



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

*Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey*

## ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT BOARD ADVISORY COUNCIL

### MINUTES

Monday, May 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

**Location: Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre  
420 Creek Street, Wallaceburg**

1. Guests: Bishop Fabbro & Dan Moynihan

Director of Education opened the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Bishop Fabbro - led the opening prayer.

2. Introductions

- Special Guest Most Reverend Bishop Fabbro & Dan Moynihan, Youth Ministry Specialist for the Diocese of London.

3. Information/Discussion Items

a) School Presentations of the School/Parish/Home Relationship Initiative (Appendix 1)

- The Director of Education opened this topic by explaining the School/Parish/Home Relationship Initiative.
- Dan Moynihan: plan was laid out in November. Work has inspired others across the Diocese. Huron Perth CDSB is now following our lead and Windsor Essex CDSB is also beginning this work.
- Bishop Fabbro expressed his pleasure at being asked to attend this meeting. He was pleased to offer his support for the initiative of the home school and parish tirade.

b) Kingdom Assignment – Cindy Waddick, Elementary Chaplaincy Leader

- Based on the parable of talents, Matthew 25 – each student is given \$100.00. Their task was to use the money to do something outside the walls of the school to further God's Kingdom.
- The United Way is the recipient of any moneys made.
- The seed money donated by St. Clair Catholic District School Board's Director of Education.
- A variety of activities were undertaken
- As friends and advocates of Catholic Education our Board is donating \$2,000 to two other school boards to create the Kingdom Assignments in their boards and then they will give back the \$2,000 for us to give to two other school boards and in this way we will slowly get this out to all of the Catholic Boards in Ontario

c) Muskoka Woods – Gerri Brown, Principal UCC

- Two weeks ago Parents, Trustees, K of C, and Priests went to experience Muskoka Woods.
- Camp is located on Lake Rosseau in Muskoka.
- The purpose of the camp is to promote awareness and importance of youth participation in outdoor recreation activities; provide our students with the opportunity for leadership

- training and the development of cooperative skills (teamwork); provide our students with the opportunity for personal growth and confidence through recreational activities.
- All activities require a team effort in order to participate.
  - All the students have to bring with them is to be open and willingness to try the activities
  - Moto: “Measure your life not by what you get...but by what you give”.
  - Gerri thanked Paul for allowing this project to go on in our schools.
  - The purpose is to teach kids leadership skills in a Catholic way. As well as to keep Catholic kids in our Catholic secondary schools.

4. Dan Moynihan

- The diocese is doing two things to support young people.
  - Spirit Day hosted by the diocese at UCC
  - Sacrament of Confirmation in Grade 8 year
- Recently confirmed meet with a Bishop
- Catholic Christian Leadership camp at camp Sylvan – Scout camp which is a five day four night experience with senior high school students mentoring the event.
- Flyers available to take back to schools and parish on Spirit Day and Catholic Christian Leadership Camp.

5. Paul thanked Dan for being so available and helpful to our schools and our board

Paul also thanked Bishop Fabbro for taking the time to be here with us tonight.

6. Bishop Fabbro

- Lobby effort across province of Ontario to our members of Ontario by Catholic Trustees, OECTA and Bishops asking if they supported Catholic Schools.
- Bishop Fabbro has spoken with three MPP’s and one responded that he went to Catholic school and the values which he learned at school he never comprises on.
- Catholic schools are about supporting parents to provide values to their children in a society which often does not support them.
- Attending this meeting was an uplifting experience.
- Bishop Fabbro has been to Muskoka Woods and the experience was incredible the values which can be conveyed in four day experience is unbelievable.
- Grade 7 students are changed by this experience.
- Challenge for us is to have concrete experiences to bring together school, home, and parish. Developing gospel values in our students outreach to the poor, students getting their parents to attend Mass, times together with parish staff and parents and students are worthwhile goals.
- Dan has connected our Diocese together with our Catholic Schools. This is a sign of hope for the future.
- Coming back to our Pastoral Plan for the next five years with six goals. Parishes are being encouraged to connect with their schools.
- Pastoral Plans for parishes will be on diocese website.
- We must pass on gospel values to our children.

7. Closing Prayer (on reverse of Agenda)

8. **The meeting adjourned at 8:41p.m.**

SCHOOL NAME	REPORT
Christ the King Catholic School	Principal Mark Renaud - used mentor text - by using audio and video of mentor text. Invited parish leaders and Board officials to read different books to the students and these sessions were video taped for use at a later date.
Georges P. Vanier Catholic School St. Joseph Catholic School - Chatham St. Ursula Catholic School	The three schools together with the St. Joseph and St. Ursula Parish Cluster organized a fabulous day together beginning with Mass at St. Ursula with Fr. Richard. The church was full of family (many generations were present). Luncheon was provided and Christmas ornaments were made and then put on a tree on the Alter of St. Ursula's which was then blessed by Fr. Richard. In the January at the St. Ursula's 12 noon Sunday Mass families were invited to attend and retrieve their ornaments and enjoy a time of fellowship in the church hall with refreshments provided.
Gregory A. Hogan Catholic School Sacred Heart Catholic School - Sarnia	Babies and children from 0 to 3 years of age are missed by every food drive. Assisted by St. Vincent de Paul the schools collected articles and food i.e. infant formula pabulum etc. Both school student parliaments were actively involved. Parents have requested that this initiative continue all year.
Holy Family Catholic School	A Christmas Turkey luncheon was provided for school community, parish guests, invited board office officials as well as parents. Parents assisted with decorating the gym, setting up tables and chairs and serving the meal. Fr. Greg lead the grace before meals. Students sat with their families.
Holy Rosary Catholic School St. Philip Catholic School	<b>One Church Two Schools - Lets Celebrate!</b> April 17th Sunday Mass celebrated in St. Philips church. Church was full with school members and parish members. Began with student liturgical dancers. Band Unity played. All greeters, readers, gift bearers were students from each school. Father's homily was on theme <i>Live Like Jesus</i> . Reception was held in Parish Hall after Mass
Monsignor Uyen Catholic School	St. Agnes Soup Kitchen asked for someone to make cloth bags for the "take home items" which the soup kitchen provides. Gr. 8 students will be cutting out bags and help sew them along with members of the parish.
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School	A combined project between the staff and students of the school, the parish, parents, maintenance personnel and community members provided an opportunity to renew the landscaping at the front of the school into a beautiful gathering spot. The landscaping and garden provide a peaceful location for staff and students alike to gather, in the presence of the statue of Mary, to celebrate, reflect and to pray. The project expenditures included refreshments, nourishment and of course the purchase of flora. The project culminated in the blessing of the new space and the release of butterflies, which had been were nurtured from caterpillars in our grade one classrooms, to symbolize the new life that the garden would provide in bringing us closer to God.
Sacred Hearth Catholic School - Port Lambton	Steve DeGurse, Principal - Community gathering a Moore's Sports Complex rented both ice pads. All students were bussed to the Sports Complex. Talks were given by various church and community groups.

SCHOOL NAME	REPORT
St. Agnes Catholic School	The School participated in the St. Agnes Blessed Sacrament Cluster Mission. Students were captivated by the speaker and motivated to live the way Jesus would want. Our school also collected a donation for the earth quake victim of Haiti. Students have also been studying the book "Listen to the Wind".
St. Anne Catholic School - Blenheim	Gift Hamper Project - all families brought gifts for the living tree - money was used to purchase turkeys - students helped to pack hampers
St. Anne Catholic School - Sarnia St. Michael Catholic School - Bright's Grove	Social Justice Group - sewing circle was created and made baby and children's quilts. Both schools donated hats, mitts, and gloves which were all sent to Pikangikum which is an Ojibwa community of about 2500 people located approximately 100 km. north of Red Lake, Ontario where everything has to be shipped in by air. Received lots of emails and pictures of thanks were received.
St. Benedict St. Margaret Catholic School St. Peter Catholic School St. Therese Catholic School	Project to pull together all 4 schools. Planning joint closing activities on May 30th with all 4 schools at 1 pm for 2 Masses a children's Mass and an Adult Mass. There will be carnival type rides and activities. St. Pat's students have volunteered to run children's activities. Fun activities are planned for all. Will take place at St. Pat's all are welcome!
St. Elizabeth Catholic School	All parents, students and staff were invited to a turkey dinner. School Council served turkey dinner. Uplifting and community building event for the school community.
St. John Fisher Catholic School	Net Ministry came and worked with Grade 7 & 8 students challenging them to live for Christ. Parents were invited to join students at the end of the day.
St. Joseph Catholic School - Corunna	A series of events were held during the year. There was a family BBQ and members of the parish were invited with K of C cooking. Celebration for Halloween. In November there was a 7 & 8 retreat including Mass and meal. December was the fundraising initiative <b>Operation Christmas Child</b> . A Children's Lectionary was purchased and is used for Monday Liturgies and Class Masses. A Children's choir for the church was established.
St. Joseph Catholic School - Tilbury	A motivational speaker was brought in to speak to parents, student and parish members. The issue of bullying was the topic.
St. Michael Catholic School - Ridgetown	A Food Drive to support local food bank. Joined with Church Youth Group to package food and money received was used to purchase meat for food bank.
St. Michael Catholic School - Turnerville Good Shepherd Catholic School	The two schools joined with the Parish Cluster for a December 7th - Public Free Skate - paid for by the schools - used front hall for refreshments for school and parish. There was also a Euchre tournament and colouring books and crayons and gift baskets. Fr. Andy Dwyer attended. Ice was full of skaters.
St. Peter Canisius Catholic School	Net Ministry came and spoke to the Grade 6 & 7 students on leadership and faith. Shared meal together. Enlightening for students and teachers.

<b>SCHOOL NAME</b>	<b>REPORT</b>
St. Vincent Catholic School	Family Valentine's Dance was organized at Blessed Sacrament. There were door prizes and a band. The dance was attended by school staff, parishioners, and students. A note of thanks was received from the parish cluster.
St. Christopher Catholic Secondary School	An addition to the St. Christopher website was created, where all of the parishes can add and update their events. These will then be announced on the St. Christopher school television.
St. Patrick's Catholic High School	The Irish Miracle was enhanced by purchasing more air time to promote this event and then a brunch was provided with the K of C cooking for the kids after they finished their canvassing.
Ursuline College Chatham Catholic Secondary School	Increase of communication and technology between school and parishes. Put on sign on front of school. Newsletter for parents and staff and all parents are invited to everything going on at the school. Parents were invited as chaperones for 30 hour famine from Friday to Saturday and they raised \$900.00 for Free the Children Foundation.