



Wednesday, June 29, 2022 – Volume 14, Issue 22

Message from Administration

Completing this 2021/22 school year has been no small feat. We look back with mixed emotions. While we may feel frustration because of the interruption to normalcy, we may also feel a huge sense of gratitude for a return to many activities that we once took for granted. We can now look forward to an exciting September and 2022/23 school year as we expect a regular start to a regular school year with all that brings. In the more immediate future however, we are looking to enjoy a relaxing, re-energizing, and restful summer break.

On the evening of June 27th, our community joined together to celebrate the St. Benedict CSS Convocation Ceremony. Congratulations to our Graduates! Thank you for sharing your many gifts with us over the past 4 years. We look forward to hearing about your future endeavours and successes as you move through the next steps of your journey. A sincere thank you to our Graduation Committee and to our entire staff for making this celebration possible. Many months of planning and many staff volunteers helped make it a joyful and memorable event for our graduates.

We would like to acknowledge the teaching career of Jennifer Dietrich. Ms. Dietrich is retiring at the end of June and is undoubtedly looking forward to the next phase of her life. Thank you for your 30-year (most of which were here at St. Benedict) investment to the communities and to all the students that you impacted in that time! We would also like to offer up our best wishes to Vice-Principal Erin Riley, as she moves to St. David in Waterloo. Thank you for all your contributions to this school, its' students, its' families, and its' staff!

Please note that report cards will be mailed out in July. September start-up and registration information will be communicated via school messenger. Please stay connected by visiting our school website for all information pertaining to the 2022/23 school year. We look forward to

Admin Team

Mrs. M. Ingoldsby

Principal

A-BI

Ms. E. Riley

Vice Principal

Bo-G & International

Mr. R. Stehlik

Vice Principal

H-N

Mr. R. Roque

Vice Principal

O-Z

welcoming a new group of students to the Bennies family in September!

We would like to wish all of our St. Benedict students and families a blessed and wonderful summer! We pray that you stay safe and are able to enjoy the gifts that these months bring.

A true Celebration of People: Graduation 2022



On Monday, June 27, after two years of virtual graduations, the St. Benedict community finally had the opportunity to celebrate the graduating class in person. Grads, St. Benedict staff, dignitaries and families were treated to a celebratory evening at the Forward Church Cambridge.

Hosted by Ms. Lisa Kukwa-Flynn, we had the opportunity to recognize students for their accomplishments both inside and outside the classroom. A memorable valedictorian speech by Jerill Ashley Morales was one that the graduation class could connect with and thoroughly enjoyed.

We congratulate all our 2022 grads for their determination, their never-give-up attitude, and wish them nothing but a lifetime of success as they pursue their future endeavours!

A letter from the Director

Dear WCDSB Community,

We hope that this communication finds you well. After two successive springs in which we could not end our school year as we might wish due to the pandemic, it has been a very joyous May and June in our school communities. We have had the ability to mark some of our significant milestones in a

manner that is more typical, and certainly that allows for a more celebratory atmosphere. We have been so thrilled to see the return of sacraments being celebrated in our school-parish communities, we were pleased to see Catholic education week activities, we have seen spring athletic competitions and artistic undertakings and of course, perhaps most significant of all – the return of in-person graduations.

While we have certainly learned over the course of this pandemic to never say “never”, we remain very hopeful of a traditional beginning to the new school year. And while none of us can be faulted for desiring that reality, I do want to take a moment to celebrate all that we accomplished over the course of this school year, despite the challenges of the time. Our pastoral plan grounded us in the theme “Sent to Build” referencing our desire to build the kingdom of God with everyone in our community that we “called to belong” and who we gathered through the eucharist to become. Our theme was reflected in the bridge, which was an apt symbol reflecting the power of Christ’s love for all, and also for the tremendous work done under the auspices of equity. We are proud of our gains and remain open to the further work to be done. We are thrilled to have the results of our staff census and our first student census to help guide us in this regard and WCDSB stands poised to develop a new strategic plan in the fall.

Thank you for entrusting your children to Waterloo Catholic. We are proud of the strong school communities we have nurtured and all that we accomplish in those schools each and every day. This will likely be my last letter as Director of Education. I have announced my intent to retire and a new Director will be named in mid to late August. We know that person will lead a vibrant and evolving system, with leadership that is strong and committed.

We wish everyone a safe summer, that provides an opportunity to rest and refresh. May God continue to bless your journey and may we be worthy of our mission statement, nurturing those students entrusted to us to transform God’s world.

Sincerely,

Loretta Notten
Director of Education

Semester 2 Report Card Distribution

Semester 2 report cards for grades 9–12 will be mailed the week of July 11, 2022. Grade 12’s will receive their Ontario Student Transcripts included in the envelope.



Stay Connected with St. Benedict's!

Twitter

[@StBenedictCSS](#)

Instagram

[@bennies_sac_updates](#)



Catholic Parent Involvement Committee - Parent Information Hub

Access our Catholic Parent Involvement Committee – Parent Information Hub to listen to various community organizations speak directly to questions such as: How do I support my anxious child? How do I help my child build social skills? Where do I learn more about LGBT2S+ identities? How do I keep my child safe on the internet? Interested in additional services to support your child? Follow the links to access more information on services offered by each organization.

<https://www.wcdsb.ca/cpic-parent-hub/>

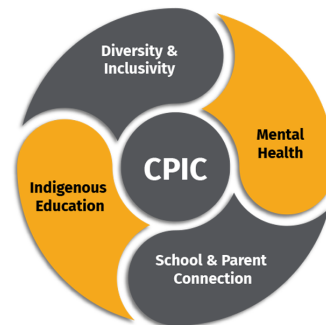
#SentToBuild

WCDSB Chromebooks Return

Graduating grade 12 students and students not returning to St. Benedict CSS next year must return their school-assigned Chromebook and charging cord to the school as soon as possible. Chromebooks can be dropped off until next Friday (school is closed this Friday for Canada Day) between 7:00 and 3:00pm. These devices will be disabled and no longer usable beyond June.

Students who are returning to St. Benedict for the 2022–2023 school year may keep their assigned Chromebook over the summer and use it again next year.

Families requiring internet can review information about Rogers's Connected for Success reduced-rate internet access program at: <https://connectedforsuccess.ca/ontario/>



For all students who wrote the OSSLT in the spring. We are still waiting on results to be released. Once they are released, we will advise as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience and enjoy your well deserved summer.

Spring OSSLT Update

Bus Route Information 2022-23

Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region (STSWR) has announced that bus route information for the 2022-2023 school year will be available on their website starting Monday, August 22, 2022.

STSWR website [login instructions](#):

<https://www.stswr.ca/parents/student-login/>



News from Guidance

Who is your Guidance Counsellor?

Counsellor's Name	Ext	Last names
Mrs. O'Toole	5190	A – DI
Ms. Arkell	5636	Do – Ki
Mr. Betik	5633	KI – PI
Mrs. O'Neill	5634	Po – Z
Ms. Varriano Lane	5635	International Students/ICP

St. Benedict Garden gets a boost

Our school garden got an irrigation system this year! Thanks to the Waterloo Region School Food Garden grant we were able to purchase hoses to get our plants watered all summer.

In partnership with the Food Bank, volunteers will continue watering and weeding the garden over the summer, providing food for the Food Bank and our hospitality program. This past winter and spring the gardens were maintained by hospitality and science classes.

We also have a new shed/ greenhouse build by our construction class which will help the growth of seedlings, helping them be more resilient for garden planting.



Graduating? Leaving WCDSB?

[You can copy all the data from your school Google Drive to a personal Google account.](#)

About Google Takeout

Google Takeout will only allow you to save files that are in your “My Drive” and are owned by you. Google Takeout will not save files in your “Shared with Me” folder.

If you have a large number of files, it may take some time for Google Takeout to copy your entire Drive. Before you begin the process, make sure the folders in your WCDSB Google Drive are organized how you like them. Google Takeout will copy your files as they currently exist in your Google Drive. If there are any files in your “shared with me” that you would like to keep, you will need to “make a copy” of those documents so you have your own copy of the document that is living in your My Drive (not Shared with me area).

You will need a personal Gmail account to complete this process.

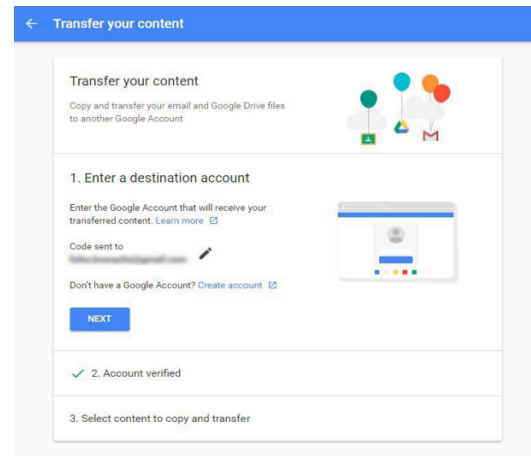
Please note personal Google Accounts have 15GB of storage. If your WCDSB Google Drive exceeds 15GB you will want to purge some of the files owned by you before beginning the transfer process.

Log in and Access Takeout

Sign in to your WCDSB school Google account and navigate to takeout.google.com/transfer.

Start the Copy Process

1. Enter the email address of the destination Google Account where you want to copy your content and select Get Code.
2. On your personal Google Account, check your Gmail inbox for a confirmation email from Google. In the email, select Get Confirmation Code. A new tab will open with a code. The Confirmation Code only works for 24 hours.



3. On your school account, go back to the "Transfer your content" page. Enter the code, then choose Verify.
4. Choose the content you'd like to copy then select Start Transfer.

About the Copy Process

- The copy process usually happens within a few hours, but it can take up to a week.
- Copied files might appear in batches on your Google Account during the copy process.
- When your files are finished copying, you'll get an email at your personal Gmail address.

About your Copied Files

- To see the files you've copied, sign into your Google Drive with your Personal Google Account. Copied content will be in a folder labeled with your school account name and the date you started the copy process.
- Copied files aren't shared with others. (You can always choose to share them.)
- Comments are copied, but revision history isn't.
- You automatically become the file owner of all copied files.

Please note, if you receive a 500 error after you have started the process do not be alarmed. You will not be able to access the Google takeout/transfer page while the transfer is occurring, and you will see the 500 error instead. You will receive an email when the transfer process is complete.



**Waterloo Catholic
District School Board**
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

WELCOME NEW KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

CHILDREN BORN IN 2018 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR YEAR 1 KINDERGARTEN AND
CHILDREN BORN IN 2017 ARE ELIGIBLE FOR YEAR 2 KINDERGARTEN

WCDSB Kindergarten Registration STILL OPEN!
Register Online Today!!!

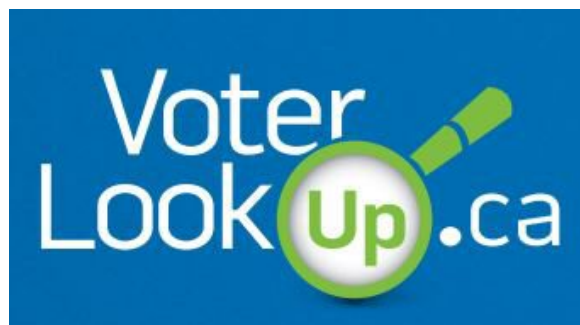
It's Time to Sign Up for School!!

It's time to sign up for the 2022-23 school year – and registering to attend one of Waterloo Region's 43 **Catholic elementary schools** has never been easier.

- Children born in **2018** are eligible for **Year 1 Kindergarten (JK)**.
- Children born in **2017** are eligible for **Year 2 Kindergarten (SK)**.

Parents can access the Online Pre-Registration form by clicking on the **Register for School** link on the **WCDSB Homepage** and then choosing **Kindergarten Registration**.

To finalize your child's registration, please contact your **local Catholic school** directly.



Are You Eligible to Vote for Catholic School Trustees in the 2022 Municipal Elections?

Municipal Election Day is Monday, October 24, 2022.

Make sure your school support designation is “English Separate” (Catholic). It's a powerful message in support of Waterloo Region's Catholic schools & Catholic education.

Many people assume they are registered Catholic school supporters when, in fact, they are not.

CLICK HERE TO BE SURE ----- <https://www.voterlookup.ca/>

Only Roman Catholic school supporters may vote for Catholic School Trustees.

All Catholics are eligible to support Catholic education – not just those with children in school!

You don't have to have children in school to direct your school support to Catholic education. In Waterloo Region there are more people who DO NOT have children in school than DO have children in school. Your support is vital to the continuation of our Catholic education system. It is an investment in our future -- and all Catholic ratepayers are partners with Catholic educators in this investment.

Have you moved?

Even if you have been a Catholic school supporter in the past, the designation DOES NOT follow you when you relocate. You are automatically designated a public school board supporter.

Every time you move, it is essential that you re-declare yourself as a Catholic school supporter.

- Check the assessment section of your **Tax Bill** or **Property Assessment Notice**
- Check your **Voter Information Card** received during a municipal election year.

What to do if you are NOT registered as a Catholic school supporter, but want to designate your support to Catholic Education:

If you are NOT registered as a Catholic school supporter -- but want to designate your support to Catholic Education -- you need to fill out the **Application for Direction of School Support**.

When a Roman Catholic and a Non-Catholic are jointly responsible for the payment of property taxes -- either directly through ownership or indirectly through the payment of rent -- a **Catholic School Support Lease** is required. This is simply a technical tool designed to give the Roman Catholic the sole right to determine the school support of her or his residence.

Please visit this website for the forms and more information:

<https://www.wcdsb.ca/our-schools/register-for-school/support-catholic-education/>

When you have updated your forms, you have two options:

- Return the forms to your child's school.
- If you do not have children attending school, drop your forms at your nearest WCDSB school – or drop them at (or mail them to) the WCDSB head office: 35 Weber St. W., Kitchener, ON, N2G 4G2.

At the Polling Station on Election Day:

Verify that you are registered as a separate school supporter. If your support status is incorrect, ask for an 'Application to Amend Voters' List'. This form may be completed and submitted at the polling station.

Ensure the ballot you are given is a separate school ballot.

If you have any questions, please contact the Waterloo Catholic District School Board at 519-578-3660 Ext. 2355.

Academics

Athletics

The St. Benedict Saints Junior and Senior Football teams will be looking to defend their District 8 Championships when the season kicks off in September. Tryouts will be held the first week of school on Wednesday, September 7th at 2pm on the front field. Train hard this summer and come into tryouts looking to be part of this great football program!

D8 Recap: Two Championships decided by one point each

<https://district8.ca/d8-championship-recap-two-championships-decided-by-one-point-each/>

Any further questions can be directed to:

Junior Team (Grade 9–10) – Andy Reitzel (andrew.reitzel@wcdsb.ca)

Senior Team (Grade 11+) – Joe Vale (joseph.vale@wcdsb.ca)



Clubs

Other News

Co-Chairs' Message...

The new Catholic Community Foundation of Waterloo Region Inc. (CCFOWR) has received much positive feedback on the community support programs offered in 2021 and we are happy to share with you that 2022 is building on this success.

- The CCFOWR launched two grant programs in 2021 to support our Catholic community... a \$70,000 gift/food card program to give a hand up to families in our school and parish communities and a one-time \$60,000 grant program for our community service partners, to support them in their mandate during the challenging financial times created by the pandemic. In 2022, the need continues and the **food card program** has continued. The **partner grants program** will be incorporated into our traditional grants program offered each year in October.
- Plans for our annual **Links fore Learning Golf Classic**... a popular and long-standing tradition offered in cooperation with the Waterloo Catholic District School Board, will continue. This tournament, our primary fundraising event for 2022, will be held on Thursday, August 25, 2022 at Conestoga Golf & Country Club. To register, visit: www.ccfowr.ca/news-&-updates.
- The vision of the new CCFOWR is **Supporting Possibilities...making a difference**. An exciting initiative we introduced in 2021 was a virtual **Speaker Series** designed to help our community address our life experience post-pandemic. The series was well received and will continue in 2022 in partnership with the Waterloo Catholic District School Board.
- The CCFOWR is governed by a committed, community-based, board of directors. Our Governance Chair, Roger Lawler, is readily available to discuss your interests in participating in the Foundation's vision, as a board member or by sitting on one of our active committees. Contact Roger directly through email: rlawler51david@gmail.com, or Vic Degutis, President: VicDegutis@outlook.com, if you would like to explore the opportunities. On a related note, we would like to thank two outgoing board members for their significant contribution to our organization—**Fr. Larry Parent and Tom Mandich, and at the end of the summer, Loretta Notten... you made a difference!** We would also like to acknowledge the passing of our newest board member, **The Honourable Patrick Flynn**. Pat and his wife, Noreen, were active supporters of the Foundation over the years and we mourn the loss of our friend and this outstanding community member.
- Last point, the CCFOWR is a community-based organization with a mandate to offer funds and services to our Catholic community and the community-at-large. If you believe in our cause and can support us with a donation, we thank you in advance for your commitment... www.ccfowr.ca.



Deb Zettel-Schmitt



Chris Gehan



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Links FORE LEARNING

2022

GOLF CLASSIC

In Support of the Waterloo Region Catholic Schools
& The Catholic Community Foundation of Waterloo Region

Thursday ♦ August 25 ♦ 2022
Conestoga Golf & Country Club



Information & Registration...

Visit:

www.ccfowr.ca/news-&-updates

Or Contact:

Vic Degutis, President

Email: linksforelearning@ccfowr.ca

Registration/Food Service - \$150.00/golfer

♦ A charitable receipt will be issued for a portion of the fee

TITLE SPONSOR...

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Our Vision

Supporting Possibilities...

Making a Difference

President's Update...

- Our **website** is receiving very favourable reviews... "informative, easy to navigate, graphically interesting, relevant"... comments which align with our intention to make the experience positive and welcoming for you... please check us out at www.ccfwr.ca.
- We know the importance of **social media** in ongoing communication with our community and in the coming months, we will be launching a new program to extend our reach and to share our information with you with more frequency.
- The annual **Bishop's Banquet** will unfortunately need to be postponed again in 2022 to ensure a safe and successful experience for our guests and supporters. Preliminary plans for an event in 2023 are in the works and we hope you will join us. More details will be communicated in the coming months.



Supporting St. Mary's Church
Tiny Homes Takeout Program

Although we see the light at the end of the tunnel, many families in Waterloo Region have had to struggle financially and with uncertainty, even post-pandemic. If a need is identified by school principals, school social workers or parish priests, all that is required is an email to myself at VicDegutis@outlook.com with general details of the need and every effort will be made to give a hand up to recipients through our **Food Card Program**.

Food Card Program Feedback...

I can't thank you enough for the help and support that the Foundation has provided our community over the past couple of years through the food card program.

Sean Spitzig, Principal, Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School

Thank you! Thank you! Support through the food card program will make an incredible difference for our students and the families.

Carla Santomero, Principal, International Education, St. Don Bosco/ Safe Schools/ SWAC/SAL

We have a student in our PSW program who is struggling to pay for her living expenses right now while she is in class full time days. We are requesting help for her with some food cards to support her finishing until the end of the year when she could find work for the summer. Right now she receives a minimal amount from the government but between rent, bus pass to get to school, and other costs of living she has been having to pull back on groceries.

Lisa Mackay, Principal, St. Louis Adult Learning & Continuing Education Centres

I am reaching out to the Catholic Community Foundation regarding a family in extreme need in our St. Agnes community. Mom reached out to me for financial assistance... Mom shared the family is down to their last \$100. Both parents are recently unemployed and have borrowed money to pay the rent for May. Their need is urgent.

Tonya Reesor, Principal, St. Agnes Catholic Elementary School

Continued...



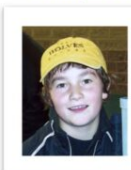
Our Vision

Supporting Possibilities...

Making a Difference

The Catholic Community Foundation of Waterloo Region is responsible for the management and execution of a number of funds which benefit youth in our community. These funds are dedicated to achieving specific objectives established in cooperation with the initial donors. Please take the time to review the funds and consider donating. A list of these funds and a donation opportunity can be found on our website: www.ccfowr.ca/scholarships-and-bursaries.

Examples include:



The Clarke Young Legacy Fund... To honour the memory of Clarke, a memorial fund was established that will assist children who require financial support to pursue their dreams in athletics. Individual Elementary and Secondary school students attending Waterloo Region Catholic Schools can apply through their school principal. Funds will be awarded to support any aspect of organized sport, including equipment and registrations.

"This is FANTASTIC. Thank you all for your support! An experience like this will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for this student and something he will remember for the rest of his life."

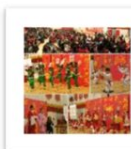
Nicole Stewart, Social Worker, Waterloo Catholic District School Board



The John Sweeney Endowment... An annual award, established by the WCDSB Board of Trustees, presented to an outstanding WCDSB Secondary school graduate attending St. Jerome's University, Waterloo. The trustees make a recommendation of a worthy recipient to the CCFOWR board of directors each year.



The St. Jerome's High School Memorial Fund... Annual awards to students in five WCDSB Secondary schools. Established by alumni of SJHS in memory of Father Michael Cundari, C.R. and William Winter, these funds support graduating students who have demonstrated exceptional effort in their school life and need financial support for their post-Secondary education.



The Grand River Chinese School Parent Association Fund... Established by a dedicated Chinese-Canadian parent association, this fund supports all aspects of Chinese heritage programs and courses offered at St Louis Alternative Education Centre as well as scholarships and bursaries for deserving students. The parent association executives makes recommendations to the Foundation board of directors on annual allocations of funds.

I am proud to share with you that the board of directors and staff of the new Catholic Community Foundation of Waterloo Region are committed to supporting our community in any way possible. If you need help, let us know and we will make every effort to assist. If you have the ability to support our efforts either financially or through volunteering your time, we welcome your engagement.

Vic Degutis, President E: VicDegutis@outlook.com C: 519.588.2426



Our Promise

The Catholic Community Foundation Of Waterloo Region Inc. values community and has a responsibility to offer a "hand up", empowering the life journey of the marginalized and vulnerable within the Region of Waterloo, with a focus on youth.

We believe in inclusion and equity and alignment with the 7 Social Teachings of the Catholic Church.

We are committed to cooperating and collaborating with community partners in all sectors to support and evolve common goals.



Visit Our New Website...

www.ccfowr.ca



Johnson Insurance has worked closely with the Catholic Community Foundation of Waterloo Region to provide helpful service and products that take care of your home and car insurance needs.

YOUR GROUP CODE FOR DISCOUNTS : OT

Call Johnson today at **1.877.742.7490**

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Calendar of Events

Friday, July 1

Canada Day

Monday, August 22

8:30am: HeadStart to Grade 9 (AM group)

12:00pm: HeadStart to Grade 9 (PM group)

Tuesday, August 23

8:30am: HeadStart to Grade 9 (AM group)

12:00pm: HeadStart to Grade 9 (PM group)

Wednesday, August 24

8:30am: HeadStart to Grade 9 (AM group)

12:00pm: HeadStart to Grade 9 (PM group)

Thursday, August 25

8:30am: HeadStart to Grade 9 (AM group)

12:00pm: HeadStart to Grade 9 (PM group)

Monday, September 5

Labour Day

Tuesday, September 6

First Day of 2022–2023 School Year

*Be sure to check out the
calendar on the school
website for updates!*

Did you know?

The 2022-2023 school year calendar for the WCDSB is available on the Board website. [Click here to see the elementary and secondary calendars.](#)



*Have a super
safe summer
Saints!*

The BENN Newsletter

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St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School

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