

## Board Highlights (February 2020)

Notes from the February 10, 2020 Regular (Public) Meeting of the Christ the Teacher Roman Catholic School Division (CTTCS) Board of Education.



### Division Strategic Plan Update – Early Learning & Reading, Writing, Math Outcomes

Joanne Sebastian and Robin Dubiel, Instruction and Learning Consultants, presented the Board with an update on the data available to date and the actions taken to support the Early Learning & Reading, Writing, Math Outcomes. The Division's target for Early learning states that: *By June 2020, 90% of students exiting Kindergarten will be ready for learning in the primary grades as measured by the Early Years Evaluation (EYE).* In Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools, early learning achievement is assessed by classroom teachers on a regular basis, both formally and informally. The Early Years Evaluation (EYE) provides a leading indicator of children's development. It provides accurate data that helps teachers organize their instruction, increase learning time, and monitor each child's progress. The evaluation also informs parents about their child's progress in five key domains: Awareness of Self & Environment, Social Skills and Approaches to Learning, Cognitive Skills, Language & Communication, and Gross Motor Skills.

During the 2019-20 school year, the EYE will be used up to two times for each student in Kindergarten, depending on the results of the initial assessment. Based on the year-end goal of having students ready for learning in the primary grades, 43% of all students were able to meet that target upon entry into kindergarten. The remaining 57% of students will be re-assessed in late spring using the same collection tool.

Student reading achievement progress toward the June 2020 target of: *90% of grades one to four students will be reading at grade level* was also presented. Reading achievement is assessed by classroom teachers on a regular basis, both formally and informally with the use of teacher-created assessments and formally, a minimum of three times a year, with the *Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment (F & P)* or *GB+* in French. Not only do the assessments provide classroom teachers with the very best information to design instruction that helps students reach their potential, they are also an indicator of division-wide progress. The F & P and GB+ are standardized assessments in that all students experience it in the same way and that their performance is benchmarked according to a common standard.

During the 2019-20 school year, the F & P will be used three times per year for each student in grades 1-4 English and the GB+ will be used three times per year for students in grades 2-4 French Immersion. The assessment has students read a series of increasingly difficult books and then discuss the text through a series of questions designed to assess their comprehension. The student's reading level is determined by the point at which he or she struggles to either read the text accurately or answer the comprehension questions.

### Good News in CTTCS

The week of February 3-7 was recognized as French Second Language Education Week, with a theme of *50 years of French Immersion. 50 years of the Official Languages Act /50 ans d'immersion française, 50 ans de la Loi sur les langues officielles.* Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools offers French Immersion programming options at St. Henry's Jr. School (Gr. 1-5), St. Henry's Sr. School (Gr. 6-9), St. Michael's School (Gr. 1-8), & Sacred Heart High School (Gr. 9-12).

Canadian School Counsellors Week was also celebrated February 3-7. CTTCS celebrates the role our school counsellors play in supporting the personal, social, educational, career development, mental health & well-being of our students.

Teacher / Staff Appreciation Week is being celebrated this week - February 9-15. The theme is *Bringing Learning to Life.* Throughout the week, various events were held to celebrate the important contributions that teachers and school staff make to the lives of their students.

### Upcoming Meetings

March 9, 2020

*Believe...Belong...Become...*