

CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

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Fall 2009



NIPISSING-PARRY SOUND CATHOLIC DSB BLESSES NEW ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board staff, trustees and community partners joined together on October 7 for the Official Blessing and Open House of the new NPSC administration office.

Occupying three levels in the historic Scollard Hall building, the office was redesigned to create an effective office environment while preserving aspects of the site's rich history.

The building was officially blessed by Board Chaplain Monsignor Norm Clement.

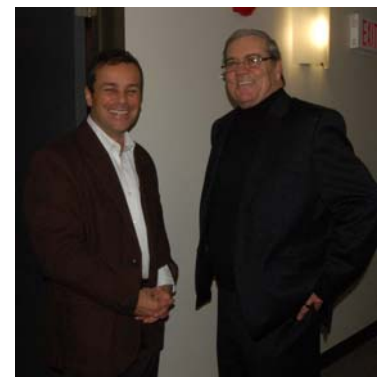
The event continued with an opening prayer in the neighbouring St. Lawrence Chapel (a part of St. Joseph-Scollard Hall Catholic Secondary School) where guests also enjoyed music by the SJSH Grade 11 & 12 Instrumental Class and heard greetings from Board Chair Jacques Bégin, Director of Education Anna Marie Bitonti, Mayor Vic Fedeli and Architect Jean Larocque.

Guests witnessed the official ribbon cutting in the main lobby and were given the opportunity to browse the facility.

The move to this building allows the Board to house all operational and educational services under one roof and to make use of what was surplus capacity at the site.

Most importantly, said Anna Marie Bitonti, is operating the administrative office in such close proximity to its secondary school and students.

"It keeps us in touch with what we are all about and serves as a constant reminder to central office staff of the importance of our work in support of the success of all our students."



Top: Official Ribbon Cutting - from left to right, Mary Lou Cappadocia (Catholic Curriculum Coordinator), Barbara McCool (Vice Chair of the Board), Jacques Bégin (Chair of the Board), Anna Marie Bitonti (Director of Education), Paul Kennedy (Programmer). **Bottom Left:** Board Applications Support Technologist, Nicholas Forsyth, enjoys cake with his family. **Bottom Right:** Architect Jean Larocque chats with Board Chaplain Monsignor Norm Clement.



"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me." Mark 9:37

The disciples had been walking with Jesus. They were discussing their relationship with him. They were sharing the importance they would have because of him.

Jesus must have walked ahead of them or behind them while they were talking. Jesus was doing his own thinking, he was feeling his own sentiments. He was in his

world. They were in theirs.

Jesus spoke about being betrayed into human hands. They spoke about how others would be delivered to them. He spoke about saving others, carrying their burdens. They spoke about themselves in the small circles of their personal lives. Jesus spoke about being a servant. They spoke about being a master.

At first sight, of course, their conversation seemed to be very pious. They spoke about their relationship with him. They spoke about their relationship with God. Peter spoke about the trust Jesus had in him. John spoke about the love Jesus had for him. Judas spoke about the purse of money he kept for Jesus. Philip spoke about the appreciation Jesus had for his judgement and flair.

They were, in fact, all speaking about themselves. They were not speaking, they were arguing, they were fighting, they were quarreling. There was no love, there was tension, there was no sharing, there was animosity.

Jesus must have walked ahead of them or behind them during that conversation. He could not have walked with them at that time.

Later when Jesus was with them in the house, he asked them what they were arguing about on the way. There was a long pause, there was an uncomfortable silence, there was no answer. They looked at one another. They felt ashamed. They were arguing about who was the greatest. Jesus called them together and told them that whoever wanted to be first had to be last of all and servant of all.

Then Jesus took a child in his arms and told them that when they would welcome one such child in his name they would be welcoming him and by welcoming him they would welcome God who sent him. We do not know what they did, but if they received that child in all sincerity that night, they must have been filled – according to the word of Jesus – with God.

Being filled with God, the question, 'Who is the greatest?' did not make sense anymore.

If they did not get the message that night we know they eventually did get the message because they became followers of the Servant and became servants themselves.

As followers of the Servant and servants with Christ, guided by the Holy Spirit, let us see God in all our students and one another.

SNAPSHOTS



Morning Radio Show Launches First Day of School

Meet Morgan (left) and Brittany (right) from Mrs. Charles' Grade 5/6 class, the hosts of the Corpus Christi Morning Radio Show, whose first "gig" was to welcome students back on the first day of school.



.....Fore!

The Grade 3 to 8 students at John XXIII school participated in a day of golf skills development hosted by the CN Future Links Junior Golf Program. A member of the Canadian Professional Golfers' Association spent a half day, at no cost to the school, giving students instruction on a proper golf swing. The students learned the benefits of golf as a life long sport.



Special Education Advisory Committee Preparing for Fall Tour

The enthusiastic members of the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic DSB's Special Education Advisory Committee have a busy agenda in 2009-2010. This fall and spring the group will go on school tours, visiting Learning Assistance Centres and special education students and staff across the system. SEAC will also host its annual Carousel Evening, an evening of free special education workshops. More information will become available in the new year.

Photo: Last year's Carousel Evening keynote speaker, Dr. Jeanette Holden, presents "If we can't talk together, then 'Let's Communicate'".



French Immersion Students Practice Year Round

A group of Early French Immersion students kept busy over the summer break with Summer Encore Camp. The program further develops French oral language proficiency by providing authentic communication experiences and opportunities to understand and appreciate the French culture. Students come together to learn, make new friends, and live the French language and culture.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

JACQUES BÉGIN



Parry Sound Catholic District School Board experiences at this stage in the year.

The 2009-2010 school year is well underway with much activity, learning and camaraderie. Our schools are filled with the sounds of cheers at the various events and laughter in the hallways between classes and at recess. There is a natural buzz in our classrooms which is the workplace for our students in their learning environment led by the strong leadership shown by their teachers, principals and

support staff. Mother Nature's fall paintings pale to the enthusiasm and strong will to learn from Gods gifts, **our students.**

The Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board recently moved to a new office space following the highly successful transformation of the historic Scollard Hall building. The official blessing of this new facility was well attended but more importantly brought back many fond memories for those who attended.

As the year progresses, the Board certainly encourages its students, staff, families, and friends to be active members of their Catholic school community by participating in the many upcoming school activities this year.

Best wishes to all for an enjoyable and successful school year!

The fall season brings on one of the most beautiful times of the year as the forests are full of brilliant colours with sweet scents in the air.

There is definitely a direct correlation between Mother Nature's natural fiery paintings and with what the Nipissing-



BEARS MARCHING BAND IN HIGH DEMAND!

If you have not yet heard the sounds of the St. Joseph-Scollard Hall Marching Band, tune into CBC television to enjoy their performance in more than one scene on the much talked about Kids in the Hall series, *Death Comes to Town*.

The band recently participated in a 12 hour shoot of the series, which was filmed in North Bay and will premiere in January 2010.

Unique to St. Joseph-Scollard Hall not only in North Bay, but in all of Northern Ontario, this secondary school marching band has been tremendously received in the community.

They have played at secondary school basketball and volleyball games, last year's local Santa Claus

Parade, the SJSH Alumni Day football game, and have recently been approached to possibly play at Nipissing University Lakers' hockey games. Most recently, the town of Earleton requested the band's invigorating music at the recent International Plowing Match.

Future Bears with an interest in music are invited to call SJSH music teacher Brian Overholt for more information. A two week camp for marching band participants is offered in August.



REMINDER

The Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board Administration Office has moved to the historic Scollard Hall building located at 1000 High Street. Our website and email addresses have also changed:

www.npsc.ca
username@npsc.ca

Catholic School News is published by the Communications Department of the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Stepping Up with Literacy Place: An Introduction to Scholastic's Intermediate Balanced Literacy Resource
 Tuesday, November 3, 2009. Clarion Resort Pinewood Park. Literacy consultant Tony Stead introduces intermediate teachers to a resource that integrates all literacy instructional components while meeting a wide range of student needs.

Professional Activity Day
 Monday, November 16, 2009.
 System professional development activities focused on improving numeracy instruction.

Alternative and Continuing Education
 Session 2 begins October 30, 2009. Session 3 begins January 11, 2010. Continuous intake for co-op opportunities. For more information, call 472-7771 or visit the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic Alternative and Continuing Education Campus (ACE) at 100 Main St. E., second floor.

Directory

Offices

Board Office
 472-1201
Special Education Office
 472-5030
Continuing Education
 472-7771
Instructional Resources Centre
 472-1201
Transportation Services
 472-8840

Trustees

Jacques Bégin, Chair
 Shawn Fitzsimmons
 Donald Houle
 Judy Manitowabi
 Barbara McCool, Vice Chair
 Frank O'Hagan
 John Willemsen
 Allison Loyst (Student Trustee)

Administrators

Anna Marie Bitonti,
 Director of Education
 Joanne Bénard,
 Superintendent of Education
 Grace Barnhardt,
 Superintendent of Business
 Karen Fabbro-Cobb,
 Senior Education Official
 Paula Mann,
 Senior Education Official
 Monsignor Norm Clement,
 Board Chaplain

Schools

Corpus Christi
 472-5921
 John XXIII
 472-6380
 Mother St. Bride
 472-1524
 Our Lady of Fatima
 472-7280
 Our Lady of Sorrows
 (West Nipissing)
 753-2590
 St. Alexander
 472-9141
 St. Francis
 472-8798
 St. Hubert
 472-2770
 St. Joseph-Sacred Heart
 472-6690
 St. Gregory
 (Powassan)
 724-3482
 St. Theresa
 (Callander)
 752-4407
 St. Victor
 (Mattawa)
 744-5860
 St. Joseph-Scollard Hall
 494-8600