

Director's Annual Report 2010

Preserving Catholic Education for Future Generations



Paul Wubben
Director of Education

I am pleased to once again present my annual report on student achievement and the educational programs and opportunities available to the students of the St. Clair Catholic District School Board.

As always, I am proud to report on the accomplishments of the past year, and on the ways in which we continue to help all of our students achieve.

Our success is rooted in the mission of Catholic education, which has been publicly funded in Ontario for 169 years. For nearly two centuries, Catholic education has added to the greater good by graduating students who are caring, contributing members of our society.

However, we understand that as enrolment continues to decline in Ontario, and with a provincial election on the horizon, the call for one school system will once again surface. This would come as a detriment to publicly funded education in Ontario. The turmoil and confusion that would ensue would disrupt elementary and secondary schools for years to come.

But more troubling still, is the notion that Catholic parents and students would lose their right to choose faith-based education, which seeks to develop the spirit as well as the mind; to

acknowledge and nourish the soul as well as the body; and help to form students in the traditions of the Catholic faith.

There are a number of myths about Catholic education, which supporters of a single system of publicly-funded education often promote. Here are some of them:

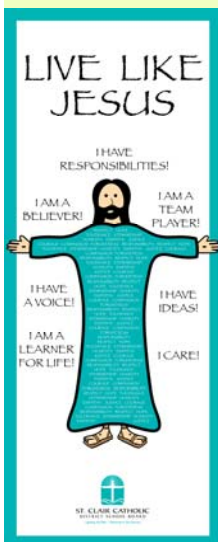
Myth: The United Nations has called Ontario's funding system discriminatory.

Fact: Not true. The United Nations has never made such a ruling. Rather, this was the opinion of the members of one UN committee. It has never moved beyond the committee, nor been supported by

the UN as a whole. Both the Canadian and Ontario governments have responded in strong support of Catholic education and the matter has never been pursued by either the UN or any member government.

Myth: Catholic schools are a duplicate of public schools. It would be more efficient to have one system.

2009 — 2010 Board Theme



The St. Clair Catholic District School Board liturgical theme for 2009-2010 was *Live Like Jesus*. The theme was celebrated at Masses and prayer services throughout the district. Banners were distributed to all schools at a system-wide Mass in September.

St. Clair Catholic Board of Trustees — 2010



(Seated) Linda Ward; Anita Labadie, Chair of the Board; Father Andy Dwyer, Chaplain.

(Standing) John Van Heck; Brenda Rumble; Michelle Parks; Carol Bryden, Vice Chair of the Board; and Ross Daly.

(Inset above) Student Trustee Rachel Veilleux.

