encouragement.

- ❖ **FAITH** “Everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life” (JOHN 3)
Throughout our lives we seek to deepen our faith in God, to become more trusting of his love for us.

- ❖ **RECONCILIATION** “Forgive us our trespasses” (LUKE 4)
A Christian is one who knows the joy of forgiveness. We understand God’s great capacity to forgive us throughout our lives.

- ❖ **JUSTICE** “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me” (MATTHEW 25)
We must be socially responsible, aware of the needs of others, treating all with fairness, respect and dignity.

Catholic Education — The Future is Now

Our Catholic schools have survived and grown due to work and commitment of many partners

- ◆ Parents
- ◆ Religious Communities
- ◆ Diocese
- ◆ Catholic Organizations
- ◆ Students
- ◆ Staff
- ◆ Alumni
- ◆ Government

- ❖ First Peterborough Catholic Elementary School opened in 1852.
- ❖ The Constitution Act of 1867 - Section 93(1) requires Ontario to fund Catholic schools. This position has been repeatedly upheld by the Supreme Court of Canada.
- ❖ Ontario now education 600,000 students in the 29 Catholic School Boards and 5 Catholic School Authorities.
- ❖ OCSTA has long supported public funding of schools of other faiths.
- ❖ Catholic Boards believe that education has a spiritual and religious dimension and that a faith-based education promotes values that contribute to the common good of our society.
- ❖ Our society has deep-rooted respect for multiculturalism and pluralism. The exercise of parental choice of education, including faith-based education, is consistent with Ontario's pluralistic society.



7. System Initiatives 2006-2007

OUR THEME

Empowered by the Spirit: "I will pour out my spirit upon all"

ACTS 2:17

OUR MOTTO

"Imparting the Spirit through Catholic Education"

OUR VISION

"The entire educational community will take responsibility for Catholic education"

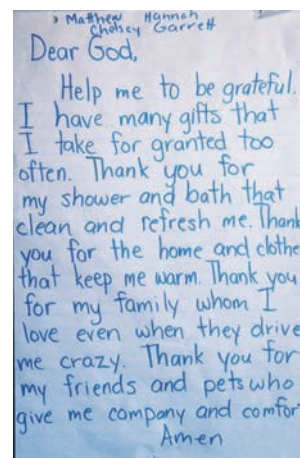
OUR MISSION

"To provide all students with a Catholic education that includes the knowledge, skills and values required to live a meaningful and faith-filled life"

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. We will live the Christian message and promote the cause of Catholic Education.

- ❖ Spiritual theme - *Empowered by the Spirit: "I will pour out my spirit upon all"* - ACTS 2:17
- ❖ Focus on Catholic Graduate Expectations within the curriculum and throughout our work in Catholic education
- ❖ Deliver wide range of programs and services through our office of Faith Animation
- ❖ School-based Faith Development Day - September 29, 2006
- ❖ Diocesan/Board Sacrament Committee projects
- ❖ Pastoral/Crisis Support Team
- ❖ School-based Pastoral Plan and Parish partnerships
- ❖ Liaison with Diocesan Office
- ❖ Administration Retreat, October 19 and 20, 2006
- ❖ Catholic Student Leadership Awards
- ❖ Catholic Education Week program and activities
- ❖ Celebration of Liturgical Year
- ❖ School Resource - "Build Bethlehem Everywhere" publication
- ❖ Secondary School Student Council Conference
- ❖ Institute of Catholic Education Symposium, November 24 and 25, 2006
- ❖ Hosting Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education Annual Conference, June 1 to 3, 2007



2. We will ensure that students come first.

a) *Learning Support Services*

- ❖ Literacy
 - ◆ Steering Committee consultation, data collection, PM Benchmarks, DRA, Trent Literacy Tutoring Program in Grade 2, Primary Book Rooms, Literacy Coaches and Tutors in Classroom
 - ◆ Major focus on JK/SK with new teacher resource book and program, data collection and report card
 - ◆ Implementation of Integrated Literacy Program
 - ◆ 4 System school based Literacy Coaches (Primary Division)
- ❖ Numeracy
 - ◆ Steering Committee consultation, ongoing in-service: Math Makes Sense, manipulatives and resources
- ❖ Central/School Library resources to support teaching and learning
- ❖ Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting
 - ◆ K-12 Assessment Guideline implementation/training
- ❖ Report Cards
 - ◆ Implementation of new Elementary Learning Skills Report Card and pilot for JK/SK Report Cards
 - ◆ Begin implementation of Maplewood Web version
- ❖ MISA
 - ◆ 3 year plan continues, Principal training and teacher pilots begin
 - ◆ Implementation/training for primary teachers/laptop initiative
- ❖ BEST START
 - ◆ Operations begin in September at 9 schools

Other initiatives include results of Organizational Review, Principal Professional Development - “Leading Student Achievement”; Implementation review - Religion and Family Life Program K-12; Sustaining Quality Curriculum - Science, Language and Kindergarten programs; FSL/French Immersion review and renewal; Computer Use in the Classroom; Early Years Learning Committee; School Improvement Planning and Data Analysis.

b) Special Education Services

- ❖ Maintain consistent and regular Special Education Services Staff attendance in each school
- ❖ Provide professional development in Differentiated Instruction and Use of Assistive Technology
- ❖ Review, revise and develop new IEP and Transition Plan
- ❖ Monitor scheduling of regular school-based SRT meetings
- ❖ Develop a model of assessment rooted in Teaching and Learning Practice and Class Profiles
- ❖ Support improved student achievement through 5th Block and Numeracy programs
- ❖ Initiate consultation process for review of PVNC Special Education Plan (in light of EQAO targets)
- ❖ Academic
 - ◆ Learning for Living Curriculum resource, BULLLD Training, PHAST Track pilot
- ❖ Gifted Education
 - ◆ AP in two schools; Duke of Edinburgh program, Battle of the Books; SMART options; Secondary School Mentorships
- ❖ Deaf Education
 - ◆ Develop standards; publish brochure; develop resource binder; use of Educational Audiologist
- ❖ Blind Education
 - ◆ Access to Braille code and increase Braille literacy levels
- ❖ Safe Schools
 - ◆ Bullying Prevention Program implementation, Safe School Action Team, explore Restorative Justice process, in-service on “Steps to Respect” and “First Steps”
- ❖ Psychology
 - ◆ Implement new psychological instruments and measures, system roll out - Child protection and abuse issues
- ❖ Speech Language
 - ◆ Review and revise Speech Screening Tool, professional development
- ❖ Social Work
 - ◆ Link with agencies and Student Success; assist schools, statistical tracking, non-violent crisis intervention
- ❖ ASD
 - ◆ In-service on resources, networking, CASA parent brochure

c) Student Success (7-12)

- ❖ Ongoing work based on the Four Pillars of Student Success:
 - i) Literacy
 - Ongoing support of DRA, Write Traits, Think Literacy resources, Ontario Secondary School Literacy test (OSSLT)
 - ii) Numeracy
 - Think Math Literacy, TIPS and TIPS4RM implementation throughout all of the schools for grades 7 to 10
 - iii) Transitions
 - Professional development for Student Success Teachers, Guidance Counsellors, and Attendance Counsellors
 - Work with elementary and secondary schools for seamless transitions from grade 8 to grade 9 - maintain use of the Student Success Profile
 - iv) Pathways
 - OYAP/COYAP; Learning to 18 projects; Skills Canada; High Skills Major featuring technology projects and Rural Initiatives, Workforce Development Board, School-College-Work initiatives
- 1. ❖ Ontario Secondary School (OSS)
 - ◆ Highlighting the upcoming changes to the diploma requirements
 - ◆ Creation of a Transitions Guide for senior elementary students, parents and educators
- 2. ❖ Student Success Teams from the secondary schools
 - ◆ Inservices focussing on Educators Guide, Credit Recovery, High Skills Major, Pathways timetabling.
- 3. ❖ Pathways programming focussing on “BLUEPRINT” computer program
 - ◆ Training for Guidance Counsellors and Student Success Teachers on a credit and career planning
- 4. ❖ Credit Recovery & eLearning
 - ◆ Curriculum work on packages of expectations to achieve the course requirements for Credit Recovery
 - ◆ Pilot eLearning resources from the Ministry - training will be available for Learning to 18 teachers, Credit Recovery teachers and Curriculum Chairs.
- ❖ Marketing/Communication Strategies
 - ◆ Career fairs for parents/ students
- ❖ Differentiated instruction/assessment
 - ◆ Working with teachers involved with Essential level classes and teachers of the Ontario Literacy course

- ❖ Technology in the Classroom
 - ◆ Geometry Sketchpad, Smart Ideas5 software
- ❖ Learning to 18
 - ◆ Maintain 6 current projects and support 2 new projects
- ❖ Rural Lighthouse projects
 - ◆ Implementing the programs within the schools
- ❖ MISA data collection and analysis on 10 Student Success indicators
- ❖ Passport to Prosperity - skilled trade career fairs
- ❖ Summer School for the summer of 2007
- ❖ Other projects: COIN; Youth Fusion; Rebound; Clarington Alternative to School Suspension; Chamber of Commerce; IBM pilot and Duke of Edinburgh pilot at Holy Cross Secondary School.

d) Computer Services

- ❖ Support implementation of web-based Report Card
- ❖ Support further training of math and literacy software for teachers
- ❖ Pilot of eLearning through the provincial Learning Management System
- ❖ Laptops for Teachers Initiative for K-3 teachers
- ❖ Videoconferencing in Kawartha Lakes
- ❖ Offer online inservice through “Webinars” and Videoconference technology

3. We will operate effectively.

a) Business and Finance Services

- ❖ Implement and monitor board budget
- ❖ Principal and School Council involvement in budget process
- ❖ Long range facility planning and initial design committee work
- ❖ STSCO Transportation Consortium operations
- ❖ Planning for capital asset tracking
- ❖ Implementation of purchasing handbook
- ❖ Joint Health and Safety Committee system and school level work
- ❖ Electronic facility booking
- ❖ WHMIS training



- ❖ Pandemic Plan and in-house cross-training to maintain finance responsibilities
- ❖ Monitor/track various special program grants
- ❖ Governance, Board and Provincial Committee involvement
- ❖ Environmentally friendly practices
- ❖ Holy Family construction project
- ❖ Building renewal projects
- ❖ MISA/ONSIS data accuracy and funding allocations

b) Human Resource Services

- ❖ Positive labour relations/grievance procedure
- ❖ Automated posting process - support staff
- ❖ Teacher hiring and posting procedures
- ❖ Attendance management and implementation of Smart Find Express
- ❖ Performance appraisal: CUPE and Administrative Staff
- ❖ Principal/Vice-Principal handbook development
- ❖ Occasional teacher handbook - review and update
- ❖ New Teacher Induction Program
- ❖ Preparation for tendering benefits 2007-08

4. We will develop and maintain alliances.

- ❖ Parish/Diocesan/Deanery partnerships
- ❖ Catholic School Councils
- ❖ District Catholic School Council
- ❖ UK Educators Study Tour
- ❖ Provincial Catholic Organizations (ICE, CCC, OCSTA, ECCODE, OCSOA, OCSBOA, CPCO, OECTA, OAPCE, OCCB, OTL)
- ❖ Professional Associations (CODE, OASBOA, CUPE, OCT)
- ❖ Community Organizations (Chamber of Commerce, United Way, Community Agencies, Health Units, Community Fire and Police)
- ❖ Educational Organizations (Co-terminous Boards, Trent, OUIT, SSFC, Durham College, OISE)
- ❖ Government (Municipal, Provincial, Federal)
- ❖ International Plowing Match Education Committee

5. We will communicate effectively.

- ❖ Organizational review project and future priorities
- ❖ Ongoing policy review, development and consultation
- ❖ Monthly Board and Governance meetings
- ❖ Monthly Director/FOS/Principal Professional Development meetings
- ❖ Internet/Intranet websites
- ❖ Director's Annual Report
- ❖ Advisory, Ad Hoc and Standing Committees
 - ◆ SEAC
 - ◆ RFLAC
 - ◆ Literacy
 - ◆ Organizational Review
 - ◆ Religious Education/
Family Life Implementation Review
 - ◆ Human Resources
 - ◆ Emergency Response
 - ◆ Communications
 - ◆ Community Use of Schools
 - ◆ Diversity and Equity
 - ◆ Joint Health and Safety
 - ◆ Chairpersons
 - ◆ Principal Mentorship
 - ◆ Summer School
 - ◆ FSLAC
 - ◆ Pathways
 - ◆ Numeracy
 - ◆ Early Years
 - ◆ Labour Relations
 - ◆ New Teacher Mentorship
 - ◆ Design
 - ◆ Assessment
 - ◆ Sacrament
 - ◆ Safe Schools
 - ◆ Environment
 - ◆ Policy Review
 - ◆ Athletic Advisory
- ❖ Publications/newsletters
- ❖ Records Management/Freedom of Information/Protection of Privacy
- ❖ School Council quarterly newsletter
- ❖ Regional Meeting - Catholic School Council Chairs
- ❖ District Catholic School Council meetings
- ❖ Special events

6. We will be responsible for personal renewal.

- ❖ Sustain Catholic Professional Learning Communities
- ❖ New trustee orientation/retreat
- ❖ Adult faith development programs
- ❖ School-based professional development days
- ❖ Preparation and planning time
- ❖ WHMIS training
- ❖ School-based faith development day
- ❖ Ministry/Board/OECTA/CUPE professional development opportunities
- ❖ CCC - “When Faith Meets Pedagogy” conference
- ❖ Curriculum Chair meetings
- ❖ Divisional meetings/staff meetings
- ❖ Director/FOS/Principal in-service meetings
- ❖ PVNC leadership development program
- ❖ VP development series
- ❖ “Partners In Practice” fall conference
- ❖ Succession planning

