



# LAKELAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

BETTER EDUCATION . . . *It's as simple as that! C'est vrai!*



## Trustee Corner

### Welcome Back

Summer it would seem is over and we are suddenly into fall. The temperatures have dropped, frost has appeared, parents are sending their children off to school for another year. Welcome back to all returning students and parents, and a special welcome to all students and parents who are joining us for the first time this year. We hope that all of you have a year blessed with new knowledge, opportunities, friends and adventures.

Welcome back to our staff, both those who are returning and those who are joining our family this year. We hope that all of you have a year filled with new experiences, opportunities, challenges, creativity and innovation.

Thank you to our staff who have worked so hard to ensure our schools are ready for the beginning of the year. They do a tremendous job over the summer while the rest of us are on holidays to ensure that our schools are safe and welcoming environments for our students and staff.

The work on St. Dominic Elementary School is now complete. This facelift has given the school a fresh new look for the 2018/19 school year. The new entrance with its open, bright appearance is very welcoming. Work has begun on our Central Office to provide much needed office space for our Central Office staff.

This year, as with any new year comes with its own set of challenges, opportunities, and new experiences for all of us. For us, as Board, we will continue to work on ensuring that we provide the best possible experiences for all students so that they have the tools to become the people God calls them to be.

We began our year with our District Spiritual Development Day on August 30, 2018 with David Wells as our Keynote speaker. Using the five marks of a Catholic School, David provided us with examples from his own life as a parent and teacher of how we may engage our students in creating an environment in which teachers and students are able to

develop a deeper relationship with God. His engaging stories, his understanding of students and where they are at and his humour provided us all with much to reflect on as we begin this year.

Over the next months we will be faced with the run up to a spring election in our province, which will have its own set of challenges and opportunities as we continue to engage with the Department of Education and the Minister to develop policies that will serve the best interest of our students; to ensure that we have facilities that meet the needs of our growing District; to ensure that we present our students with opportunities to learn and grow in all areas of their lives, and above all to provide the environment that enables all who enter our doors to grow in their relationship with God.

As we begin this new school year I leave you with this prayer:

*Father, we thank You for the opportunity to begin this new school year, and we ask that You bless the students, staff, and families that make our schools great places.*

*We pray that You will guide us in Your ways, and strengthen our school community, so that we will seek Your will in everything that we do, and love others as You love us.*

*We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

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