



**ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

St. Clair Catholic Teachers Get First-Hand Look at Post-Secondary Career Pathways

Teachers in St. Clair Catholic's two secondary schools headed to college on the November 21st Professional Development Day, to get better acquainted with post-secondary pathways that lead students to rewarding careers.

"This exciting and innovative day helped to further build on important partnerships we have developed with our colleges and local work force development boards," says Dan Parr, Director of Education.

"We have always done, and will continue to do, an excellent job preparing students who are headed to university; but we also want to redouble our efforts to honour the non-university pathway that prepares students for the many meaningful and gratifying careers that are available through colleges, apprenticeships and school-to-work programs," says Mr. Parr. "That's what this day was all about."

During the PD day, teachers and guidance counsellors at St. Patrick's Catholic High School in Sarnia and Ursuline College in Chatham participated in interactive tours at Lambton and St. Clair colleges, which included programs such as hospitality and tourism, digital photography, occupational and physical therapy and developmental service work.

There were also off-site tours available of the Research Park in Sarnia; and Devolder Farms and Greenhouses, Boralex Wind Farm and Tilbury Anchor Danly Fabrications in Chatham-Kent, to name a few.

This important event ties directly to one of the goals of the Board's new Strategic Plan, which was adopted by the Board of Trustees in June, 2014. It is a commitment to prepare students for academic and practical success through innovative career-based opportunities in colleges, cooperative education and apprenticeships.

"I want to thank our Catholic Curriculum Services team for arranging this novel PD opportunity for our secondary teachers and guidance counsellors, which will help them to better serve our students," says Mr. Parr.

In the photo above are teachers from St. Patrick's Catholic High School in Sarnia tour the Water and Wastewater Lab at the Lambton Water Centre in the Western-Sarnia-Lambton Research Park.