



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



ABOUT THE ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE TRUST FUND

Everyday within our schools, we know that there are children who struggle to learn because they are hungry; or because their feet hurt in shoes that are too small; or because they are worried they will not be able to afford some school or class activity.

For some children these challenges are ongoing. For others, they arise suddenly because of extraordinary circumstances such as illness; a death in their family; a house fire; an accident.

We have a strong tradition within our Catholic schools and within our community to respond to those in need. There are times when the needs go beyond what we as individuals, organizations such as food banks, coat drives, etc., are able to do.

The St. André Bessette Trust Fund was established in 2011 to help bridge the gap and to reach out to those students' families in need. We support the special needs of children, youth and families for learning, food security, housing, health and wellness.

Funded entirely by gifts and charitable donations from individuals and businesses, the St. André Bessette Trust Fund is overseen by a volunteer Board of Directors consisting of regional community members, Trustees and staff of the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board. One hundred percent of all monies donated to the trust fund are disbursed directly to support children and families in need.

We welcome you as partners to embrace the needs of students in our calling by God to a life of service.

WE WELCOME YOUR DONATIONS

With Grateful Thoughts - Whenever you give, you give from the heart just as the Lord has told us to do... You give without asking for any return. But the Lord above sees it and blesses you too. Thank You! Thank you for your support - it was very helpful.

**Please donate to the
St. André Bessette Trust Fund at:**



“Access to the St. André Bessette Trust Fund has allowed us to provide some much needed support to many families within our Board. We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to supply families with what they specifically need to aid them in their time of need. These families are very appreciative for the very expedient response and follow through on the requests that have been made on their behalf. It is always with great care and respect that we offer this support, and it is with great feeling that we are able to offer something concrete and meaningful to make these families feel part of our Huron-Perth Catholic family.”

814 applications from schools within the Huron-Perth Catholic DSB have been provided assistance in excess of \$346, 000 to support students and families within our school communities.

Amazing!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2025-2026

Chair: Tina Doherty,
Trustee

Vice-chair: Caroline Thuss,
Learning Coordinator

Faye Hickey,
OECTA Elementary

Mary Helen Van Loon,
Trustee

Mike Miller
Community Member

Tara Cakebread,
Elementary Principal

Tyler Devereaux,
Secondary Teacher

Rob Leyser
Community Member

Mark Sheardown
Community Member

Angela Hodgson,
Executive Manager of Human Relations

BOARD EMPLOYEES

Karen Tigani,
Director of Education

Mary-Ellen Ducharme,
Superintendent of Business & Treasurer

Valerie Basler,
Executive Assistant

THE ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE TRUST FUND

c/o Huron-Perth Catholic
District School Board

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Dublin, ON N0K 1E0

519-345-2440 /

1-800-265-8508

sabtrustfund

@huronperthcatholic.ca

Website:

St. André Bessette Trust Fund



Dear Huron-Perth Catholic Community,

It is with heartfelt gratitude that I present the Annual Report of the St. André Bessette Trust Fund, 2024-25 school year—our fifteenth year of service to the students and families within the Huron-Perth Catholic community. This report is a celebration of the incredible generosity and support we receive from our community.



We are deeply thankful for every person, group, school and organization that has contributed to the success of the Trust Fund. Your commitment enables us to walk alongside students and families during some of their most challenging times. The support we receive through donations, payroll deductions, Canada Helps donations, fundraising efforts, and volunteer hours is what makes this vital work possible.

We are pleased to share the tremendous success of our Trivia Night Fundraiser that was held April 3rd, 2025 at The Barn in Exeter. Thanks to your enthusiastic participation, and your overwhelming support, the event surpassed expectations and raised vital funds needed to meet the ongoing needs of our students. The evening was filled with community spirit, friendly competition, and shared purpose.

In the 2024-25 school year, we were able to provide over \$38,000 in assistance to students and families. These funds addressed a wide range of essential needs, including food, clothing, medical and health supports, transportation, utilities, and the opportunity for students to participate in activities that contribute to their well-being. The impact of this support is immeasurable as it removes barriers and opens doors, helping students to focus on their education and grow in their potential.

We cannot express enough how vital the Saint Andre Bessette Trust Fund is in the lives of our students, and we are profoundly grateful for your role in making it all possible and holding our mission in your prayers. Your continued support is what allows us to provide this essential service year after year and we are deeply grateful for your continued partnership in this important work.

Together, as a strong and faith filled community, we continue the compassionate legacy of Saint Andre Bessette— offering support, encouragement and hope to all we serve.

With gratitude and blessings,
Tina Doherty
Chair, St. André Bessette Trust Fund

St. André Bessette Trust Fund

Financial Report
For Fiscal Years Ending August 31, 2024 and August 31, 2025

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2023-24</u>
Revenue - General		
Donations, Personal	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 600.00
Donations, Payroll	2,706.00	2,965.00
Donations, Schools	2,102.80	1,985.40
Donations, Canada Helps	6,960.96	4,594.46
Donations, Other	9,697.72	16,032.96
Board Events & Mass Offerings	543.15	755.75
Trivia Night	10,294.00	
Interest	\$ 4,643.86	6,379.62
Total General Revenue	\$ 39,198.49	\$ 33,313.19
Total Revenue	\$ 39,198.49	\$ 33,313.19
Expenditures - General		
Application Payments	\$ 38,022.53	\$ 27,263.51
Trivia Night Expenses	946.64	
Total Expenditures	\$ 38,969.17	\$ 27,263.51
NET REVENUE	\$ 229.32	\$ 6,049.68

Statement of Fund Balance

Opening Balance	\$ 121,973.31	\$ 115,923.63
Add: Net Revenue for the Period	229.32	6,049.68
Closing Balance (Bank Balance)	\$ 122,202.63	\$ 121,973.31



THE LIFE OF ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE

St. Brother André Bessette is Canada's first native-born male saint. St. André was canonized on October 17, 2010 and is the founder of St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal, Quebec.

St. André Bessette dedicated his life to welcoming all persons, especially the sick, lonely and poor to find a home in the healing power of Jesus Christ.

St. André has a special connection to the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board wherein he often visited the hamlet of St. Joseph, Ontario.

There is a statue placed in honour of St. André Bessette at the St. Joseph Memorial Park in St. Joseph, Ontario.