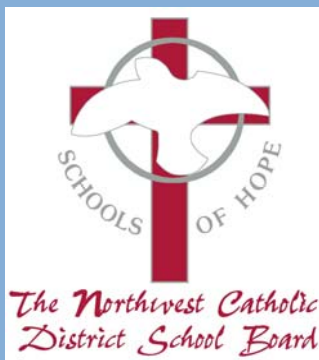


Board-Wide News for Our Partners in Catholic Education



Inside this Newsletter:

- OCSTA Director Region #3 at-large Nomination
- OCSTA "Award of Merit"
- January Board Meeting Highlights
- This month's Board Reports are posted on the Board's web site: www.tncdsb.on.ca

Junior & Senior Kindergarten Registration in ALL our Catholic Schools will be held the week of **February 8 to 12** contact your local Catholic School Principal or see the Board's website for more information.

PRAYER

God of earth and Heaven
We praise you and we bless you.
May our homes be places that mirror your love;
Places of welcome and warmth.
May our tables be set with good food, wise conversation and compassionate hearts.
May your forgiveness heal sorrows;
May your justice bring harmony.
May our homes be places where we rejoice in hope, now and always.
We make this prayer in the name of Jesus.
Amen

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION—FEBRUARY 8 TO 12, 2010

REJOICING in HOPE:

"HOPE IN OUR HOMES"

January 19, 2010 Board Meeting Highlights

- **Recognition of Excellence**
- **St. Francis School:** Ron Fryer, Vice Principal introduced the Student Council. Colette Fafard, Teacher Advisor, spoke on the member composition and mandate of the **St. Francis Student Council.** **Ian Kitt, President and Sam Tibbs, Vice President** highlighted some of the activities the council has held such as: Recycling, growing plants in classrooms, and planning a "Save Energy Hour", to promote this years theme "Healthy Students, Healthy School, Healthy World." Excellent presentation!



Ron Fryer, VP, Lisa George, Colette Fafard & Sheila Quesnel, Teacher Advisors, Anne-Marie Fitzgerald, Chair, Ian Kitt, President and Sam Tibbs, Vice President Student Council

St. Patrick's School—Pilot Full Day Every Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program

St. Patrick's School in Atikokan will offer the full day kindergarten program this fall as the pilot school for the Northwest Catholic District School Board. We will look forward to working with the day care providers and the school to ensure that the pilot is a success and that the community is well served by the program.



St. Joseph's School—All Day Every Day Kindergarten Program

St. Joseph's School in Dryden will be offering an all day, every day, Junior Kindergarten, English Senior Kindergarten and French Senior Kindergarten class commencing in September 2010. The Board recognizes that the students would benefit from an all day, every day JK & SK program.



2010 Board Meeting Schedule:

The Board approved a revised 2010 meeting schedule to accommodate the Board holding a face to face meeting in Atikokan on Tuesday, May 18, 2010.

Audited Financial Statements:

The Board received a copy of the 2008-2009 audited Financial Statements of the former Atikokan Roman Catholic Separate School Board .

SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Our school community is blessed with many talented and generous people. **Mr. Vinczeff** and the students of **Sacred Heart** have brought in **over \$2000.00 for Holy Childhood** through the Christmas Craft Fair, a raffle and by students donating their Holy Childhood boxes. In addition, our **grade eight students** are forming a group called '**Hands for Haiti**' to raise funds for the earthquake victims.

Grade Fives coordinated an uplifting **school Mass** to begin the New Year. Grade Sevens and Eights joined students at St. Joseph's school in Dryden to learn more about what they can do for others at a '**Me to We**' workshop. Two students from grade eight, **Alyssa Hoey** and **Keanan Otto** will work with Ms. Michelizzi on a '**Student Leadership Initiative**' for our community. Parent volunteers continue to work with us so that teachers can take their classes on **field trips to Cedar Bay** or skating, curling, snowshoeing and skiing. With parental and teacher help, Grade Two students continue to prepare to receive the **sacrament of the Holy Eucharist**. School Council is presently looking at ways to find sponsorship to fund and support a nutrition program.



ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL

"Me to We" Student Leadership

As part of our Teaching Catholic Values and Building Character initiative we planned a **Student Leadership Forum** at both ends of our school board called "**Youth for Change**", and had engaged the help of the *Me to We* group, a part of the **Free the Children** organization. On Thursday, January 7, St. Francis School hosted Our Lady of the Way and St. Patrick's Schools in participating in a "**Me to We Student Leadership Workshop**". Twenty student leaders who had been previously chosen by their schools participated in the workshop, which offered a wonderful opportunity to **empower our students to make a difference in their world**.

The students really enjoyed the experience of the day. May we all understand the awesome responsibility that we have to help **our children** to espouse **Catholic values for the benefit of their world**.



OUR LADY OF THE WAY

As part of the **First Nation, Metis & Inuit Implementation Project**, Our Lady of the Way School with the cooperation and active participation of the Rainy River First Nation will **enhance opportunity for staff, students and community to interact with Ojibwe culture**. As part of this project, **local artist Elvis DeBungee** painted the clan system on the gym wall to further enhance the Ojibwe culture. An unveiling of the mural is being planned for February. We are also proud to offer **full day, every day JK/SK programs** at Our Lady of the Way School.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

St. Joseph's School has been blessed to be afforded the opportunity to have Dr. Carmel Crevola work closely with our **grade 1 and 2** teachers, and their students, on **Oral Language**. **Dr. Crevola** is an Independent, International Literacy Consultant, Author and Researcher who has worked around the world. She has pioneered new approaches to data driven literacy instruction and has led several large-scale reform initiatives in education. Our students are benefitting from the Oral Language Project through the "Northern Ontario Education Leaders (NOEL)" project.



On Tuesday, January 19, 2010, the junior and intermediate students of St. Joseph's School, Dryden started their morning by participating in the **Living Rosary**. The grades 5F, 6F, 7E and 7F led the approximately two hundred students and teachers in **prayer for the country of Haiti**. The students created an intention for each bead, in their **Christian Living classes**, under the direction of Mme Powell, Christian Living teacher. Some of the intentions were for children who lost parents, children who lost friends and for grandparents who lost grandchildren. Thanks to all who spent time in prayer with us.



ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL

St. Patrick's School hosted its **annual DARE Graduation** on Wednesday, January 20th. Guests included **Inspector Kendrick and Constable Davis of the OPP, Mayor Dennis Brown, parents and special guest the DARE Lion**. The nine week program was instructed by Constable Davis. The program provided students the opportunity to work with a decision-making model, learn about the health concerns related to drug use, the effects of peer pressure on decision making and **the importance of making the right choice**. Highlights of the graduation were the speeches by **Emma Campanaro, Shawnte Anderson, Marla Larson and Maija Goranson**.

ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL

Teacher **Rae Ann Wood** and her Kindergarten students created a **radio announcement** at B93.1 as a class project **to promote Catholic Education in Northwestern Ontario**. Thanks to **students Mia Tullio, Elijah Plastino, Kale Archie and Tatum Glowasky** who did a great job creating the message with **classmates** and then recording it at the radio station. This positive message promoting our Catholic schools can be heard in all our school communities of The Northwest Catholic District School Board during the first two weeks of February .



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION—FEBRUARY 8 TO 12, 2010

Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA) Seminar for Board Chairs and Vice Chairs

Topics presented at the conference included: The Early Learning Program by Assistant Deputy Minister Jim Grieve, Bill 177 "Board Governance" and Sharing the Value of Catholic Education in Ontario. The Trustees were addressed by Minister of Education Kathleen Wynne in her last days as Education Minister and we heard an update by Deputy Minister Kevin Costante. "Teaching Social Media in our Catholic Schools" was also highlighted.



Director of Education Mary-Catherine Kelly, Chair Anne-Marie Fitzgerald, **Minister of Education Kathleen Wynne** and Vice Chair Cathy Bowen at OCSTA Conference in Toronto.



Director of Education Mary-Catherine Kelly, Deputy Minister Kevin Costante, Vice Chair Cathy Bowen and Chair Anne-Marie Fitzgerald at OCSTA Conference in Toronto.



OCSTA Director—Region #3 (At Large)

The Board is proud to nominate Anne-Marie Fitzgerald to run for the position of OCSTA Director at Large—Region 3.



OCSTA "Award of Merit"

The Board presented applications to OCSTA for consideration of the "Award of Merit" for
Trustee John Borst (Dryden)
and
Trustee Advisor John McInnis (Atikokan)



NOTICE TO PARENTS Re: Bussing Information

Please listen to local radio stations for up-to-date bus information during times of inclement weather.

The Northwest Catholic District School Board Office Locations

Corporate Board Office:
555 Flinders Avenue
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3L2
Phone 807-274-2931 Toll Free: 1-888-311-2931
Fax: 807-274-8792

Finance Office:
75 Van Horne Avenue
Dryden, ON P8N
Phone; 807-223-4663 Toll Free: 1-877-235-4663
Fax: 807-223-5015

SCHOOLS OF HOPE

We're on the web
www.tncdsb.on.ca

JUNIOR & SENIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION AT
OUR LADY OF THE WAY, ST. MICHAEL'S & ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOLS

JUNIOR & SENIOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION AT
SACRED HEART SCHOOL & ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOLS