



Highlights:

- 2008 Director's Report Update
- Cardinal's Virtue Program at Pope John Paul II School
- Expression of Interest for the new daycare center
- Meet your Trustees and Catholic Education Center Staff

We are a Roman Catholic school system dedicated to excellence in education, the Christian formation of youth, and strong partnerships with parents and the church.

Kenora Catholic District School Board (807)468-9851

Message from our Director



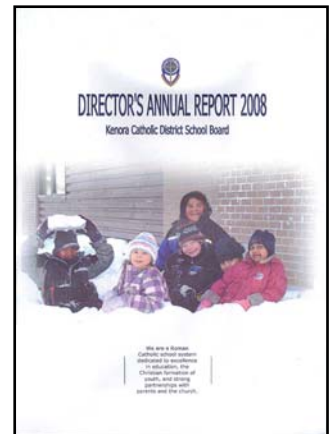
Happy New Year everyone!

I truly hope that each of you had a wonderful and safe Christmas season spent making memories with your loved ones.

We have been very busy over the recent weeks getting back into the swing of things after the Christmas season. We hit the ground running at the beginning of January compiling the 2008 Director's Annual Report. This is the first report I've completed as the new Director of Education and it's the first year the Ministry of Education has put guidelines and a deadline date on the Director's Annual report.

Compiling our Director's Report was a group effort. Each of our Principals, Curriculum Coordinators and Executive Council member's voices can be heard throughout our report. The success stories and achievements we experienced throughout 2008 and showcase in our report are very interesting to read about. I feel very proud and very blessed to be part of such an amazing school system with amazing children, teachers and staff members. It was very easy to write about our achievements and successes. The hardest part about writing this report was deciding which stories to write about because there are so many to choose from.

On January 20th our Board of Trustees met for our Regular Board meeting and reviewed the Draft 2008 Annual Director's Report. At the meeting they approved a motion to send the report into the Ministry of Education. The report will be printed and copies will be available at each of our schools. We will be posting the report on our website by the end of this week and sending each of you an electronic copy via e-mail. Please watch for it in your inboxes.



A SHINING EXAMPLE OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

On January 20th at our Regular Board meeting Andy Graham, Principal at Pope John Paul II School, provided the trustees and other attendees with a presentation about the new Cardinal's Virtue Program that has recently been implemented within the school.

This important initiative is a faith-based program designed to promote Christian values and actions within Pope John Paul II School. Andy explained that each of the Cardinal's Virtues are joined with a Grandfather Teaching and a gift of the Holy Spirit. The guidance and support provided through the Grandfather Teachings and the Holy Spirit Gifts enables our students to learn how to live their lives in a more meaningful and purposeful way.

Pope John Paul II School will have visual signs right in the entrance to the building so the Cardinal's Virtue program is a focus of prominence as children, teachers, parents and other visitors enter the building.

Andy went on to explain that the Cardinal's Virtue Program has generated a great deal of excitement and energy amongst the teachers and the students. It's very fulfilling and meaningful all around.

For more information on this program please contact Andy Graham at 807.467.8910





Expression of Interest for Daycare Center

Progress continues to be made on the finishing details of our new Pope John Paul II Daycare Center. The daycare center will create approximately 18 to 24 spaces for children aged 2 to 5 years old. The daycare will be housed in the St. Thomas Aquinas Annex. We believe that this placement for the new daycare center is a reasonable financial decision that will provide much needed daycare spaces for Kenora and the surrounding area.

Andrew Poirier, Manager of Operational Services is currently finalizing an expression of interest package which will be available for interested daycare providers. An advertisement for the expression of interest packages will be advertised in the local newspaper by the end of January.

The new daycare center, for the most part, is on schedule and will be completed at the end of March.

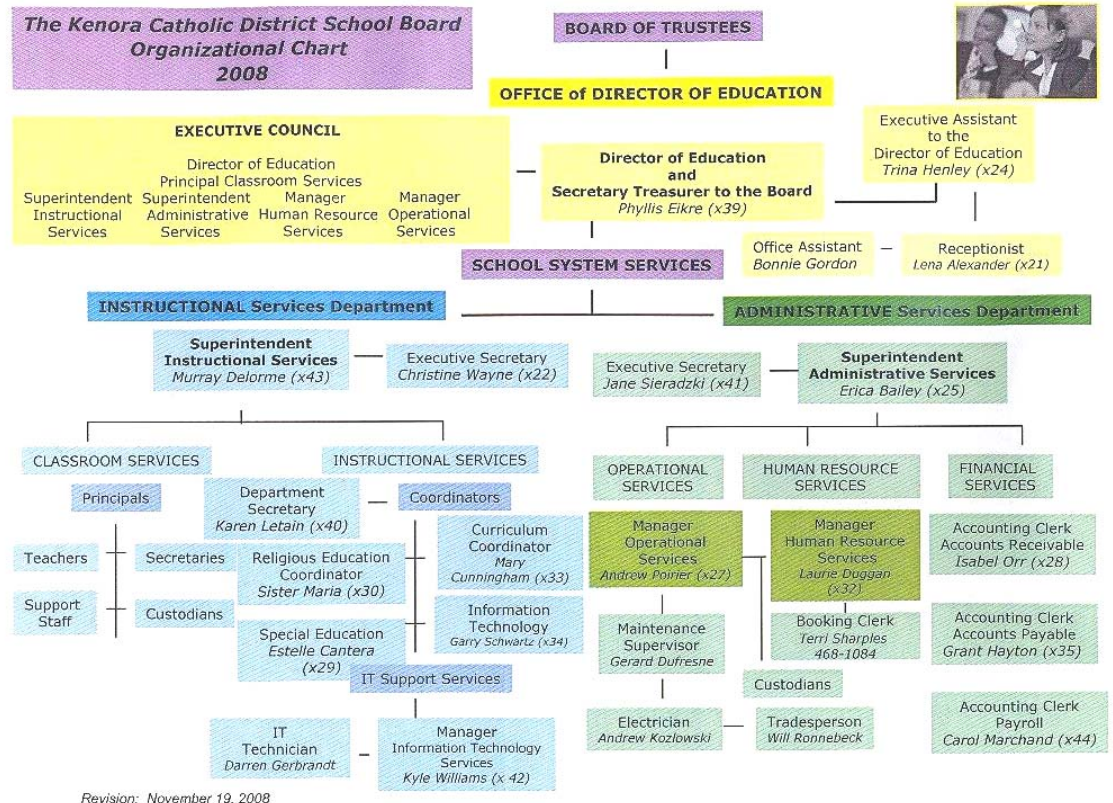
The Culmination of Change

We have seen a tremendous amount of innovation, growth and change over the past year. In fact, I am one of those changes myself. The new Director of Education.

To celebrate the fact that we have reached a point of stabilization and because we are in a brand new year we thought it would be really a nice opportunity to put together a communication's piece.

We wanted to use this newsletter as an opportunity to take a deep breath and really take a look around at all the changes that have occurred. We've recently had our elections for Chair and Vice Chair and we've completed the changes that have occurred to the staffing at the Board Office.

Over the next few pages please take a moment to read and enjoy the personal biographies of not only our Board of Trustees but also our participating Board Office staff members.



If this organizational chart is too small for you to read, additional copies are available on our [website](#) or you can e-mail Trina Henley to request a copy.

Getting to Know Your Trustees

Trustee's Responsibilities: Trustees are responsible for the overall governance of the board and development of policies and procedures according to governance, as well as duties as outlined in the education act. All trustees are responsible to the students and parents and guardians to ensure that the best possible Catholic education is provided to all the children in their care. Oh and they are also responsible for the purchase of milk to be consumed by the pupils in the schools under the jurisdiction of the board during school days in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed by the Education Act and its regulations.

Chair Responsibilities: In addition to the above the Chair of the board is responsible for providing leadership and presides over meetings of the board.

Vice Chair Responsibilities: The Vice Chair assists the Chair and takes the Chair's place when the Chair is unavailable.



Darryl Michaluk, Chair

Personal Biography: Darryl Michaluk has served as a trustee for almost 6 years now. Darryl was just elected Chair at the recent elections held in December. He was first interested in becoming a trustee because he truly believes that providing service to our community is what gospel values are all about. *"So for me to serve is to Love and we are taught by Christ to love everyone as he has loved us."*

For the past 26 years Darryl has worked for the local television station and just since October 2008 he now holds the title of Managing Director for the Lake of the Woods District Hospital Foundation.

Darryl has been happily married for the past 26 years to his very lovely wife Norma and together they share two wonderful boys who both attend St. Thomas Aquinas High school. Darryl and his family try to do as much together as possible. Their family enjoys pets and often they have some kind of critter around the house at any given time.

Something a little unique about Darryl: *"I am a pretty open and talkative kind of guy so there is very little people don't know about me. As far as unique goes, I'm about as unique as they come".*

Importance of Catholic Education: *"All education is important to our students but education infused with gospel values provides us with students that are knowledgeable of social justice and what it means to serve others."*



Mike Favreau, Vice Chair

Personal Biography: Mike Favreau has been in service to the Kenora Catholic District School Board since 1996. For Mike being of service is the main reason for joining our school board. As a father of six children, all of whom went through the Catholic School System, he's had the opportunity to be involved at different school levels with their education. Mike has always been community orientated with coaching sports, involvement with the Knights of Columbus and boy scouts. *"It's just another phase in my desire to be a life-long learner and do something worthwhile for my community and the school."*

Nancy and Mike have been married for 34 years. They are childhood sweethearts. Nancy was in grade 8 and

Mike was in grade 9 when they met and Mike proclaims that Nancy is the love of his life and best friend. Together they have six wonderful children, who have dispersed all across the country from Albert to Eastern Ontario. They have been blessed with one grandchild and another on the way in April 2009.

Something a little unique about Mike: Not everyone may know this about Mike but he has been trained in electrical work, completely taught by his father. He's very mechanically inclined.

Importance of Catholic Education: *"I honestly believe Catholic education makes for a holistic person. When a student is prepared for all facets of life, including spirituality, I believe it's an asset to the country and not just our community. The wholeness of life comes at you the older you get and you should be prepared for it, mentally, spiritually and academically."*



Teresa Gallik, Trustee

Personal Biography: As a trustee Teresa says that she just hopes that she can make some sort of difference in the children's lives. She just wants to see our kids get the best possible Catholic education that we can provide. Teresa has been a dedicated trustee for the past 6 years for the Kenora Catholic District School Board and prior to that she was a member of the Parent Council for École Ste-Marguerite Bourgeoys School. She has two sons who currently attend St. Thomas Aquinas High School. Tyler is 16 and Kelly is 18.

Teresa has been the manager at the Travel Lodge for the past 15 years and has a strong background in tourism. She and her family have lived in Kenora all their lives and enjoy taking hot vacations together.

Something a little unique about Teresa: She is the eldest of 7 younger siblings and all of her siblings (including herself) attended Mount Carmel School. Teresa enjoys flower gardening, traveling, reading and ice fishing.

Importance of Catholic Education: *"I believe it's important to provide our students with a Catholic Education because it provides a well rounded education for our kids. Spiritually, mentally and intellectually. This makes for great student success and achievement in any chosen path a graduate may take."*



Frank Bastone, Trustee

Personal Biography: Frank Bastone has been involved as a Trustee since January 2006. He served the past year as Chair of the Kenora Catholic District School Board. Frank was also a trustee for the Dryden District Roman Catholic Separate School Board for 6 years prior to moving to Kenora in 2000. *“Serving as a trustee in a Catholic context has helped strengthen my own spiritual development. I wanted to continue my call to service here in Kenora.”*

Frank has been employed with the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines since 1990.

Prior to that he was the Director of Recreation for the Town of Sioux Lookout and Recreation Program Coordinator for the City of Kamloops. Frank really enjoys being a trustee for the Kenora Catholic School Board because *“all the trustees are responsible, respectful and caring individuals who are unified in our mission of providing the best possible Catholic education for our students. We are blessed with having administrative, teaching and support staff who are equally committed to that mission. The level of commitment and the strength of cooperation and respect makes serving the Kenora Catholic District School Board both a pleasure and a privilege. Being able to serve the board is a gift from God”*.

Frank is the proud father of 3 beautiful daughters. Daniela is a graduate of St. Thomas Aquinas High School, while Dessa and Daria are both currently attending St. Thomas Aquinas High School.

Something a little bit unique about Frank: *“I love to cook, especially Italian cuisine, and I owe that to my mother. I am at home in the kitchen and I love good food and good wine”*.

Importance of Catholic Education: It is important to our students to recognize that an education goes beyond learning facts in the classroom. It is important that they come to learn that we are all called....

- To Act Justly,
- To Love Tenderly
- To Walk Humbly
- To Serve Generously
- To Live Peacefully

Our board’s commitment to excellence in academics, arts and athletics is providing a solid foundation for our graduates to set higher goals.



Josie Kipling, Trustee

Personal Biography: Josie has been a Trustee for the past 2 years. She never realized how much work there is to educating children. *“I think we can sometimes take for granted how hard our teachers work in the schools, since I’ve been involved in this I’ve learned a lot about how our children are educated.”* Josie has grandchildren that are currently attending École Ste-Marguerite Bourgeoys School. She likes to stay very involved in the school. She’s proud because her grandchildren are tri-lingual. Ojibway, English and of course French.

Josie enjoys spending as much time as possible with her daughter and her son and her grandchildren

and she’s grateful that they all live in Kenora. Her grandchildren call her Ko Ko!!

Something a little bit unique about Josie: Josie loves to travel and she’s traveled as far away as Israel. She liked going to Israel because she came back a different person. It gave her faith. She felt changed by her experience there.

Importance of Catholic Education: *“I truly believe that children need moral standards to be taught to them. Kids need Catholicism. It’s so important that the kids not only learn moral standards at school but also at home as well. I also believe it’s important for children to be taught about spirituality. I’m glad my grandchildren are getting this in school”*



Paul Landry, Trustee

Personal Biography: Paul Landry has been a Trustee for the past 23 years. During his 23 year tenure he has been Chair for 6 years and a Vice Chair for 4 years.

In addition to being one of our dedicated Trustees, Paul is presently the Regional Director for Region #2 for the Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association and is preparing to run for another term during the May elections. *“My work enables our area to have input on Provincial issues and matters”*.

Paul loves our lifestyle here in Kenora, living so close to “God’s Country – Lake of the Woods”. He is an avid boater and loves spending as much time as possible on the lake. He rents a cottage on the lake every summer.

“It’s been an amazing opportunity to see the realization of many years of planning and innovation in the amalgamation of Our Lady of the Valley School with Mount Carmel School into our new Pope John Paul II School, our newly renovated École Ste.Marguerite Bourgeoys School and the renovation and addition to our St. Louis School as well as the building of our St. Thomas Aquinas High School. The finalization of our Multi-Skills Training Center in February is just one more step towards realizing our goal of the Catholic Education Campus and providing the best possible Catholic Education to our students”.

Something a little unique about Paul: Paul is a downhill skier and once was a ski instructor at Mount Evergreen Ski Club. Something else a little interesting about Paul, he followed in his father’s footsteps and became a Licensed Real Estate Agent. His 82 year old Father is still selling houses in Fort Frances. Paul is co owner of Royal LePage Landry’s for Real Estate and has been licensed since 1976.

Importance of Catholic Education: *“I believe it’s paramount that our students be prepared to be all that they can be when they graduate from St. Thomas Aquinas High School. Spiritually, academically as well as caring and compassionate citizens of the world.”*