



KENORA
CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

*O*ur journey
our faith
our joy

strategic DIRECTION

2014 | 2019

our *journey*

JOURNEY represents our walk with our students as they explore who they are and the opportunities for who they will become.

our *faith*

FAITH is what guides, directs, sustains and supports us on our journey.

our *joy*

JOY is a distinctive and enduring characteristic of our school system and we strive to discover and celebrate it in all we say and do.



introduction

The multi-year strategic plan detailed in this publication is carefully crafted to enhance and extend the rich history, tradition and success of Catholic education in this province while, at the same time, shape the future of the Kenora Catholic District School Board.

Moreover, this Strategic Plan is all about students, their learning, and those who accompany them on their educational journey.

“Catholic schools must be places where students can hear Jesus’ invitation to follow Him, where they can receive His command to love all people, and where they can realize His presence and His promise to be with them always.

*Only in this way can they become who they are meant to be:
persons of dignity and freedom, created in the image and
likeness of God as modeled in Jesus Christ.”*

– Ontario Institute for Catholic Education

from the director of education

Our journey
our faith
our joy



*“Start by doing what’s necessary; then do what’s possible;
and suddenly you’re doing the impossible.”*

– Saint Francis of Assisi

I am pleased to share **Our Journey, Our Faith, Our Joy** with our Kenora Catholic District School Board community. This strategic plan represents the culmination of a comprehensive stakeholder consultation process which resulted in the shaping of system-level strategic priorities, goals and initiatives for the next five years. The future of the Board and the positive and direct impact the plan will have on our students and staff is considerable.

Moreover, **Our Journey, Our Faith, Our Joy** will be the foundation upon which we make informed decisions that influence faith-filled learning in our schools in the coming years.

The plan includes four strategic priorities, each with a student and staff focus and set of goals, that will help ensure joy-filled learning experiences in all of our classrooms. All the components of the plan come together to embody what it means to be involved in Catholic education.

During the course of the consultation process one of our participants stated: ***“Our schools must excite, engage, challenge, connect and build relationships.”***

Our Journey, Our Faith, Our Joy is crafted to achieve this ideal. In addition, the plan outlined in this document will help ensure that:

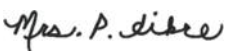
our students will grow and deepen their faith, enhance personal well-being, achieve academic excellence, celebrate success and experience a sense of hope and joy in the learning process; and

our staff will be supported in their pursuit of life-long learning and adult faith formation and continue to be recognized as among the best that Catholic education has to offer.

Our Journey, Our Faith, Our Joy is a “roadmap” for our journey to excellence. It will guide and direct us in our continued commitment to providing the best quality Catholic education in the school communities served by the Board.

As we embark on a new journey to excellence you are invited to join us on our travels.

Yours in Faith



Phyllis Eikre | Director of Education



from the chair of the board of trustees

our journey our *faith* our *joy*

*“In all your ways acknowledge Him,
and He will make straight your paths.”*

– Proverbs 3:6

This is a very exciting time for the Kenora Catholic District School Board as we present our Strategic Plan to our Kenora Catholic District School Board community and a defining moment in the Board’s successful history.

Furthermore, with the launching of **Our Journey, Our Faith, Our Joy** the Board has taken another step in shaping the future of this defining moment.

Clearly, the direct impact of successful strategic planning is felt by children at the classroom level. It is here, in our classroom communities, that educational vision is translated into quality learning experiences for all children. Please be assured that your trustees are committed to the prudent allocation of system resources to bring this vision to life.

Again, children, and the quality of their Catholic education, is the primary reason for this strategic plan.

Our Journey, Our Faith, Our Joy represents a unique opportunity for our schools to build upon current successes while, at the same time, journey toward the creation of a new and exciting future for the children they serve each day. Through the formal Board approval of this multi-year strategic plan, your trustees have initiated the first step in this most important journey.

Catholic education is alive and well at the Kenora Catholic District School Board and your trustees look forward with great enthusiasm to the next five years as **Our Journey, Our Faith, Our Joy** is implemented.

Respectfully



Frank Bastone | Chairperson
Board of Trustees



consultation summary

Stakeholder participants in our community consultation indicated that the Kenora Catholic District School Board exhibits the following qualities:

Our schools are:

- Christ-centered and student-focused;
- marked by excellence in purpose and in outcome;
- safe and welcoming;
- sensitive and responsive to the culture and traditions of First Nation, Métis and Inuit communities; and
- filled with hope, optimism, joy, celebration and authentic relationships.

Our school system:

- makes informed value-based decisions;
- is transparent in its governance, administration and operation;
- hears and values the voices of students, staff, families and stakeholders;
- is sensitive to the needs of its schools;
- communicates on a regular basis; and
- provides the highest quality of Catholic education to all students served each day in the schools that comprise the Kenora Catholic District School Board.

The input secured through the consultation process has shaped the mission, vision, values and goals of the Board and, at the same time, provided valuable suggestions that make our commitment to students, staff and the Kenora Catholic District School Board community even stronger.

The Kenora Catholic District School Board

“Catholic schools are all about relationships, relationships, relationships.”

– Teacher

our mission

The Kenora Catholic District School Board is a Roman Catholic School System dedicated to excellence in education, the Christian formation of youth, and meaningful partnerships with family, community and the Church.

our vision

The Kenora Catholic District School Board is a Catholic school system that is faith-based and Christ-centered.

We celebrate the Spirit within each of us through prayer, reflection and our daily living.

We share the gifts that each of us has been given and celebrate the joy that is found in learning together through academics, the arts and athletics.

We applaud effort and ability and encourage innovative thinking.

We deliver our programs in light of the message of the Gospel.

We invite all to share in our mission.

our values

We envision each of our partners sharing responsibility for the vision in the Catholic education of our students.

We envision all of our students as:

- discerning believers;
- the future and the most valuable resource we have;
- effective communicators;
- reflective, creative and holistic thinkers;
- self-directed responsible, lifelong learners;
- collaborative contributors;
- caring family members; and
- responsible citizens.

“You too, dear young people, can be joyful witnesses of His love, courageous witnesses of His Gospel carrying to this world a ray of His light.”

– Pope Francis 1

strategic priorities 2014 | 2019

strategic priority *one*
Increasing Student Achievement and Well-Being

strategic priority *two*
Fostering a Catholic Environment of Respect,
Acceptance and Accountability

strategic priority *three*
Using Our Resources Wisely

strategic priority *four*
Discovering *and*
Celebrating Joy in the Education Journey

Our journey
our faith
our joy

strategic priority *one*

Increasing Student Achievement and Well-Being

“Our schools must excite, engage, challenge, connect and build relationships.”

– Principal

OUR FOCUS

Our students will grow and deepen their faith, enhance personal well-being, achieve academic excellence, celebrate success and experience a sense of hope and joy in the learning process.

Our staff will be supported in their pursuit of life-long learning and adult faith formation and continue to be recognized as among the best that Catholic education has to offer.

OUR GOALS

- encourage student growth through the systematic infusion of the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations into all learning experiences
- build, in safe and inclusive environments, authentic communities of discerning believers that encourage faith formation
- promote responsible stewardship in the wise use of resources and technology to support student achievement
- increase student engagement and voice to promote creative, innovative and expanded learning opportunities for all students within our diverse community that will enable them to flourish in the world today and in the future
- ensure an on-going commitment to the personal, spiritual and professional development of all staff
- foster a love of learning, quest for meaning in life and creation of relevance and academic rigor in our classrooms

“And if you have faith, everything you ask for in prayer, you will receive.”

– Matthew 17

Fostering a Catholic Environment of Respect, Acceptance and Accountability

“Keep Catholicity at the forefront of all Board planning and operations.”

– Teacher

OUR FOCUS

Our students and staff will learn and grow in authentic Catholic schools where:

all are safe and welcome;

quality learning, in an inclusive Christ-centered environment, underpins the total education of each child;

academic excellence, dignity, self-worth, joy and respect mark the learning journey; and each child develops his or her potential as an individual and contributing member of society

Our staff will be guided and supported in their continued commitment to creating and sustaining authentic Catholic schools.

OUR GOALS

- ensure that Catholicity is strengthened as the foundation upon which the Board is governed, organized and administered
- ensure continued involvement of stakeholders in the review, development and implementation of programs and services
- strengthen and sustain positive and productive partnerships with families, parishes, community and the First Nation, Metis and Inuit people served by the Board
- promote, celebrate and communicate stories of system, school and student success

“The Holy Father prays that you will keep your hearts and minds focused on Jesus Christ, thereby imitating His zeal and joy in service to others. He especially encourages you, staff and students alike to embrace prayerfully the wonder and beauty of the Gospel. Indeed, it is by remaining close to Him that you will make a unique and important contribution to society.”

– Cardinal Pietro Parolin for Pope Francis 1: (Ontario Catholic Education Week 2014)

strategic priority *three*

Using Our Resources Wisely

“I am constantly amazed at what my children are learning and how excited they are to share it with me.”

– Parent

“Continue to focus Board resources on improving student achievement.”

– Teacher

OUR FOCUS

Our students will learn responsible stewardship of all available resources.

Our staff will be supported in their call to responsible stewardship in using their gifts and resources (staff, clergy, peers) to support the learning requirements of all students.

OUR GOALS

- ensure that financial stewardship is strengthened as one foundation upon which the Board is governed, organized and administered
- ensure that the priorities identified in the multi-year strategic plan shape the annual Board budget
- ensure that all policies, procedures and processes are reflective of our Catholic faith traditions and are documented, communicated and practiced
- align system and school resources to ensure the full and complete implementation of the Board multi-year strategic plan
- monitor the alignment and implementation process on a regular and sustained basis
- ensure that students are receiving the full benefit of resource allocations
- report the status of the alignment and implementation process to the Board of Trustees at regular intervals
- provide opportunities for students to practice good stewardship

“In the end, everything has been entrusted to our protection and all of us are responsible for it. Be protectors of God’s gifts and truly joyful for your many blessings.”

– Pope Francis 1

strategic priority *four*

Discovering and Celebrating Joy on the Educational Journey

*“Continue to celebrate cultural enrichment.
Our First Nation children walk in two worlds.”*

– Consultation Participant

*“I am very impressed with the positive messages I see and receive
and with the respect and partnership I feel when I interact
with school staff and administration.”*

– Parent

OUR FOCUS

Our students will learn and grow in schools where joy is one important measure of success and where their voices are heard and their ideas and suggestions addressed.

Our staff will be supported in sharing what joy looks, sounds and feels like in our schools.

OUR GOALS

- consider joy as one measure of student success
- ensure that our successes are celebrated and communicated
- support our staff in building and sustaining joy-filled schools and in spreading the Gospel message



*“The Church needs you, your
enthusiasm, your creativity and the
joy that is so characteristic of you.”*

– Pope Francis 1 (World Youth Day 2014)

a note of appreciation

Our sincere appreciation is extended to the members of the Multi-Year Strategic Plan Committee who worked with tireless commitment to craft a Board plan reflective of stakeholder consultation, extensive dialogue and with a focus on the growth and development of both staff and students.

The entire process was an example of the joy one finds in bringing the Gospel message to life in the daily operation of our school system. The committee heard repeatedly from its Catholic community that its school system is a very special gift to preserve and enhance. Our 2014-2019 multi-year strategic plan will help ensure that our gift is not only preserved, but will help move the Board forward toward a bright and promising tomorrow.

Multi-Year Strategic Plan Committee

Frank Bastone	Chairperson
Brenda Bye	Trustee
Phyllis Eikre	Director of Education
Mary Curringham	Superintendent of Instructional Services
Maureen Frankcom	Principal Pope John Paul II School
Sister Maria Ciccarelli	Religious Education Coordinator
Shelly Tom	Aboriginal Resource Teacher
Kevin Debnam	Facilitator

Board of Trustees

A very special thank you is extended to the Board of Trustees for their valuable input and support during the entire planning and development process and also for their continued commitment to providing the highest quality Catholic education to the communities it serves.

Frank Bastone	Chairperson	Teresa Gallik	Trustee
Paul Landry	Vice Chairperson	Josie Kipling	Trustee
Vaughn Blab	Trustee	Cassie Olinyk	Student Trustee 2013-14
Brenda Bye	Trustee	Tess Derouard	Student Trustee 2014-15
Mike Favreau	Trustee		

Dedication

The 2014-2019 Multi-Year Strategic Plan is dedicated to the memory of Trustee Josie Kipling whose absence at the Board table is, and will continue to be, greatly missed at each and every meeting.

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