

## **MEDIA RELEASE:** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## OUR LADY OF FATIMA PRINCIPAL LISA DEMERS APPOINTED SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

Lisa Demers, Principal of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School in Chatham, has been appointed to serve as St. Clair Catholic's next Superintendent of Education. Mrs. Demers' appointment fills the vacancy that will be left as Deb Crawford assumes the role of Director of Education, following Dan Parr's retirement at the end of December.

"Lisa of course needs no introduction to our staff and I am very pleased to announce her appointment to this important position," says Dan Parr, Director of Education. "Her dedicated professionalism and demonstrated experience, both at the system and the school level, will make her an asset to the senior team at St. Clair Catholic."

Mrs. Demers began her teaching career in 1993 with the former Kent County Roman Catholic Separate School Board, as a classroom teacher at St. Vincent Catholic School in Chatham. In 2004 she was appointed System Resource Teacher – Special Education Behaviour for St. Clair Catholic and in 2007 became System Program Resource Consultant. She led the Special Education department for six years beginning in 2009 and in 2015 she was appointed Principal of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School.

Mrs. Demers also has a wide breadth of system committee, provincial and community experience. She was a member of the Community Violent Threat Risk Assessment Protocol development committee, along with local police services, community partners and our coterminous school boards. She also served on the Ontario Special Needs Strategy Directive and was a system level Co-Instructor and Facilitator with the New Teacher Induction Program. She has also served on the Board of Directors for Chatham-Kent Children's Services and this year was appointed by the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario to lead the Principals Qualifications Course in the St. Clair district.

She obtained her Supervisory Officers' qualifications in 2016.

Mrs. Demers' appointment is effective December 1, 2017, which will allow for some transition planning. A further announcement regarding her replacement as Principal at Our Lady of Fatima will be made in the coming weeks.