

## Catholic Education Week 2025

Superintendent of School Effectiveness Tracy O'Brien, and Board Faith Animator Fr. John Whyte, presented information to the Board of Trustees which highlighted the week-long celebration of Catholic Education Week from May 4-9, 2025. Themed "Catholic Education: Pilgrims of Hope" the activities held throughout the board closely aligned with the CDSBEO Multi-Year Strategic Plan, emphasizing spiritual growth, community engagement, and holistic education. Each day of the week carried a sub-theme: honouring human dignity, caring for creation, responding to poverties, serving in solidarity, and living as peacemakers. Schools participated in diverse activities, including charitable events, environmental projects, cultural showcases, and spiritual practices like praying the rosary. Students and staff also engaged in art, cultural events, and initiatives supporting organizations like Jump Rope for Heart and Ryan's Well.

A key feature of the week was the creation of Holy Doors by each CDSBEO school. Symbolizing hope, the doors were prominently displayed during the opening Mass at St. Peter Church in Cornwall, presided by Archbishop Marcel Dampousse of the Ottawa-Cornwall Archdiocese. The schools demonstrated their dedication and creativity in celebrating the unique identity of Catholic education, fostering faith, community, and hope, in alignment with Pope Francis' Jubilee Year of Hope.

"The celebration of Catholic Education Week truly showcases the profound impact of faith, community, and hope in shaping the lives of our students and staff. It is inspiring to see such creativity and dedication across our schools," concluded Chair Cummings.

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