



Date: **August 30, 2022**
Prepared by: **Laura Callaghan, Superintendent of Education**
Subject: **Pastoral Plan 2022-2023: Walking Together**

Background

Each year the Board Pastoral Plan supports faith formation of our community and identifies specific system goals for the year, in alignment with the Board Strategic Plan.

Working with the Catholic Faith Advisory Committee, including Margaret Palmer the System Chaplaincy Lead, and Kim Fitzmorris, Catholic Elementary Curriculum Consultant, goals are established to frame our work as a system for the coming year and root our work in our faith. The Committee examined the 2021-22 goals, progress made and co-created the goals identified on this year's plan.

This year our Board Pastoral Theme is *Walking Together*. As we continue to move forward from the pandemic we walk together as a community. The Pope initiated a synodal journey this year, and the theme of this synod is about the way of living and operating as a church together. Pope Francis states: "Celebrating a synod means walking on the same road, together. Let us look at Jesus, who encounters the rich man on the road; he then listens to his questions, and finally he helps him discern what he must do to inherit eternal life." Our theme this year emphasizes this important theme of accompaniment. The pandemic has impacted connections, and our theme amplifies the importance of communion, participation, and mission as we encounter, listen and discern together.

Our goals align with the system improvement plan, or "Always Ready Plan", and will help us focus on these actions in service of our strategic priorities. Our pastoral plan also continues to highlight the importance of our values identified in our Strategic Plan, and the connection to the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations.

Recommendations

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *Pastoral Plan 2022-2023: Walking Together* for information.