



TRUSTEES' REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY MARCH 2026

"On Fire with the Spirit: Awaken! Illuminate! Rejoice!"

This report shares key updates from the March 23, 2026 Board meeting. It connects school activities to the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board (HPCDSB) **Strategic Plan 2024–2027: On Fire With The Spirit**. Our work helps students grow in faith and learning. It also helps them follow the **Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations**.

Awaken: Strengthening Catholic Faith and Community

We nurture student faith and build strong communities through service and prayer:

- **Faith Leadership:** Over 40 students attended the Student Leadership Retreat at Camp Kintail. The theme of the retreat was "Let Your Light Shine". They learned that God has given each of them unique gifts. This supports them to become **Discerning Believers**.
- **Lenten Works:** Students are taking part in the "Major Mustard Seed Challenge" and Share Lent campaign. These projects put Catholic Social Teaching into action.
- **Indigenous Partnerships:** We continue to build strong relationships with Chief Kim Bressette and the Kettle and Stony Point First Nations. Students are making planter boxes for the Elders. This project teaches students to be **Collaborative Contributors** and **Responsible Citizens**.

Illuminate: Elevating Academic Achievement

We want all students to succeed in reading, writing, and math:

- **Literacy & Structured Reading:** Kindergarten to Grade 2 students completed mid-year reading screenings. Learning Resource Teachers are giving extra reading help to young students at four focus schools. Grade 1 students are also using *Lexia Core5* to build reading skills.
- **Math Progress:** We continue to use the Math Achievement Action Plan (MAAP). Small-group teaching and the *Do the Math* program are helping students understand basic math concepts.
- **Digital Tools & AI:** We introduced *Google Class Tools* to help students stay focused while learning online. We also created a guide for Artificial Intelligence (AI). It ensures AI is used ethically and respects human dignity.

- **Hands-on Science & Skills:** Grade 7 and 8 students are preparing for the 3rd Annual District Skills Competition. These projects build problem-solving skills and help students become **Reflective, Creative, and Holistic Thinkers**.

Rejoice: Fostering Student Success and Well-being

We support the mental health and career goals of all students:

- **Mental Health & SEL:** Schools celebrated Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Week using an updated *Wayfinder* guide. This tool helps students build self-awareness and empathy as **Effective Communicators**.
- **Trades & Apprenticeships:** High school students are exploring skilled trades through hands-on workshops, Dual Credit classes, and the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP). Female Grade 8 students also attended a trades event at Conestoga College.
- **Improving Attendance:** The board is gathering survey feedback from parents, staff, and students to help improve school attendance.

Governance and Operations

Policy Reviews (Updates in Progress):

- **Modified School Day (P2.2.4):** Sets considerations for temporarily shortening a student's school day for health or safety needs.

Policy Approvals:

- **Concussion Management (P2.1.19):** Approved. Staff will receive annual summary reports to help protect students from injuries.
- **Educational Field Trips (P2.2.3):** Approved. Trips must connect to the curriculum and be open to all students.
- **Development and Review of Board Policies (P1.1.4):** Approved. Recommendations for staff in service and support of the policy.

Budget & Operations:

- **2026 Trustee Election:** The Board approved the 2026 Trustee Determination Report. Trustee representation will remain at 5 seats across Huron and Perth counties.
- A public budget survey will launch in late March.
- The Board approved buying 475 new Chromebooks for Grade 9 students.
- Construction continues on the St. Mary's Listowel addition, which is expected to open in 2027.

To review the full version of the latest Board Meeting agenda and minutes check out our [Board Agendas and Minutes](#) webpage on our Board website. Any questions, please contact the Director's Office by emailing directorsoffice@huronperthcatholic.ca.