HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC
District School Board

November 18, 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - MR04

From: Karen Tigani, Chief Executive Officer

HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC DSB WELCOMES NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND ACCLAIMS LEADERSHIP FOR 2026-2027 TERM

DUBLIN, ON - The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board (HPCDSB) is excited to announce and officially welcome its newly commissioned Board of Trustees following the Inaugural Meeting of the Board on Monday, November 16, 2026.



Long-serving Trustee Amy Cronin has been acclaimed to the position of Chair of the Board for the 2026–2027 term, with newly elected Trustee Heather Marcy acclaimed as Vice-Chair.

Chair Amy Cronin brings over 16 years of dedicated governance experience to the role. Having first joined the Board as a Trustee in 2010, she has served the district in the capacities of trustee, vice-chair, and chair. Her deep institutional knowledge and unwavering commitment to student learning and faith development will be instrumental as the Board embarks on a new four-year term.

“I am humbled and grateful to be a part of the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board,” said Chair Amy Cronin. “I started in this building as a kindergarten student and have moved through the system as a student from K–12. I continued my journey as a parent, member of parent council, volunteer, and community member. HPCDSB holds a very near and dear place in my heart. I am looking forward to this new term and working with the wisdom and collaboration of the trustees around the table. I pray that we continue as a team in light of Jesus Christ and what he wants for Catholic education. We will lead with faith, work with purpose, listen with open hearts, and always keep our students at the centre of every decision.”



Joining Cronin in leadership is Vice-Chair Heather Marcy. While Marcy is newly elected to the Board of Trustees, she brings an intimate understanding of the district's classrooms and school communities, having served as both a teacher, and a principal within the HPCDSB for over 33 years.

The Inaugural Meeting marked a significant milestone for the district as four new trustees were formally commissioned and took their Declaration of Office. The 2026–2030 Board of Trustees comprises:

- **Amy Cronin** (Chair)

- **Heather Marcy** (Vice-Chair)
- **Alanna Fitzpatrick**
- **Derek Van De Walle**
- **Graham Keys**
- **Ronnel Charles** (Student Trustee)
- **Quinn Palen** (Student Trustee)

The evening began with a meaningful liturgy led by Board Chaplain Deacon Daniel McPhee, centered on the themes of service, wisdom, and stewardship. The liturgy underscored the Board's collective mission to strengthen the vital bonds between home, school, and parish, ensuring a vibrant, Christ-centred education for every student.

"On behalf of our entire staff and school communities, I extend a warm welcome to our new and returning Trustees," said **Karen Tigani,** CEO and Secretary of the Board. "We are blessed to work alongside Chair Cronin, Vice-Chair Marcy, and the entire 2026–2030 Board. With Chair Cronin's proven governance leadership, Vice-Chair Marcy's deep roots as an educator, and the fresh perspectives of our newly commissioned trustees, we are well-positioned to advance our Multi-Year Strategic Plan and support every learner in reaching their full potential." CEO Tigani highlighted the role of trustees as bridge-builders, referencing Pope Leo as a model of service rooted in charity, humility, and unconditional love. She highlighted a message from the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario in their pastoral letter "Renewing the Promise" wherein Catholic trustees are invited to "let (their) public actions be a visible sign of what we profess as a Catholic community, and an expression of God's love and mercy in this world".

Governed by Ontario's *Education Act*, Catholic School Trustees serve a vital role as community stewards and guardians of local Catholic education. Trustees are responsible for system-level governance, which includes setting the Board's vision and policy, establishing and monitoring the Multi-Year Strategic Plan, and reviewing the annual operating budget to ensure resources support student achievement, well-being, and spiritual growth.

It is an exciting time as we welcome four new trustees to the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board.

To keep up to date with our Board's events and initiatives, please consider following the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board; Facebook @HPCDSB and Instagram @huronperthcatholicdsb.

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