



## Board meeting report from Catholic Student Trustee, Andrew D'Alessio

### Student Trustee Report - October 3, 2017

The fall season not only brings the change in colour of the leaves, but also on the student's faces, as they dress in their school colour to embrace their school spirit. Almost every school in the Board (both elementary and secondary) are participating in at least one cross country meet in the month of October. Our elementary students from Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry will be taking part in the Annual Cross-Country meet at Iona Academy in St. Raphael's on October 5th and students will also be participating in cross country meets at St. Mary CHS on October 12th. St. Michael CHS will be holding their annual "Turkey Trot" on October 11th with more than 500 students participating from various school communities. The winners will receive a turkey for their family!

Most of our Secondary schools have girls' basketball, boys' volleyball, football, and golf. St. Mary CHS will be hosting OFSAA 'AA' Boys Volleyball in October. Holy Trinity CSS and St. Joseph's CSS hosted the Elizabeth Denis Memorial Basketball Tournament on September 15 and 16 in honour of Elizabeth who passed away at the age of 27 from lung cancer in the spring of 2016. Lizzie was a student at both schools and was involved in many sports and activities.

Many of our schools participated in a Terry Fox walk or run towards the end of September. A few examples include: St. Luke on September 29th, Notre Dame on September 27th, Bishop Macdonell and St. Francis Xavier in Brockville both on September 28th. Immaculate Conception is having a food drive for St. Vincent de Paul the first week of October. On Saturday, September 30th, the St. Joseph School community in Gananoque, hosted their annual Fall Fun Fair. The Fun Fair has become a school and community tradition in Gananoque for numerous years, and parishioners, school families, and community members join together to help raise money for St. Joseph Catholic School. Last year alone this Fun Fair raised over \$13,000 in one day to help support our students.

What wonderful things the schools in our Board are taking part in! With Thanksgiving just around the corner, I hope you truly enjoy the company of your family and friends this weekend. I would like to wish each and every one of you a wonderful and relaxing Thanksgiving weekend.

### Student Trustee Report - October 17, 2017

I bring great news from all the secondary schools in our Board. On October 6th, the Student Senate met for the first time this school year and it was a great start and I can't wait to work with all of them. They all shared information on what's taking place at their schools and what they look forward to doing in the next two months. The ice breaker that started the meeting made everyone feel welcome and gave everyone a chance to meet the new members in attendance. We also had the pleasure of Mr. John Cameron introducing himself to the Student Senate and having Mr. Paul Mantha explain Just Us Youth Day to the group, which is taking place in November.

As for activity's in the schools since my last board report: college and universities continue to have their presentations in the secondary schools. Also, as of last Thursday, students can begin the application process to post secondary schools across Ontario and can also apply for various awards and bursaries.

Last Thursday, St. Joseph's CSS and Holy Trinity CSS held their annual Charity Bowl at Joe St. Denis Field in Cornwall. Both teams did an amazing job in the game, raising money for the Good Samaritan Trust Fund. Of course, there can only be one winner and this year that goes to the St. Joe's Panthers!

Also, at the Student Senate meeting it was mentioned that a student from St John CHS passed away recently, and two students from St. Luke and St. Thomas Aquinas suffered loses from fires over the summer. At the end of the meeting, before closing prayer, I said a few words and asked everyone to keep these families in our prayers. Also with prayers in mind, our schools have celebrated their back to school masses and it was a pleasure to have all our Catholic leaders give wonderful masses for our students to enjoy.

These weeks were great for our students and I hope they were for everyone here too.