



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MEDIA RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, September 16, 2010

Catholic Education Centre
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TRUSTEE LINDA WARD APPOINTED TO ADDITIONAL ROLE ON MINISTER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

Trustee Linda Ward has been appointed to a new role on the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education (MACSE). Mrs. Ward was appointed as the trustee representative for MACSE in January 2009, representing the four trustee associations in Ontario. She will now also be the council's liaison with the Ontario Catholic community.

MACSE advises the Minister of Education on any and all matters related to the establishment and provision of special education programs and services for students with special needs in Ontario.

"This appointment is a great honour for me," says Mrs. Ward. "It is also a tremendous opportunity for our Board to have double representation on this important committee."

Mrs. Ward has been a Catholic trustee in Sarnia for more than 15 years. She is also a regional director of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association.



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ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN TURNERVILLE TO BE STUDIED BY ACCOMMODATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

St. Michael Catholic School in Turnerville has been named for study by an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC). The school was named for review by the Board of Trustees, following a report from the Director of Education at tonight's Regular Board Meeting.

The current enrolment at St. Michael is just 34% of the school's capacity. The school is built to accommodate 158 students; however, there are only 54 currently enrolled there, organized in four classes as follows:

- Grade 1-2-3 – 8 students
- Grade 4-5 – 12 students
- Grade 6-7 – 20 students
- Grade 8 – 14 students

Under the current provincial funding formula, vacant classroom space is not fully funded.

“Education funding is determined by enrolment,” says Paul Wubben, Director of Education. “As the student population declines, so does the amount of money the Board receives to operate our schools. We cannot afford to continually pay the costs which are generated by unused inventory, as it draws funds away from other important areas.”

The mandate of the ARC will be to lead the public review and report directly to the Board of Trustees. Four meetings of the ARC will be scheduled, all of which will be held in public.

The first Accommodation Review Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 28, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. St. Michael Catholic School in Turnerville.



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DEACON JERRY LOZON APPOINTED TO SERVE AS BOARD CHAPLAIN FOR ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC

Deacon Jerry Lozon has been appointed to serve as Chaplain of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board. Deacon Lozon is a former teacher and principal with the Board. He retired in 2005.

“I am pleased to have been invited to serve in this new role,” says Deacon Lozon. “When you’re a retired teacher and principal, your heart and soul is in education. I’m happy to be here and to help the Board celebrate our faith.”

“Jerry has served this Board for many years as an educator,” says Anita Labadie, Chair of the Board. “We are pleased he has returned in this important position on our Board, through which he will help us to keep our Catholicity at the forefront of everything we do.”

Deacon Lozon replaces Father Andy Dwyer, who took up new duties as pastor of a parish in Windsor last June.