



**Date:** May 28, 2024  
**Prepared by:** Chris Kehoe, Superintendent of Education  
**Subject:** Secondary Retention Data

## **Background**

The St. Clair Catholic District Board has a goal to maximize retention so that “Our Catholic elementary and secondary schools are first choice for all Catholic families in our region.” The practice of student retention encompasses all the things the system does to influence this rate, working to engage students and families with the intention that they remain in our Catholic system until the completion of their secondary education. To support this goal, the SCCDSB Strategic Plan allows for a well-planned and coordinated formulation and implementation of a cohesive and adaptable Retention Strategy going beyond the current status quo.

During this school year, a number of retention opportunities targeted at our feeder schools were created and implemented.

### ***Special Event Opportunities***

- All Grade 8 students invited to Adventureworks for an Outdoor Education-based Leadership day. Secondary Leaders from UCC and SPH are involved in the Adventureworks experience, facilitating activities and building relationships.
- Grade 7-8 students attending Diocesan Rally Day in Chatham.
- Feeder schools attending Secondary Theater and Music workshops and productions.
- Film In a Day Festival targeted at grade 5 to 7 students and parents provided to schools with typically low retention rates. The program was delivered in collaboration with LCFAFF and SheepDog Animations at St. Patrick’s High School/UCC.
- Skilled Trades LIUNA Partnership Sessions and Presentations.
- Land-Based Learning opportunities for Indigenous Youth in elementary schools and Celebration opportunities for Indigenous Youth in elementary schools.
- Head Start is directed at selected grade 8 students starting grade 9 to assist with successful transition to secondary schools.

### ***In School Opportunities at Elementary Schools***

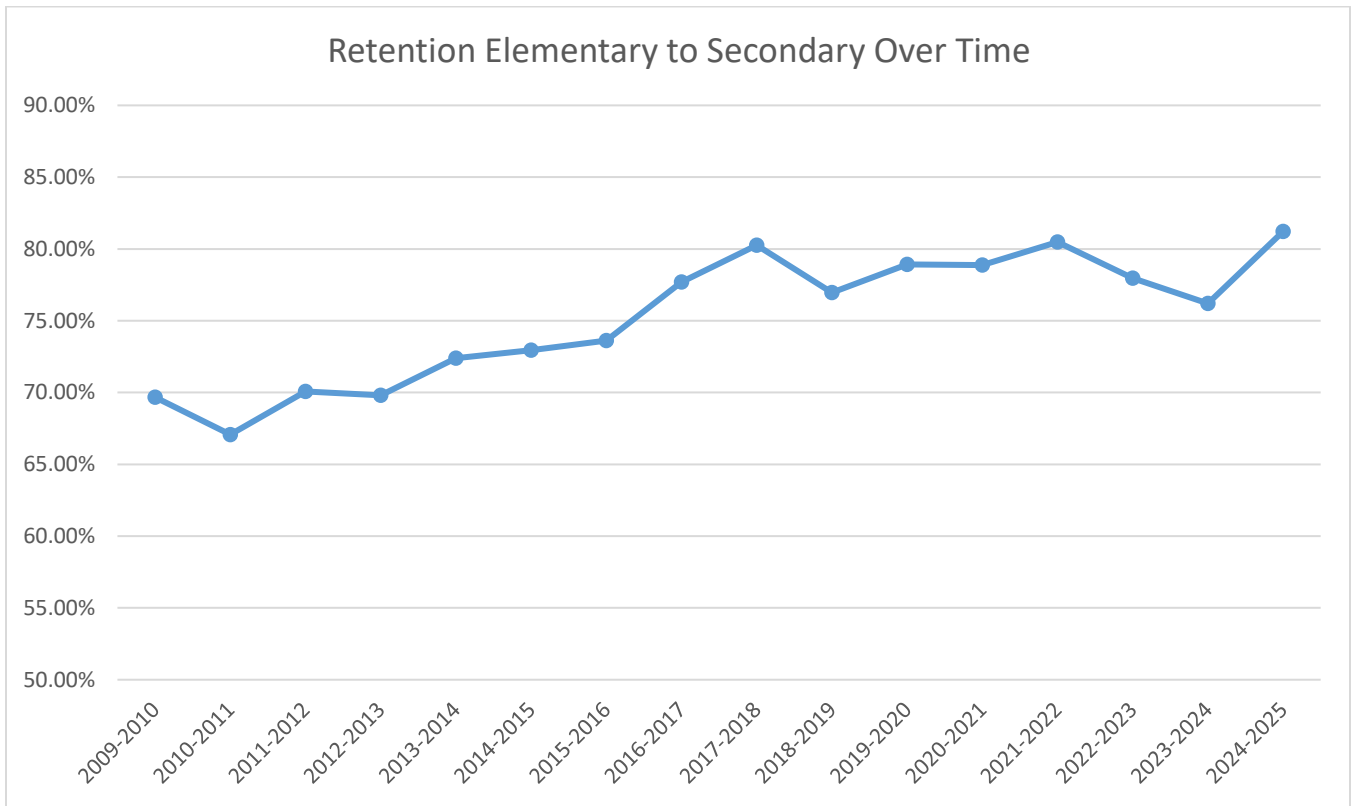
- School Admin and Guidance Department visits to feeder schools.
- Secondary Theater and Music workshops and productions at feeder school locations.
- Secondary student presence during the KinderSTART Open House Campaign.
- Indigenous Youth Leadership development in elementary schools with secondary Indigenous Youth Mentorship.
- Career and Pathways learning opportunities for Indigenous Youth in elementary schools.



### **Secondary School Visit Opportunities**

- Grade 8 Secondary School Visits during Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day.
- Leadership Classes offering school tours to intermediate classes.
- Grade 8 school visits for Grade 8 Indigenous youth to transition to secondary school.
- A variety of initiatives related to skilled trades involving a cross-panel approach.
- Continuous work conducted by our Transition Teachers.
- Guided Tours of UCC and St. Patrick’s in May/June for incoming grade 9 students with heightened anxiety for High School transition.

Planning services has provided the following retention data from grade 8 to grade 9 for this current 2023-2024 school year. The overall retention rate for both of our high schools is 81%.



UCC	Current Year 2024-2025			Previous Yr 2023-2024	% Change
	# of Students	Possible Students	Retention %	Retention %	Retention %
<b>Elementary Partner</b>					
Christ the King	11	14	78.57%	68.75%	9.8%
Georges P Vanier	23	24	95.83%	94.12%	1.7%
Good Shepherd	4	11	36.36%	80.00%	-43.6%
Holy Family	18	23	78.26%	60.00%	18.3%
Monsignor Uyen	28	29	96.55%	90.48%	6.1%
St. Angela Merici	64	68	94.12%	83.78%	10.3%
St. Anne Blenheim	33	37	89.19%	80.00%	9.2%
St. Elizabeth	9	14	64.29%	44.44%	19.8%
St. Joseph Tilbury	9	19	47.37%	68.42%	-21.1%
St. Michael Ridgetown	10	12	83.33%	87.50%	-4.2%
St. Ursula	40	44	90.91%	82.86%	8.0%
<b>Parter School Total</b>	249	295	84.41%	79.19%	5.21%
<b>Coterminous Board</b>	91 students			86 students	

St. Patrick's	Current Year 2024-2025			Previous Yr 2023-2024	% Change
	# of Students	Possible Students	Retention %	Retention %	Retention %
<b>Elementary Partner</b>					
Gregory A Hogan	49	51	96.08%	89.80%	6.3%
Holy Rosary	3	10	30.00%	60.00%	-30.0%
Holy Trinity	49	51	96.08%	90.70%	5.4%
Sacred Heart, PL	6	19	31.58%	9.09%	22.5%
Sacred Heart, Sarnia	45	48	93.75%	93.33%	0.4%
St. Anne, Sarnia	56	57	98.25%	91.43%	6.8%
St. John Fisher	4	27	14.81%	8.33%	6.5%
St. Joseph, Corunna	28	30	93.33%	83.18%	10.2%
St. Matthew	42	45	93.33%	97.56%	-4.2%
St. Michael, BG	11	11	100.00%	100.00%	0.0%
St. Peter Canisius	4	19	21.05%	32.14%	-11.1%
St. Philip	16	29	55.17%	21.43%	33.7%
<b>Parter School Total</b>	313	397	78.84%	73.98%	4.86%
<b>Coterminous Board</b>	65 students			121 students	

## Recommendation

**That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: *Secondary Retention Data*, for information.**