



# TRUSTEES' REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

## JUNE 2025

*ON FIRE WITH THE SPIRIT*

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Here's a quick look at how our recent Board Meeting topics connect with our Strategic Plan and what it means for our students and schools!

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### Catholic Faith Formation

Our Strategic Plan aims to strengthen Catholic faith among students and staff. At the June 16, 2025 Board Meeting, we celebrated several important events that showed how we are living out our faith:

- **Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus for Schools:** Our schools used special materials to participate in this novena, helping everyone deepen their connection to faith.
- **Graduation and End of Year Celebrations:** Our elementary schools planned Grade 8 graduations, and high schools held proms and commencement ceremonies. These events celebrate our students' achievements while also recognizing their growth in faith. St. Michael CSS and St. Anne's CSS graduations were held on June 26.
- **Diocese of London Pastoral Study Days:** Our leadership team attended this event to learn how to better support our Catholic mission. They focused on "Cultivate" and discussed the importance of praying together and living out God's mission.
- **Symposium for Leaders Igniting Catholic Education (SLICE):** School leaders gathered to deepen their skills in leadership and faith. The event included faith sharing, and a special session led by Theologian and Dean of St Augustine's Seminary, Dr. Josephine Lombardi, reinforcing our commitment to adult faith formation. It concluded with Mass celebrated with Most Rev. Bishop Fabbro. This symposium aligns with our Strategic Plan's theme: "On Fire with the Spirit - Awaken! Illuminate! Rejoice!"

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### Literacy

Our Strategic Plan is focused on improving literacy for all students. Here's what was discussed at the June Board Meeting:

- **EQAO Data in Action Symposium:** Superintendents and Learning Coordinators attended a virtual symposium to learn how to better support students with EQAO assessments. They looked at how students interact with the online system and

discussed strategies used by other school boards. This helps us make sure our students have the best possible learning experience.

- **Literacy Report:** The Board received a report on literacy, with a special focus on Grade One. The information from this report helps us plan for educational support for students who need it most.
- **Multi-Tiered System of Support for Literacy (K-8):** We are working to implement a system that provides different levels of support for literacy learning from Kindergarten to Grade 8. This includes:
  - **Tier 1:** Regular classroom instruction for all students.
  - **Tier 2:** More targeted support for students who need extra help.
  - **Tier 3:** Intensive support for students who need even more focused assistance.
- **Effective Literacy Block (K-8):** Schools are implementing a specific "Literacy Block" in classrooms from Kindergarten to Grade 8. This block includes explicit teaching in areas like:
  - Phonemic Awareness (understanding sounds in words)
  - Phonics/Decoding (sounding out words)
  - Fluency (reading smoothly)
  - Language Comprehension (understanding what is read)

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## Student Achievement and Catholicity

Our Strategic Plan aims to elevate student achievement to world-class levels. Here's how the June Board Meeting contributed to this goal:

- **Provincial Gold Medal Recipients of 2024-2025 school year:** We celebrated the achievements of our students who received provincial gold medals. This included:
  - Members of the St. Michael CSS, Stratford Women's Hockey Team, who won Gold at OFSAA.
  - A. Doig from St. Michael CSS, Stratford, who won Gold at Skills Ontario for Aesthetics for the third time in four years.
  - New student trustees for 2025-2026, D. DeLuca (St. Michael CSS) and A. Thus (St. Anne's CSS), who will bring student voices to our Board.



- **Math Achievement Action Plan Progress Report:** The Board reviewed a report on math progress. We are working to ensure our data is accurate to help guide our math instruction.
  - **School Climate Report:** The Board reviewed the School Climate Report. This report helps us understand and improve the overall learning environment for our students.
  - **EDIAR Report Update & 2025-2026 EDIAR Work Plan:** Updates were provided on our Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism (EDIAR) efforts, including the work plan for the upcoming school year. This ensures we continue to create inclusive environments for all.
  - **MLL Report:** The Board received the MLL (Multilingual Learners) Report, which helps us support students who are learning English as a second language.
  - **Strategic Priorities Review of Year 1:** The Board reviewed the first year of our Strategic Plan, checking our progress and planning for the future.
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## Corporate Services and Operations

- **Borrowing By-Law 1-2025:** This by-law was discussed to ensure proper financial management for the Board.
  - **2025-2026 Budget:** A balanced draft budget for the upcoming school year was presented for review and later approved at the June 23 special meeting of the Board. This plan ensures we have the resources needed to support our students and staff.
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We continue to be "**On Fire with the Spirit - Awaken! Illuminate! Rejoice!**" as we work together to provide excellent Catholic education.

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*To review the full version of the latest Board Meeting agenda, minutes and highlights check out our [Board Agendas and Minutes](#) webpage on our Board website. Any questions, please contact the Director's Office by emailing [directorsoffice@huronperthcatholic.ca](mailto:directorsoffice@huronperthcatholic.ca).*