



## TRUSTEES' REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY JANUARY 2026

*“On Fire with the Spirit: Awaken! Illuminate! Rejoice!”*

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### Awaken: Strengthening Catholic Faith and Community

The Board is dedicated to helping students and staff grow as **Discerning Believers**. This month, we focused on several faith-filled initiatives:

- **Celebrating St. André Bessette:** On January 7, schools honoured our patron saint through special prayers and lessons about his humble service to God.
  - **The Fiat Fellowship:** A new leadership program was introduced to help staff explore their "calling" in Catholic education through mentorship and study at the University of Notre Dame.
  - **Christian Unity:** During the week of January 18–25, our community joined in the "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity" to build bridges with other Christian faiths.
  - **Catholic Graduate Expectations:** Schools are finding creative ways to "catch people in the act" of living out their faith—like being a **Caring Family Member** or a **Collaborative Contributor**.
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### Illuminate: Elevating Academic Achievement

To help our students become **Reflective, Creative, and Holistic Thinkers**, we are using new tools to improve learning:

- **Math Success:** Our Math Team is working with teachers to use "Number Talks" and "Retrieval Practice" to help students remember what they learn and build confidence.
- **Reading Progress:** The Literacy Team visited every school this month to check how well students in Senior Kindergarten to Grade 2 are reading. This helps us support students early on so they can become **Effective Communicators**.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** We launched a new micro credential course for staff to learn how to use AI tools ethically and responsibly, ensuring our schools stay current with technology while keeping our Catholic values.
- **Indigenous Education:** The first meeting of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee was held to help include more Indigenous knowledge and voices in our classrooms.

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## Rejoice: Fostering Student Success and Well-being

We are committed to forming **Responsible Citizens** who are ready for the world:

- **Skilled Trades:** Ten students are now training in colleges for trades like plumbing and electrical through the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP).
- **Mental Health Month:** January is Mental Health and Wellness Month at HPCDSB. We shared "grab and go" activities to help students and staff practice self-regulation and build strong relationships.
- **Attendance Matters:** We are working hard to improve student attendance by 20%. Strong attendance helps students achieve more and feel more connected to their school family.

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## Governance and Operations

The Board of Trustees works to ensure our schools are safe and well-run.

### Policy Updates

Reviewing policies helps us stay compliant with the law and true to our mission:

- **Parent Communication Protocol:** This policy was updated to align with new provincial regulations and includes the implementation of a new Student and Family Support Office. The policy was presented and is available on the Board website for feedback.
- **Policies Approved:** The Board approved updated policies for **Health and Safety, Workplace Harassment, Workplace Violence, Advertising and Expressions of Sympathy/Get Well.**

### Financial and Planning

- **Revised Estimates:** The 2025–2026 budget remains balanced at approximately **\$86.2 million**. Enrollment has increased by 49 students since June, showing our community is growing.
- **Future Planning:** The Board received the **2026–2027 Budget Procedures Manual**, which outlines the timeline for creating next year's spending plan.

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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 [directorsoffice@huronperthcatholic.ca](mailto:directorsoffice@huronperthcatholic.ca).*