



# TRUSTEES' REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY DECEMBER 2024 *ON FIRE WITH THE SPIRIT*

## FATHER TONY RICARD! SYSTEM FAITH DAY!



On November 15, staff gathered at St. Anne's CSS in Clinton for a day centered on the Board's new spiritual theme, "On Fire with the Spirit." Fr. Tony Ricard of the Archdiocese of New Orleans delivered two engaging keynote addresses, using humor and personal stories to remind us to see Jesus in everyone we meet. In the afternoon, schools and workplaces reflected on his message and their pastoral plans. The day concluded with a beautiful Mass celebrated by clergy and accompanied by music from Board musicians. Staff praised the event as a meaningful preparation for the Advent season.

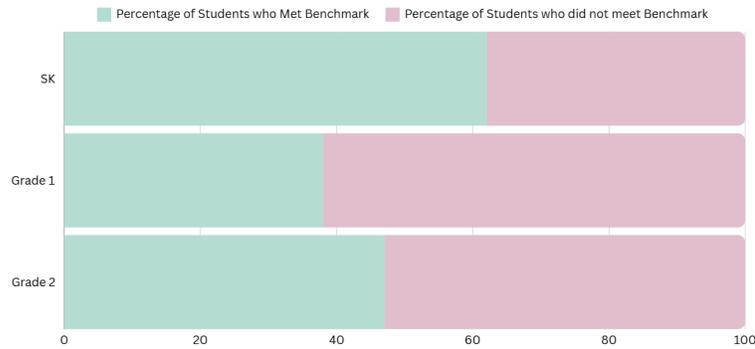
## STUDENT ART - CHRISTMAS CARDS!

Students from across the Board participated in a Christmas Card Contest! Below are three submissions!



# LITERACY SCREENING UNDERWAY IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

## Overall Performance by Grade

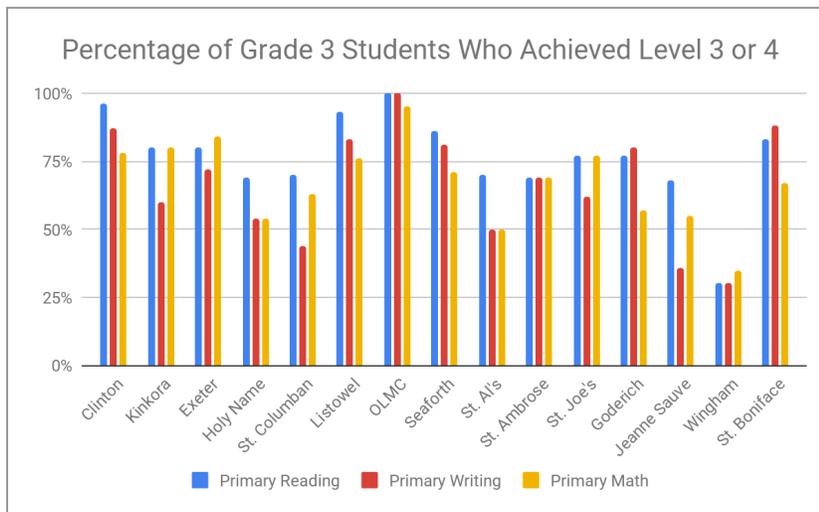


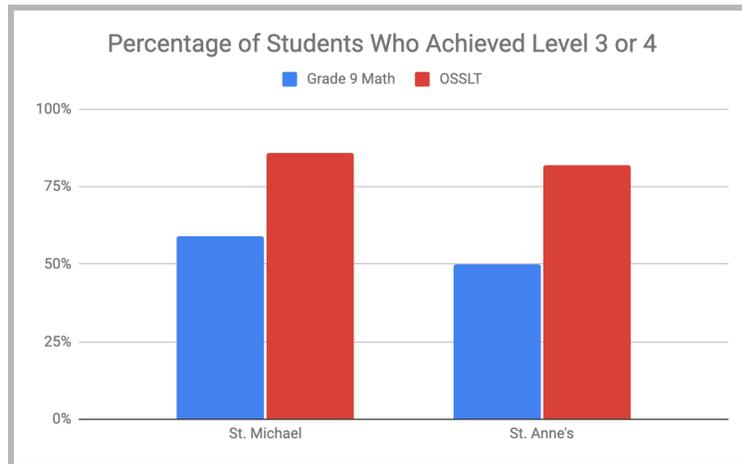
In October 2024, the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board used Acadiance Reading to screen SK–Grade 2 students for early literacy skills, identifying needs and guiding instruction. Of 969 students screened, key findings emerged:

- SK: 62% met benchmarks; 40% needed support in phonemic awareness and letter naming.
- Grade 1: 58% met phonemic segmentation benchmarks, but 42% required targeted interventions.
- Grade 2: Only 38% met phonics benchmarks, highlighting a need for explicit instruction.

Strategic recommendations include explicit phonics and phonemic awareness instruction, small-group interventions, and professional development for teachers. Schools are developing data-driven plans with district support to implement interventions and monitor progress through 2025.

## SCHOOLS ACHIEVING ON EQAO!





**Primary Division:** Students exceeded provincial achievement in Reading (78% vs. 71%), Writing (68% vs. 64%), and Mathematics (67% vs. 61%). Literacy efforts include early reading screenings, Tier 1 phonics instruction, and targeted interventions for at-risk students, supported by Literacy Resource Teachers. Mathematics support includes EQAO practice questions and resources provided by Math Facilitators.

**Junior Division:** Students surpassed provincial results in Reading (88% vs. 82%) and Writing (83% vs. 80%), while Mathematics (46% vs. 50%) showed room for growth. Literacy strategies focus on morphology, writing instruction, and teacher collaboration. Mathematics efforts include targeted practice, common assessments, and system-wide implementation of the Math Achievement Action Plan, with facilitators providing focused support at priority schools.

**Secondary Division:** Grade 9 students matched provincial performance in Mathematics (55% achieving Level 3 or 4) with high participation (98% vs. 90%). Grade 10 OSSLT results aligned with provincial success rates, maintaining consistent achievement over three years. Efforts include targeted lessons, pre- and post-assessment support, and high-impact instructional strategies for grades 7–10 to strengthen student readiness.

## BOARD APPROVES YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BDO Canada LLP audited the 2023-24 financial statements for Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board, showing a \$741,083 surplus (0.85% of total revenue). Significant salary adjustments occurred due to Bill 124 resolutions and collective agreements, impacting OECTA, CUPE, and CPCO staff.

### Financial Position:

Financial assets increased by \$2.55M, driven by receivables from Bill 124 resolutions and deferred revenue.

Financial liabilities rose by \$3.06M, mainly from labor contingencies (\$2.8M for OECTA and \$598K for CPCO).

Net debt reflects deferred capital contributions.

### Operations:

Revenues increased by \$7.05M, primarily from GSN adjustments for salary benchmarks.

Expenses rose by \$6.31M, largely due to salary increases, partially offset by capitalized technology purchases and deferred grants.

The Ministry's cash management strategy delayed \$4.49M in grant payments. At year-end, the accumulated surplus available for compliance was \$7.51M, with appropriations detailed in Note 15.

*Assistance with summarizing content from Board Highlights with the assistance of Chat GPT 3.5.*

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