

Director's Annual Report

2021-2022

Message from the Director of Education

The 2021-2022 school year found us entering the year in the midst of a pandemic once again. This time, we had the experience of the past 17 months to rely upon. Our Catholic community came together and worked hard to provide students with more normalcy in the classroom and even though we experienced disruptions due to health restrictions, we persevered together. We chose Micah 6:8 to serve as our spiritual theme for the 2021-2022 school year: This is what the Lord asks of you: only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God. We have an amazing school community that supports each other and our students and we could not be more grateful for the wonderful year we experienced. We were truly instruments of peace, grace and hope for one another.

Students were once again able to participate in extra-curricular activities, summer camps, and attend Mass and school assemblies together. This also meant we could continue working towards literacy and reading goals with a focus on the findings of the Ontario Human Rights Commission: Right to Read. Our educators have received professional development sessions to better help students in their reading and writing learning journey.

In 2022, we reanimated our Mission & Vision to reflect who we are as a Catholic School Board today. After discussions with the Renfrew County Catholic community, we decided upon our reanimated mission and vision. We describe ourselves as "an inclusive Catholic learning community called to love unconditionally and educate hearts and minds in the way of Christ." We unveiled this to all of our staff during Christian Community Day in May 2022. A plaque of our new mission and vision can be found in every RCCDSB school.

I am delighted to share some of the highlights of the wonderful school year we had. I am thankful to all staff at the RCCDSB for always inspiring and encouraging students to reach their full potential. We could not achieve our goals as a Catholic School Board without the RCCDSB staff's continued dedication and commitment to students. We will continue working towards our mission of being an inclusive Catholic learning community called to love unconditionally and educate the hearts and minds in the way of Christ.



Mark Searson
Director of Education

Schools to believe in!

About Us

Our Board offers a full range of academic programs in a caring and nurturing environment that encourages our students to achieve their personal best, while sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in their daily lives.

Our Mission

We are an inclusive Catholic learning community called to love unconditionally and educate hearts and minds in the way of Christ.

RCCDSB by the Numbers

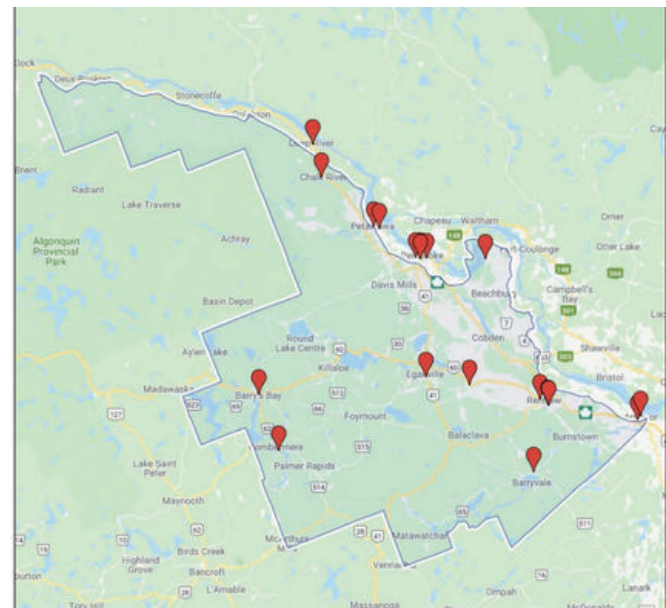
Schools and facilities:

We have 21 schools in 14 communities across Renfrew County:

- 19 Elementary Schools
- 2 Secondary Schools
- 2 Alternative Secondary Sites
- 1 Young Parent Support Program
- 2 ECCP Section 23 Valleycrest Classrooms
- 1 Virtual Catholic Elementary School

Communities:

Located in Eastern Ontario, 100 kilometres northwest of Ottawa, RCCDSB covers a largely rural area of more than 7,851 square km.



Our Population

Our October 31st enrolment numbers: 4,864

Employees

Permanent Staff - 633

Casual Staff - 474

Our approved 2022-2023 Budget

\$80.7 million

Leadership Team

In the RCCDSB community of schools, we care, we learn, and we work together to make our world a better place!



2021-2022 Trustees: **Bob Michaud**, Killaloe, Hagarty & Richards Township, Brudenell, Lyndoch & Raglan Township, Madawaska Valley Township; **David Howard**, Deep River, Laurentian Hills, Head, Clara & Maria Township, Petawawa; **Emily Tracey**, Student Trustee, St. Joseph's High School; **Bob Schreder**, Chair, Pembroke; **Michaela Vandergragt**, Student Trustee, Bishop Smith Catholic High School; **Anne Haley**, Renfrew, Horton Township, Whitewater Region Township; **Andrew Bray**, Arnprior, McNab/Braeside Township, Greater Madawaska Township; **Pat O'Grady**, Laurentian Valley Township, North Algona Wilberforce Township, Admaston/Bromley Township, Bonnechere Valley Township.



Current administrative team:

Clint Young, Superintendent of Educational Services, **Mary Lynn Schauer**, Superintendent of Business Services, **Heidi Fraser**, Superintendent of Educational Services, **Mary-Lise Rowat**, Superintendent of Educational Services, and **Mark Searson**, Director of Education

Achievement & Potential

The RCCDSB is committed to the success and well-being of all students. Staff and teachers took this year to accommodate student's needs as they continued to update virtual learning platforms for students who were learning remotely. This took collaboration, creativity, connectedness, and sharing among staff at the RCCDSB. With many COVID-19 restrictions still in place, the RCCDSB did their best to host virtual events and activities to keep students motivated and engaged, such as the Virtual Career fair in March 2022.

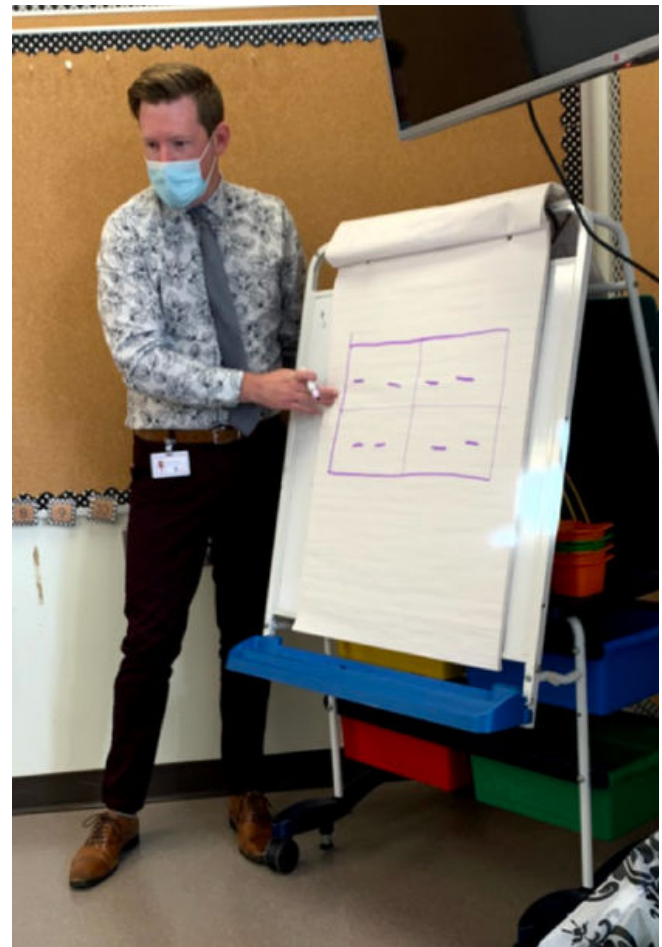
Language

Ontario Human Rights Commission: Right to Read

The RCCDSB positioned itself proactively in anticipation of the findings of this commission, released in the Spring of 2022. In advance of this report, the RCCDSB had already begun to shift from balanced literacy to structured literacy. This means that during instruction, staff would no longer promote any guesses and check models for deciphering tricky words. Instead, we focused on phonics-based decoding strategies that keep students' eyes glued to the words they are reading.

Phonemic Awareness

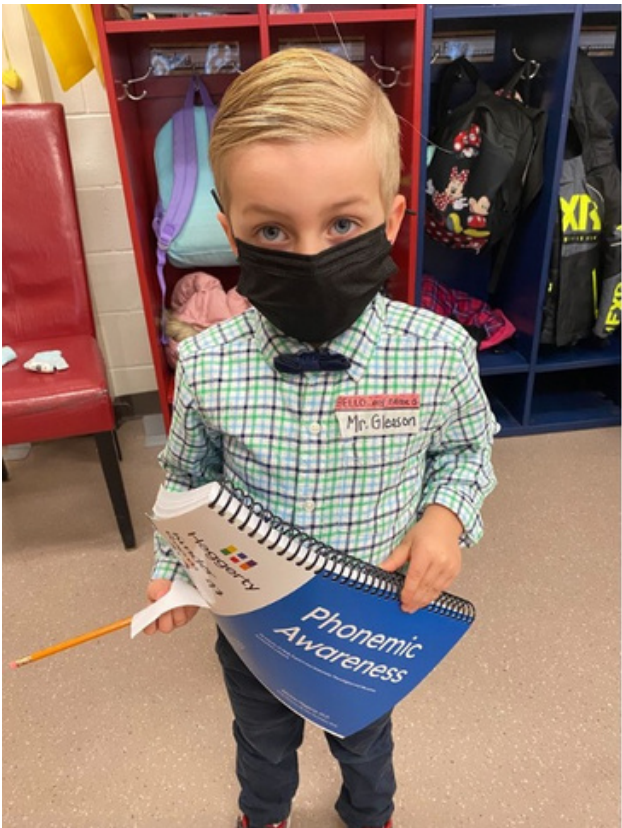
- Phonemic awareness is the ability to understand that spoken words are made up of individual sounds called phonemes, and it's one of the best early predictors of reading success.
- RCCDSB purchased Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum for all K-1 teachers and Heggerty Bridge the Gap Intervention Lessons for all Special Education Resource Teachers (SERTs) - These resources included both books and access to digital videos.
- K-1 Teachers received 1:1 support from Curriculum Team members to implement phonemic awareness activities into their daily language lessons.
- Evidence-based early screening is crucial to identify at-risk students who need additional instruction and immediate interventions. In order to gain a deeper understanding of where students are at in their phonemic awareness development, RCCDSB implemented and provided professional development around the Phonological Awareness Skills Screener (PASS). The PASS allows educators to see where students are at in their phonological awareness skills, and gain insights into next steps.



Mr. Gleason teaching phonemic awareness to students

Phonics

To further the reading supports within the RCCDSB, the Board has continued to purchase and promote the McCracken and Jolly Phonics programs in all K-3 classrooms. This included providing professional development and support for all K-3 educators to support their strong understanding of how to use the programs effectively and include effective, daily phonics instruction.



Kindergarten student, dressing up as a teacher to instruct Heggerty for the day.

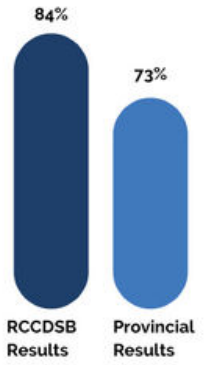


Kindergarten students participating in active learning about phonemes.

RCCDSB EQAO Results

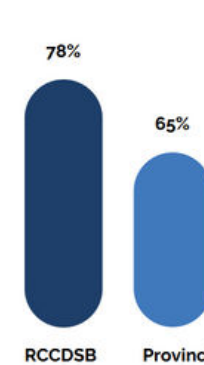
The RCCDSB was happy to receive the 2021/2022 EQAO results. Students across the board have experienced some learning loss due to the COVID pandemic. However, we are very pleased with how they performed on the 2021- 2022 EQAO assessments.

Grade 3 Reading



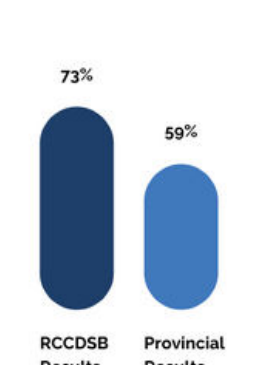
In 2021-2022, 84% of RCCDSB students in grade 3 met or exceeded the provincial standard for reading.

Grade 3 Writing



In 2021-2022, 78% of students in grade 3 met or exceeded the provincial standard for writing.

Grade 3 Mathematics



In 2021-2022, 73% of students in grade 3 met or exceeded the provincial standard for mathematics.

Grade 6 Reading



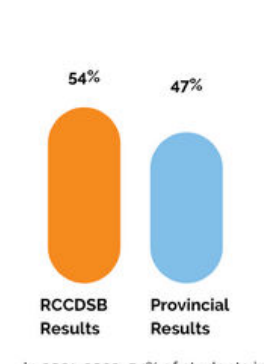
In 2021-2022, 88% of students in grade 6 met or exceeded the provincial standard for reading.

Grade 6 Writing



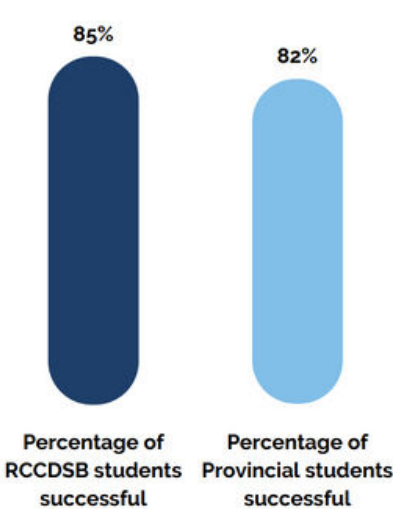
In 2021-2022, 90% of students in grade 6 met or exceeded the provincial standard for writing.

Grade 6 Mathematics

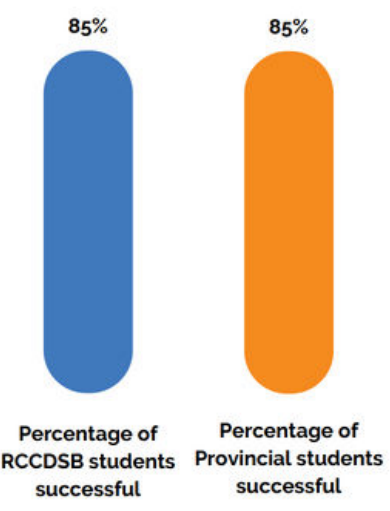


In 2021-2022, 54% of students in grade 6 met or exceeded the provincial standard for mathematics.

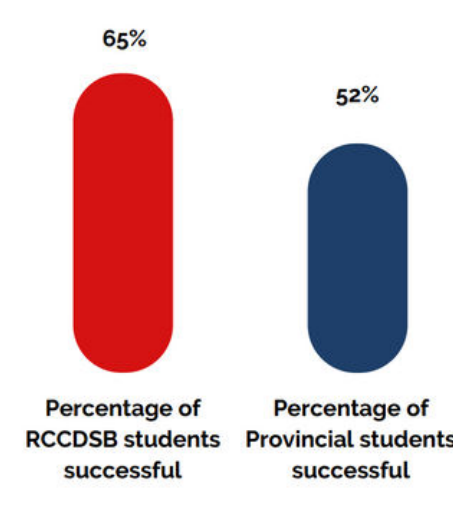
OSSLT Student Achievement
• First time eligible



OSSLT Student Achievement
• Previously Eligible



Grade 9 Student Achievement
• Mathematics



Reading

Reading is an essential part of learning and life. Recognizing the importance of using decodable texts when building strong readers in the primary grades, RCCDSB purchased Flyleaf decodable texts for all K-1 classrooms in every school. Students get to practice their reading skills each day with various resources to help support them in their learning journey.



Writing

Over the last few years, school shut-downs and COVID-19 protocols made professional development challenging. However, between 2021-2022, all elementary educators received one-on-one professional development on the Lucy Calkins, Units of Study in Writing Program for K-8. This is a research-based program that helps teachers use learning progressions to observe and assess students' writing, develop student's use of self-monitoring strategies, and set them on trajectories of growth. The main focus is on the development of narrative, opinion and information writing skills.



Units of Study in Writing- personal narrative writing from kindergarten students at St Francis of Assisi

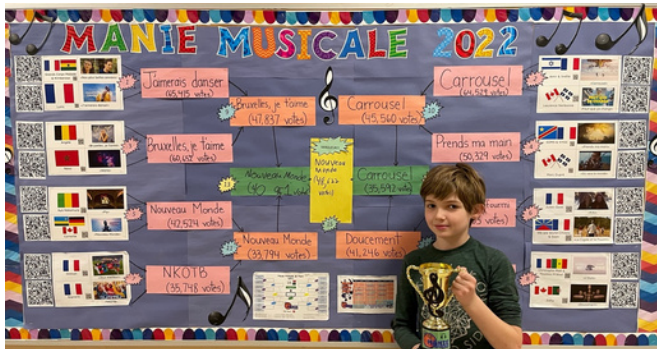


Spelling Through Phonics McCracken instruction and support in Kindergarten at St. Francis of Assisi school, Petawawa.

French as a Second Language

Highlights of the 2021-2022 School Year

- 34 students completed the DELF exams (in both high schools)
- 12 teachers completed additional FSL learning through AQs, AIM and/or Alliance Francaise
- Chef à L'École - Evening baking with colleagues - creating opportunities for collaboration in an authentic environment - bringing the learning back to the classroom
- Gregg LeRock - learning French through music
- Totes/Mugs to thank our hardworking FSL teachers



FSL learning activities

Summer Learning at the RCCDSB

Over the summer, some students engaged in various summer learning opportunities.

Bishop & JAG Camps

RCCDSB once again offered a dynamic, fun, and robust experience for students in Grade 4 and 5 this summer. The RCCDSB camps provide an opportunity for students in Grades 4 and 5 to experience attending programming at the RCCDSB's two high schools in a fun and exciting way. Students are able to become familiar with the physical environment of a high school and tour through the facility, while also participating in some unique opportunities the high schools offer while meeting future classmates.



JAG Camp in July



Indigenous Summer Learning Program

The Indigenous Summer Learning program took place from July 11th -15th at the Rankin Culture and Community Centre as a joint effort by the RCCDSB and the RCDSB for students with Indigenous heritage. The program helped students foster pride in their identity and connect to culture while building relationships with other students. Some of the First Nations activities included making paddles, mitts and moccasins, no face dolls, and dreamcatchers. The Métis activities included Métis games, finger weaving, beading, and jigging and dancing. The Inuit activities included the Lighting of the qullia, caribou stew, sealskin owl making, and Inuit games. There were so many wonderful activities for students to learn and connect to their culture.

Indigenous Summer Learning Program, July 2022

Virtual Elementary Summer Learning

The RCCDSB elementary summer learning program (SLP) had a lot to celebrate this year. A virtual platform was used for the second consecutive year to avoid geographical barriers for families to access learning. Participating students were initially identified by their schools for benefiting from this program.

The program included:

- 1 primary literacy & numeracy class, and 1 junior literacy & numeracy class.
- School recommended registrations with co-teaching and special education support
- Professional development occurred with staff beforehand, to enhance the program quality for student achievement (precision and evidence-based pedagogy) and build capacity for educators
- The virtual model provided additional funds for special education (and therefore, greater inclusivity) as well as co-teaching.



- Almost 93% of Primary parents indicated that they would definitely or possibly sign up again next year
- Approximately 85% had a positive change in attitude towards reading ~ Primary parent survey

Dignity & Belonging

Black History Month

In February 2022, the curriculum team collaborated and created cross-curricular lesson plans for the Kindergarten, primary, junior and intermediate divisions. The lessons focused on rich mentor texts by Black authors that promote higher order thinking skills and provide valuable opportunities to explore experiences of Black people in North America.



The four texts we used were "God's Dream" by Archbishop Desmond Tutu (Kindergarten), "The Story of Ruby Bridges" by Robert Coles (Primary), "Henry's Freedom Box" by Ellen Levine (Junior) and "Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom" by Carole Boston Weatherford (Intermediate). A copy of each mentor text and the accompanying lessons were distributed to every RCCDSB school.

ENGAGE

Engage was an innovative program and partnership between RCCDSB and Family & Children Services with a small number of students who enjoyed several high energy, empowering activities including virtual reality games, art, and boxing. This group of students was encouraged to break out of their comfort zones and enjoy interesting activities. The boxing portion of the program including a full workout, skill building, free reign to try out the different equipment at the boxing gym... ending in an impromptu arm wrestling match!



Photos from ENGAGE

Indigenous Education

During the 2021-2022 academic year, the Indigenous Education Team was very busy supporting students and staff while delivering various initiatives across the Board. Here is a brief synopsis of some key endeavours. We began the year with participation in the Grade 8 R.E.A.C.H. Day at Bishop Smith Catholic High School and St. Joseph's Catholic High School. At the Indigenous Education station, students were keen to learn about Truth and Reconciliation followed by the opportunity to make a Reconciliation promise by placing their handprint on the Every Child Matters banner. This will serve as a reminder of their promise throughout their years at the school. Later in the month, RCCDSB commemorated the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day by wearing orange, participating in prayer services and assemblies, using mentor texts related to Indian Residential Schools, and having meaningful conversations that were the springboard to further Reconciliation projects throughout the year.



REACH Day 2021 was held September 28 for St. Joseph High School students and September 29 for Bishop Smith Catholic High School Students.

Engaging in Cultural Activities

In October, a series of Inuit cultural activities began in partnership with Inuuqatigiit. The first session was a demonstration of how to light the qulliq. Pictured is Cameron Oickle from St. John XXIII in Arnprior with Aalla from Inuuqatigiit.

An exciting Speaker Series began in January showcasing local, provincial, and national speakers: George Couhie, Leah Marie Dorion, Susan Aglukark, Wabgeshig Rice, Crystal Martin-Lapenskie, Kirby Whiteduck, Matt LeMay, and Brian Charles. All sessions were well-attended by members of the RCCDSB, RCDSB, Diocese of Pembroke, and community at large.

Strengthening the home-school-parish relationship while partnering with the Diocese of Pembroke, a day of learning was offered to parish priests, deacons, parish administrators, and members of the congregation. This professional development opportunity came out of the Church's desire to walk toward reconciliation with Indigenous people. The Indigenous Education Lead sits on the Diocesan Action Circle.



Wednesday, February 23rd from 7:00-8:30pm



Kirby is an accomplished community leader with 17 years experience as an elected Chief and over 30 years in various positions in a First Nations setting. He's a strong advocate, spokesperson, and negotiator for a progressive First Nation focusing on the overall wellbeing of the community, its members, and resources. He has spent 40 years researching Algonquin history, language, and culture. He is also the author of *Algonquin Traditional Culture* (available through the Band Office).

Kirby will speak about the history of *Pikwakanagan* and the Land Claim process.

To register for Kirby Whiteduck's free keynote event, please click [here](#).

Sponsored by :



Promotion for the Indigenous Speaker Series.

Strengthening Relationships

To strengthen the home-school-parish relationship while partnering with the Diocese of Pembroke, a day of learning was offered to parish priests, deacons, parish administrators, and members of the congregation. This professional development opportunity came out of the Church's desire to walk toward reconciliation with Indigenous people. The Indigenous Education Lead also sits on the Diocesan Action Circle.

Additionally, in a joint venture with Ottawa Catholic District School Board, Limestone District School Board, Renfrew County District School Board, Upper Canada District School Board, and Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario, we were able to offer an exciting virtual workshop to the Grade 9 Aboriginal Art class teachers within the Boards in early April. Delegates were delighted to learn from Jaime Morse, Jay Odjick, JP Longboat, Bill Montgomery, Heidi Langille, Rhonda Doxtater, and Graham Mastersmith.

A focus on who we are as a Catholic School Board today

In May, members of the Vision Statement Reanimation Committee were ready to unveil the new Board Vision and Mission Statement which included a sub statement related to Indigenous Education and our partnerships with Indigenous people. It reads: 'Build a relationship with Indigenous communities founded on a deep respect for their identities, beliefs, and traditions to support healing and work toward reconciliation.' The sub statement came from the overwhelming response from our members desiring to work toward reconciliation.



**RENFREW
COUNTY
CATHOLIC**
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Our Mission

We are an inclusive Catholic learning community called to love unconditionally and educate hearts and minds in the way of Christ.

Our Vision

As a community of believers, we strive to...

- Cultivate an active faith journey rooted in the Word of God, prayer, and the sacraments.
- Reverence the dignity of the whole person.
- Recognize and remove barriers to create just and equitable opportunities for all.
- Nurture the well-being, self-worth and potential of each individual.
- Foster student ability to think critically, communicate effectively and work collaboratively.
- Instill a desire for life-long learning and a pursuit of excellence.
- Develop and integrate a distinctive and relevant Catholic curriculum based on the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations.

- Model a servant leadership style following the example of Jesus.
- Live by and proclaim the principles of Catholic social teaching.
- Build a relationship with Indigenous communities founded on a deep respect for their identities, beliefs, and traditions to support healing and work toward reconciliation.
- Embrace our role as global stewards cherishing the environment and all life in it.
- Enhance relationships among members of the home, school, parish, and extended community.
- Sustain safe school environments characterized by warmth, hospitality, good humour, and joy.
- Be instruments of peace, grace, and hope.

This is what the Lord asks of you: only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God. -Micah 6:8

Schools to believe in!

Re-animated by the Catholic Community of Renfrew County in 2022

The reanimation of our Mission and Vision was unveiled in May 2022 at Christian Community Day. The reanimation focuses on student success, building relationships, and committing to reconciliation with Indigenous communities and nurturing the well-being, self-worth, and potential for each individual. To the left you'll find the plaque of the RCCDSB Mission and Vision reanimation. We believe this truly reflects who we are as a Catholic Board today. This plaque can be found in each RCCDSB school.

Special Education

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCE TEACHERS

As a way to connect (albeit virtually) and provide on-going professional development for Special Education Resource Teachers (SERTs) across the county, "Special Education Support Hours" or SESH came to life! For the past few years, in the midst of school closures and the inability to gather for in-person professional development, the Special Education team has been tapping into guest experts to share their knowledge and passion with SERTs through interactive and engaging virtual hour-long sessions. Some of the topics that have been presented thus far include:


- Making Sense of the Sensory Room
- The Reading Mountain
- Pathways at Secondary
- Equity and Inclusion
- Cognitive Behaviour Therapy
- Social Narratives
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder: Understanding and Making Sense of the Diagnosis
- An Introduction to Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder
- Maximizing the Use of Remote Microphone Systems in the Classroom

Guest speakers have included 'in house' experts as well as experts from outside of the school board, and all bring with them a wide variety of skills and expertise to share. Some guest speakers included: Sagonaska Demonstration School (Belleville), Blind/Low Vision Outreach Services, Family and Children's Services, Occupational Therapy, and often, Renfrew County Catholic DSB employees such as members of the ABA team, Mental Health Team, classroom teachers, FSL teachers, Principals, and Superintendents.

Today's SESH...

"Maximizing the Use of RM Systems in the Classrooms"

Today's Guestpert...



Angela Bergeron
Deaf & Hard of Hearing Itinerant Teacher

Welcome,
Victoria Gillan

FASD Worker
Family and Children's Services



Welcome, Dr. Demark!



Dr. Jenny Demark
Psychologist
Fundamentals Child Behaviour Solutions

An Introduction to
Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder
{ DMDD }

Welcome to
SESH!!

(Special Education Support Hour)

Exploring
Social Narratives
with Josh and Whitney

Thursday, December 2nd, 9:45-10:45 a.m.



Wholeness & Wellness

Safety during a global pandemic

At the RCCDSB , we strive to sustain safe school environments characterized by warmth, hospitality, good humour, and joy. This became even more prevalent in times of a global pandemic. During the 2021-2022 school year, students had to pivot to remote learning after the Christmas break. After the 2020 school year, our educators knew how to help students virtually and engage them in remote learning.



Mental Health Team & Supports

The RCCDSB is grateful to have a wonderful team of mental health professionals working with students at various schools every day. To date, the Board has a large team of mental health and special education professionals to help students every day. This includes but is not limited to: Special Assignment Teachers (SPAT) for inclusion, Speech and Language pathologists, Special Education Coordinators, Applied Behavioural Analysts (ABA), ABA Educational Assistants, Social Workers, Communication Disorders Assistants, and a Mental Health and Wellness Department Lead and Superintendent of Education.

The team works on helping students through difficult times, assisting students that require special attention, and focusing on the general mental health and well-being of RCCDSB students.



RENFREW
COUNTY
CATHOLIC

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Ms. Prince

MSW, RSW

Why did I go into this profession?

A number of years ago, I lost someone very suddenly. It was a huge loss and I felt very alone in that experience. I decided to turn to a school counsellor to help me cope with what I was going through. While meeting with this counsellor, I started to think maybe this loss was given to me so that I may help others. After many years of dealing with my grief and growing as a person, I decided to make the leap into social work. That early experience of loss and grief, while painful and tough, was transformative. When I think of that time, and what it has led to, a quote by Mary Oliver comes to mind: "Someone I loved once gave me a box full of darkness. It took me years to understand that this too, was a gift - I believe that we can emerge transformed and renewed by the tough times in our life. I strive to instill that belief and hope in the students I work with."

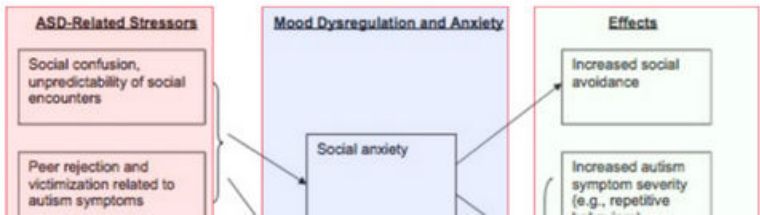


Schools to believe in!

Introducing the Mental Health and Wellness Team during a social media campaign in March.

Strengthening our Multi-disciplinary Teams

As part of our Mental Health and Wellness Strategy, the teams have expanded to provide students with the experienced professionals to assist with complex needs. Clinical Psychologist Dr. Weiss began working with our Special Education and Mental health and wellness teams to strengthen our multidisciplinary approach working with students having complex needs.



Screen shot of a partial framework of an evidenced based model for the ABA Team and Social Workers to work together and “break the cycle” that are revealed in their behaviour (“effects”)

Improving Mental Wellness for Students at RCCDSB

The Eastern Ontario Catholic Curriculum Corporation (EOCCC) Mental Health and Wellness Material was presented at the EOCCC conference on May. 5 2022. RCCDSB staff members were engaged in creating this material that focuses on supporting the mental health and well-being of students from grade 1 through to grade 8 through faith. Initially created by Superintendent Clint Young, this material has been an ongoing support in classrooms across RCCDSB!



Principal Anne Marie Landon and Principal Ruth McNulty presenting at the EOCCC conference for the Mental Health and Wellness curriculum.

Catholic Education Week Well-being

During Catholic Education week, we asked students to reflect on what each virtue means to them, Faith, Charity, and Hope. We shared these on social media as a way to renew, rebuild, and restore our knowledge of the Catholic virtues.

Students at Holy Name also used the Catholic Education week themes to create a mural! The whole school was involved and students created colourful bubbles that contained important theme to renew, rebuild, and restore Catholic Education.

The grade 6/7 students lead this activity in the younger classes and supported the conversation about Catholic Education.



Rooted in Faith

The Renfrew County Catholic School Board had the exciting opportunity to host the Eastern Ontario Catholic Curriculum Corporation (EOCCC) Pilgrim Icon Cross for several weeks last fall. The cross was commissioned by the EOCCC in celebration of their 25th Anniversary and was constructed by Geoff Guitard, a chaplaincy leader with the Ottawa Catholic School Board.

The Icon Cross began its initial journey in the Renfrew/Arnprior Family of Schools and will return to our school board during the 2022-23 school year. David Afelskie, Religious Education and Family Life Special Assignment Teacher, accompanied the Icon Cross and coordinated a short prayer liturgy explaining the significance and importance of the cross at each of the schools. Many of the students had questions about the cross and were captivated by the idea of iconography. A common question was: "What is an icon?" An icon is a sacred image that can assist individuals in their encounter with God. Stephen Bonian describes it this way: "The primary power of icons lies in their physicality: they make the presence of the holy tangible. They rouse the imagination and generate emotions in the viewer." After the presentation, each school displayed the icon cross in a prominent location that allowed classrooms or visitors to encounter and pray with the Pilgrim Icon Cross.



The Icon Cross reminds individuals of God's love for them and provides an opportunity to renew their commitment to our Catholic faith and Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. We are all pilgrims, and the Icon Cross was a powerful reminder for our staff and students that God is always present with us on this life journey.

As this Pilgrim Icon Cross journeys from each school in every Catholic board in Eastern Ontario, we hope that it will be a way to encounter Christ and to build a community for all. Follow the Icon Cross journey on Twitter: @EOCCC1.



Photo Credits: Pam Dickerson, St. Michael's School & RCCDSB

Witness & Integrity

Christian Community Day

In 2021, we had the opportunity to gather as smaller school communities in 3 locations. Each school community attended mass at the local church where we reflected upon our faith and mission and vision.

In the afternoon, all staff at each location joined to listen to motivational speaker, Anthony McLean. Anthony discussed anti-racism in schools, diversity, and mental health. He provided a wonderful speech for all to enjoy and gain knowledge on how to better ourselves professionally and personally.



Pembroke/Petawawa family of schools mass at St. Columbkille Cathedral Parish



Pembroke/Petawawa Family of schools meeting at Bishop to listen to guest speaker, Anthony McLean



Anthony McLean, guest speaker

Student Success & Equity

Over the course of the past year our staff have been working at enhancing their professional practice with a focus on de-streamed grade 9 and equity in their classrooms. In May, some grade 8 and secondary staff had the opportunity to work with Peter Lijedahl in face to face sessions deepening their understanding of the tools necessary to make thinking visible. Staff also had the opportunity to work with Peter Liljedahl during our summer institutes. This 1 day virtual session provided staff with the tools to further enhance deep thinking within their classrooms.

During both of these sessions and the many informal staff to staff conversations that have taken place over the past year, the ideas and concepts from Peter's work "Building Thinking Classrooms" have been implemented across our system.

There is a growing desire amongst some staff to further develop their knowledge and fine tune their work with students in bringing out the best of what they know on a daily basis. This is very evident as you walk by a classroom and hear the buzz of the students engaging in rich, deep discussions regarding their lesson.



Building thinking classrooms with Peter Liljedahl. Great professional development for our educators.

Additionally, staff in the high schools also had the opportunity to come together virtually with two dynamic guest speakers on the June 10th PA Day. Nouman Ashraf provided staff with an energetic presentation regarding how we can build a more equitable classroom. The second speaker for the day, Jason To, provided the two high school staffs with a realistic presentation of the reasons why the Ministry of Education implemented a de-streamed grade 9 curriculum. Jason provided statistical as well as anecdotal data that demonstrated the need for our system to enact these changes. The need for more inclusive classrooms was evident through Jason's presentation and has provided some direction for moving forward into the 2022-2023 school year!

For more information on de-streamed grade 9 please check out the following link:
[De-Streaming Grade 9](#)

Capital Projects

Portables

New portables at 5 sites:

- St. Joseph's High School, Renfrew(3)
- Our Lady of Grace, Westmeath (2)
- St. Anthony's, Chalk River (1)
- St. John XXIII, Arnprior (1)
- St. Joseph's, Arnprior (1)

Windows

- Installed new, energy-efficient windows at George Vanier, Combermere

Parking Lot Improvements

- Holy Name, Pembroke
- Our Lady of Grace, Westmeath

Phone & PA System Replacement

- St. Joseph's High School, Renfrew

Washrooms

- Accessible washrooms at George Vanier, Combermere

New Water Bottle Filling Stations

- St. John XXIII, Arnprior
- St. Joseph's, Calabogie
- St. Joseph's, Arnprior

Flooring Replacement

- St. Joseph's, Arnprior
- St. Andrew's, Killaloe
- Bishop Smith Catholic High School, Pembroke

Boiler Replacement & Building Automation System Upgrades

- Our Lady of Fatima, Renfrew

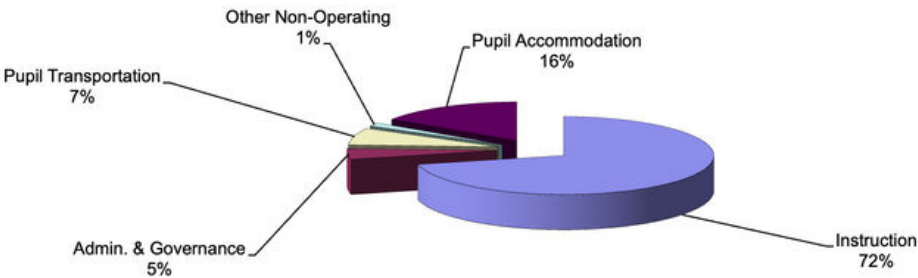
Partial Window Replacements

- St. John Bosco, Barry's Bay
- St. Michael's, Douglas

Piping Replacements

- Piping Replacements at George Vanier, Combermere

2022-2023 Budget: \$81.7 Million



Schools to believe in!