

DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2022



DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2022

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I am extremely proud to present the 2021-2022 Director's Annual Report to our community which shines a bright light on the many student successes and celebrations in the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board (NPSC). This report illuminates our progress on our Board's strategic ENDS focused on Catholic Faith, Well-Being, Learning, Equity, Indigenous Education and Innovation.

A special note of gratitude and appreciation is extended to Anna Marie Bitonti, who retired this past Spring following an exemplary 37 years of service to Catholic Education and 20 years as Director of Education at NPSC.

This past year, our NPSC school communities continued to model tremendous flexibility, creativity, perseverance and resilience to renew student learning and well-being together. I would like to express my sincere gratitude and deep appreciation to our incredible senior leadership, education and support teams for their care, compassion and dedication to our students and families over the past two years. We are very proud of all of the successes achieved by our students and staff during this very challenging and unpredictable period.

Our ENDS serve as a call to respond to the needs of students so they may develop key competencies to support success in their future life path. As we reflect on this year, our students demonstrated tremendous hope, leadership and growth through:

- advocacy for the environment, honouring equity and diversity;
- leadership on our journey of Truth and Reconciliation;
- focus on mental health well-being to support their peers;
- engagement in the development of STEM and literacy skills;
- pursuit of experiential learning opportunities.

Our students demonstrated boundless optimism as they served as messengers of hope to others by supporting the most vulnerable in our communities, guided by our gospel values.

A notable highlight included our Board being named to the national shortlist of nominations for an Excellence in Governance award in the "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion" category, through the Governance Professionals of Canada. This honourable nomination demonstrates the rich history of excellence in leadership of our Board of Trustees in the implementation of the policy governance model and in the area of equity and diversity.

As I reflect on all of the accomplishments at NPSC in the past year, I am deeply honoured and humbled to have been appointed as Director of Education this past Spring. It is a true gift to serve our Board, students, staff, families and community partners in this new role and build upon the rich legacy of Catholic Education excellence at NPSC.

We remain committed to our vision and mission of providing our students and the families we serve with a high-quality Catholic education that is firmly **Rooted in Faith and Alive in Spirit**. We are grateful for the strong engagement of our entire community: our trustees, staff, parents, parishes and community partners, and we thank them for their support and dedication to our students so that they may reach their full potential.

We extend to you a heart-felt invitation to come and experience any of our 13 faith-filled, inclusive and innovative learning centres of excellence – a warm welcome awaits!

May God continue to bless our important work together in Catholic Education.

Paula Mann
Director of Education



DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2022

FROM THE CHAIR

Catholic education in Ontario dates back to 1804, when a young priest from Scotland, Father Alexander MacDonnell, opened the first Catholic schoolhouse near Kingston. Step by step, generation by generation, the Catholic school system grew, always mindful of everything Catholics held to be valuable and worthwhile - their beliefs, their various cultures and to French-Canadians, even their distinctive language. The Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board (NPSC) is blessed to be a part of the rich history of Catholic education in our province.

School years are meant to be the best years of our lives: a time to learn, a time to have fun, and a time to be full of good memories and friendships. NPSC is a caring community that embraces its commitment to achieving our strategic ENDS focused on the priorities of Faith, Well-Being, Learning, Equity, Indigenous Education, and Innovation.

The world of today and tomorrow, for our students, is rapidly changing, increasingly complex and globally interconnected. This generation of students has had their own distinct experience, differing from generations who walked before them. These issues are important as we think about our future – a good life and opportunity for all.

Our Board of Trustees is elected every four years and works to ensure the overall success of the school system through excellence in governance, a focus on our ENDS, our mission, vision and our financial well-being. Being accountable is first and foremost – the Board will always be open, transparent and accessible, and keeping our community informed is a priority. Over the past several years, our Trustees have gone throughout our area and have had in-person sessions with parents, clergy, employers, members of our First Nations and post-secondary institutions, and many others who make up our broader community to inform our strategic plan through our ENDS. This is a cyclical process, and we look forward to our future planned opportunities to connect with our community.

We invite you to take the time to read the Director's Annual Report prepared by our newly appointed Director of Education, Ms. Paula Mann. This report will reveal the accomplishment of our ENDS, demonstrating what sets us apart and what makes our schools so truly remarkable. Ms. Mann has had a distinguished career with our Board, beginning as a Teacher, becoming a Principal, then a Superintendent of Education and finally assuming the position of Director of Education.

Our successes do not belong to any one group or individual and we are truly grateful for the support and service of our entire staff, both inside and outside our classrooms. Finally, we extend appreciation to all of our families who entrust your children to our care and to everyone in our Catholic community who continue to support Catholic Education.



Shawn Fitzsimmons
Board Chair

NPSC HONOURS TRUSTEE LINDA JAMIESON

On October 28, 2021, the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board (NPSC) was profoundly saddened by the passing of Trustee Linda Jamieson. Motivated by her commitment to her faith and her passion for Catholic education, Linda served as Trustee of the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board from 2000 to 2006 and from 2010 to 2021, as a representative of the city of North Bay. She was an exemplary representative of NPSC who had a genuine interest in connecting with board stakeholders at every opportunity and sharing the board's priorities with them.

During her 17 years as a Trustee, Linda served on various board committees including the First Nations Advisory Committee, the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee, the Board Education committee, the Special Education Advisory Committee, the Audit Committee and the Policy Review working group. Linda joyfully embraced her role as a Catholic Trustee, illuminating her vision of a Catholic education that is Christ-centred, and keeping the achievement and well-being of our students at the core of her work and decisions.



In order to honour Linda's memory and her deep commitment to student leadership and Catholic Education, the NPSC Board of Trustees created the Linda Jamieson Memorial Award in the 2021-2022 school year. The award is provided each year to the Board's outgoing student trustee following their term. The first recipient of the award was Indigenous Student Trustee Grace Couchie in June 2022.



NPSC AT A GLANCE

3,015
STUDENTS
ENROLLED
AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2022



 **2,026**
ELEMENTARY
 **989**
SECONDARY



16%
INDIGENOUS
STUDENTS
AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2022



**7 TRUSTEES + 1 STUDENT TRUSTEE +
1 INDIGENOUS STUDENT TRUSTEE**



11
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOLS




1
SECONDARY
SCHOOL

974
STUDENTS ENROLLED
IN FRENCH IMMERSION
AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2022



 **775**
ELEMENTARY

 **199**
SECONDARY


90.6%
OF PRIMARY
CLASSES HAVE
20 OR FEWER
STUDENTS
IN THE CURRENT YEAR
AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2022



1 ADULT EDUCATION
CAMPUS 

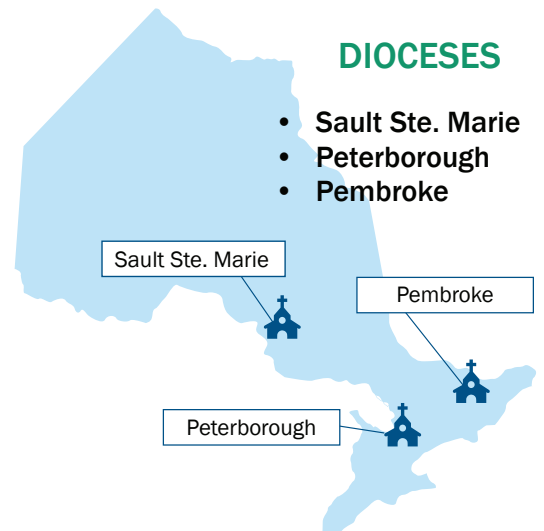


90%
PRIMARY CLASS
SIZE TARGET

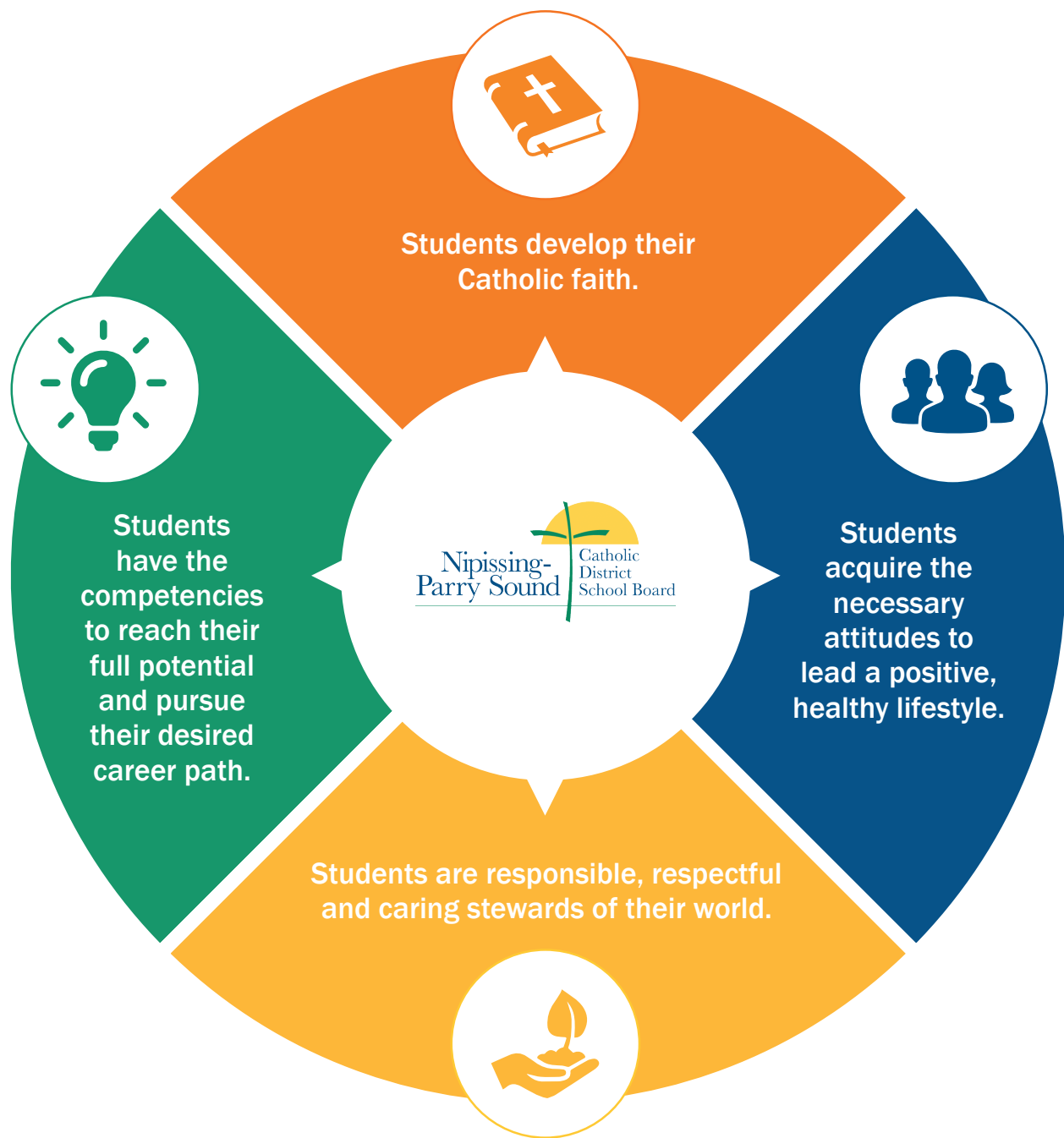


74%
OF STUDENTS
COMPLETED
16 CREDITS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2022
OF THEIR SECOND YEAR
OF SECONDARY SCHOOL

401
EMPLOYEES

NIPISSING-PARRY SOUND CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD ENDS



The Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board exists so that students, enlightened by their Catholic faith, become contributing, fulfilled responsible citizens of a global society, at a justifiable use of resources.

Students develop their Catholic faith.



- Students have knowledge of the history, teachings, values and doctrines of the Catholic faith.
- Students demonstrate an appreciation for the liturgical life of the Church and other faith-based activities both within the school and the parish.
- Students develop a faith that forms an integral part of their character, moral development, and values.

Students acquire the necessary attitudes to lead a positive, healthy lifestyle.



- Students are self-aware, self-assured and able to advocate for their needs and mental well-being.
- Students are adaptive and resilient.
- Students demonstrate an appreciation of physical well-being and participate in healthy activities.

Students are responsible, respectful and caring stewards of their world.



- Students are socially, digitally, and environmentally responsible within a global perspective.
- Students demonstrate caring, through their actions, for the marginalized and most vulnerable members of their communities.
- Students have a knowledge and appreciation of contemporary and traditional First Nation, Inuit and Métis traditions, history, cultures and perspectives.
- Students demonstrate a respect for and acceptance of diversity.

Students have competencies to reach their full potential and pursue their desired career path.



- Students have literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students have the skills and competencies to be responsible digital citizens.
- Students who wish to pursue trades have the necessary technological skills.
- Students have independent learning skills.
- Students have communication skills.
- Students have skills in a second language.
- Students can work collaboratively.
- Students demonstrate critical thinking, creativity, and innovation.
- Students have knowledge about managing personal finances.

STUDENTS DEVELOP THEIR CATHOLIC FAITH



SJSH Bears Supports Our Local Community

During the Lenten season, our SJSH students led the collection and donation of 624 food items for the school's food cupboard and various Catholic charities. These acts of generosity demonstrate the compassion of our students to support the needs of others including their peers, but also how our students are living expressions of our faith.

St. Theresa Doubles Goal for Terry Fox Fundraiser

In September 2022, students at St. Theresa School raised over \$13,000 through their annual Terry Fox Run fundraiser. This amount more than doubled their initial \$5,000 goal!

Students Tucker, Sydney and Kaeden, who cumulatively raised \$2,200, earned the honour of pouring a bucket of water over Principal Lamarche and Vice-Principal Lindeman! NPSC was moved by the generosity of our Catholic community and the leadership of our students and staff at St. Theresa School. It is a true demonstration of our gospel values in action and our call to serve the needs of our community.



Supporting our Community

This past year, NPSC schools and students demonstrated their faith in action through devoted care and concern for the most vulnerable in our community.

One of the many shining examples is the "Advent Food and Toy Drive". Led by NPSC Teacher Alethea Sorel, pictured right, her kindergarten students collected items from their peers' classes and graphed all items collected throughout the drive, which provided key opportunities to use foundational mathematics skills in an authentic learning activity. All toys and food items collected benefited individuals and families in the Powassan community via the local food drive. We are so proud and humbled by our students and staff who demonstrated that they truly live out the call to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our world.





SJSH Honours the Scollard 31 with Blessing of Grotto



This past year marked the return of in-person activities, and also realized the dream of commissioning a memorial plaque and grotto in honour of the “Scollard 31”.

In November 2022, St. Joseph-Scollard Hall (SJSH) held a Remembrance Day service to honour the Scollard 31. In order to commemorate our country’s veterans and the 352 Scollard students who served during World War II, SJSH’s Arts, Music, Drama, Dance and Mkwa Doodem programs paid a respectful Remembrance Day tribute for all students, guests and families in attendance. Following the service, Father Larry Rymes provided a blessing of the newly commissioned statue of Mary and Memorial Plaque, which is now in the school courtyard for all students to visit. Families of the Scollard 31 and SJSH Alumni were also in attendance to participate in the service.

Colin Vezina, a veteran of the Royal Canadian Naval Association, shared in a powerful way with our students and all those in attendance, the moving journey of his brother, Howard, who was one of the Scollard 31. Through his presentation, he shared our call to action as future generations to remember these young men who fought courageously for the freedoms we enjoy today as Canadians.

During World War II, 352 young men from the original Scollard Hall volunteered for military service. Tragically, 31 never made it back home and now lie in military cemeteries far across the world. In 1945, the mothers of these 31 young men wanted to honour the sacrifice of their children by establishing a memorial at the school. They chose a powerful symbol – a commissioned statue of Mary, Mother of Jesus, to rest in a tree-nestled grotto near the back of the school. SJSH continues to display the original list of young men who volunteered – lovingly created by one of the teachers during the war, Fr. Charles Brunck. Black crosses mark the names of those that died.

We are proud that a new statue and a new memorial plaque now proudly rest inside a courtyard at SJSH for all future generations to see.

NPSC Celebrates Catholic Education Week: *Rebuild, Restore, Renew Together*

Catholic Education Week was celebrated through in-person activities across NPSC during the first week of May 2022. The theme of Catholic Education Week was *Rebuild, Restore, Renew Together*. As a result of the lifting of public health measures in schools, our NPSC school communities were blessed to celebrate masses at our parishes and facilitate open houses at our schools.



STUDENTS ACQUIRE THE NECESSARY ATTITUDES

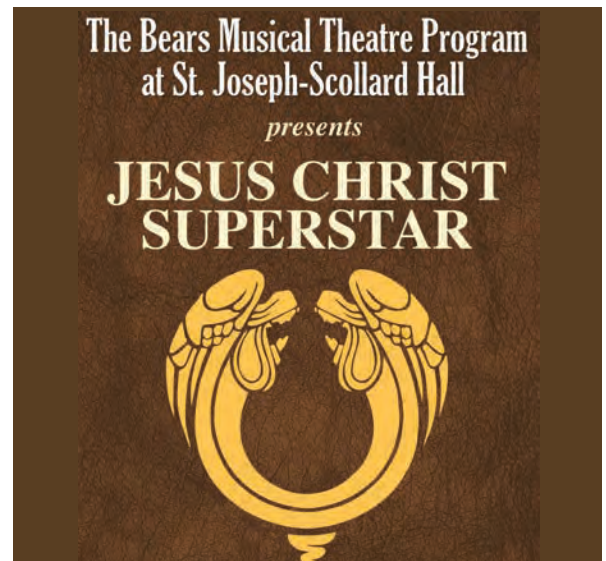
Hockey Canada Skills Academy Being Offered at SJSH



St. Joseph-Scollard Hall (SJSH) was proud to announce in May 2022, the offering of a licensed Hockey Canada Skills Academy for the 2022-2023 school year. This program began its inaugural year this September 2022 with 48 Grade 9 and 10 students participating. The program was designed to offer students the opportunity to experience the game of hockey in a non-competitive environment that focuses on a holistic approach to health, wellness and skill-building.

The program includes qualified instructors in specific skill areas (skating, shooting, passing, goaltending) who deliver hands-on learning through professional and knowledgeable drill sets that allow students to improve in all aspects of their game. Students also learn the importance of balanced nutrition and mental health and wellness that will support them in all facets of their lives. Through this program, students attain two credits: a Physical and Health Education and Religious Education credit.

The SJSH Hockey Canada Skills Academy program provides an inclusive opportunity for students of all genders to combine academics and athletics and to support their development as they navigate through their high school career. NPSC is proud of our students and staff for making this program a tremendous success and are eager to see what's next on the ice.



Jesus Christ Superstar! - A SJSH Bears Musical Theatre Presentation

In December 2021, students and staff in the Bears Musical Theatre Program at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall (SJSH) worked diligently to prepare a special performance of the classic Broadway hit: *Jesus Christ Superstar!* The production serves as an example of how NPSC students and staff persevered and exercised creativity and innovation to rise above the challenges of the pandemic to provide another outstanding performance to our community.

Based on the Gospels' accounts of the last week of Jesus' life, *Jesus Christ Superstar!* is a rock opera with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice. The SJSH Musical Theatre program invited community members to view the production virtually from the comfort of their own home over the course of a few days during the middle of the pandemic.

The planning and facilitation of this musical theatre production included consultation with our local Public Health Unit and followed all enhanced health and safety protocols inclusive of daily self-screening, student cohorting and masking requirements.



St. Joseph-Scollard Hall - Indigenous Speaker Series



The St. Joseph-Scollard Hall (SJSH) Mkwā Doodem Student Council and Mr. Tory Fisher's Grades 11 and 12 Indigenous Studies classes hosted an Indigenous Speakers Series last April, which brought Indigenous community members and knowledge carriers to share with students how to stay on a good path to reach Mno-bmaadziwin, the good life path.

The speaker series took place in the SJSH auditorium, where all students were invited to attend. The speaker series featured local and prominent Indigenous community leaders, who shared their own personal stories. Among the speakers were Deverick Ottereyes-Rupert, a Nipissing University graduate and hockey player, and Robbie Couchie, a former Canadian Armed Forces Commissioned Military Officer. In addition, there was a Mkwā Doodem student council-led panel discussion and a welcoming greeting with a drum song from local community members.

Gchi-miigwech to all our guest speakers and students who helped make this event possible!

Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe: Everyday Resiliency in Ever-Changing Times

In March 2022, the NPSC Parent Involvement Committee was pleased to welcome multi-award-winning psychology and education instructor Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe for a free virtual information session entitled "Everyday Resiliency in Ever-Changing Times" for parents, staff and community partners.

Dr. Hanley Dafoe specializes in resiliency, navigating stress and change, leadership, and personal wellness in the workplace. The presentation included an introduction to her theory "Everyday Resiliency: The 5 Pillars" and shared strategies to help foster each specific pillar within ourselves and others through research-informed, accessible storytelling and real-world applications.

This virtual event was provided by a Ministry of Education Parents Reaching Out Grant while sponsored by the NPSC Parent Involvement Committee. Thank you to Dr. Hanley Dafoe for providing her inspirational messages and practical learning experience to our Catholic school communities.



21st Annual Carousel Event Features Dr. Patrick Carney

NPSC's Board's Special Education Advisory and Parent Involvement committees jointly planned for its 21st Annual Carousel Event, an evening for parents, guardians, community partners and NPSC staff. The event took place in April 2022 and featured keynote speaker, Psychologist Dr. Patrick Carney.

His presentation "Well Aware Model of Mental Health & Well-Being for Children with Exceptional Needs" highlighted how to support children with special education needs in their social-emotional growth.

STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE, RESPECTFUL AND

SJSH S.O.L.E. Class Helps Keep Waterfront Beautiful!



On May 6, 2022, students from St. Joseph-Scollard Hall's (SJSH) outdoor leadership and environmental studies (S.O.L.E.) program took the reins on a community-wide clean up of the famous North Bay waterfront (pictured left).

Both students and staff took to the boardwalk to clean up the shoreline and the surrounding area. Through taking action and cleaning up the local landmark, SJSH sought to do a good community deed, while advocating a more eco-friendly lifestyle that the school embodies. With the support from EcoSchools, a non-profit charitable organization in Toronto, and through their online environmentally

cautious certification program, S.O.L.E. students were able to not only tidy the beaches of Lake Nipissing, but promote the cleanup online for others to follow suit. In addition to touching up the waterfront area from litter and debris, the students also instituted a food garden, which saw all food grown be donated to local food shelters.

Our S.O.L.E. students are commended for their leadership in modelling environmental action in our local community. By keeping the community clean by reducing pollution, the students hope to inspire others across the city to do the same.

SJSH Raises Over \$1,000 for the Ukraine Crisis Campaign

In March 2022, students at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall raised \$1,021.50 for the Ukraine Crisis campaign, via the Canadian Red Cross. The Student Advisory Council made 700 yellow ribbons, in solidarity and in Ukrainian spirit, for students and staff to purchase and adorn.



NPSC Schools Recognize Orange Shirt Day & Treaties Recognition Week



Our schools participated in Treaties Recognition Week through a variety of educational and interactive learning activities. Schools participated in activities that helped students learn about treaties and many also developed their own classroom treaties and wampum belts. Several guest speakers and elders were also invited to speak to classes and educators using specific resources such as *We are all Treaty People*, *Back to Batoche* and *Taking Care of Mother Earth* in classroom activities and instruction to help raise awareness about treaty rights and responsibilities and to build a better understanding of Indigenous history, culture and perspectives.

At St. Joseph-Scollard Hall (SJSH), a highlight of Treaties Recognition Week was the Expert Panel that was facilitated by Nishnaabemwin educator, Mr. Tory Fisher, and included guests including Indigenous Student Trustee Grace Couchie, Indigenous Graduation Coach Mr. Jordan Mowat, and Elder George Couchie. Each guest shared a unique perspective, an Indigenous worldview and specialized knowledge to share with the SJSH student body. The session was interactive and allowed opportunity for students to ask questions about the significance of the local treaty territory and about treaties in general.



NPSC Recognizes and Celebrates National Indigenous Peoples Day: Our Lady of Sorrows School Hosts Day of Learning and Celebration

On June 21, 2022, NPSC students and staff were excited to recognize National Indigenous People's Day, a day for all Canadians to recognize and celebrate the unique heritage, languages, diverse cultures and outstanding contributions of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. St. Joseph-Scollard Hall students and staff teamed up with Our Lady of Sorrows school students and staff to co-host a day of learning and celebration at Our Lady of Sorrows school. Students from Mother St. Bride, St. Alexander, Our Lady of Fatima and Our Lady of Sorrows schools collaboratively participated in workshops on Nishnaabemwin language, teepee teachings, and traditional Indigenous sports; an opportunity accompanied by cultural teachings on the strawberry, sacred medicines and traditional lodges. The day concluded with a mini pow wow.

NPSC is proud to celebrate, promote and recognize Indigenous Peoples Day and continuously looks forward to advancing the cultures and heritage of our students and surrounding area.



NIIGAAN GDIZHAAMI Project - Indigenous Youth Retreat

In partnership between the Kinoomaadziwin Education Body and the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board (NPSC), a project proposal was jointly submitted and approved to support an Indigenous Youth Retreat for secondary students. The Indigenous Youth Retreat included 25 Indigenous and non-Indigenous students, and connected them to land-based, cultural and Nishnaabemwin educational programming. The goal was to educate the whole student group and took place in the community of Nipissing First Nation over a four-day period in October 2022.

Participating students gained an increased knowledge and understanding of Anishinabek histories, cultures, perspectives, languages, and Bimaadziwin, or traditional Anishinaabe knowledge, that has been passed down from one generation to the next through Kendaaswin or ceremonial teachings.

Blessing and Grand Opening of St. Theresa's Outdoor Classroom

In September 2022, St. Theresa's newly constructed outdoor classroom was blessed by Father Daniele Muscolino. The blessing and grand opening of the outdoor classroom represented the school's vision of bringing experiential learning opportunities to students in an outdoor space to life. This project began as a Teacher Learning and Leadership Program initiative with a focus on outdoor education.



STUDENTS HAVE THE COMPETENCIES TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL AND

NPSC Offers Summer Indigenous Transition Program



This past summer, NPSC supported Indigenous students in Grades 7 through 10 by keeping them engaged with staff, through thoughtful facilitation of the transition from elementary to secondary school. The goal of the program was to build positive relationships among the student group by working with students and families to identify possible barriers and solutions to student learning, engagement and well-being. Our transition coaches, Ms. Hannah Turcotte and Mr. Adam Driscoll, provided a wide variety of activities that connected the students to Indigenous culture and fostered friendships among the students to ease their transition to high school in September. A variety of local Elders and knowledge keepers provided traditional teachings, while several community partners also served to build relationships with the students and provided connection to various resources available to them outside of the school community.

Some examples of the activities included: traditional crafts, school tours, field trips to Nipissing University and Canadore College, land-based learning by building a lodge, and hosting an end of the summer traditional feast. The program was a resounding success and the students felt well supported to begin high school.

Programming the Future with FIRST® LEGO® League Fairs

In May 2022, we were thrilled to host our FIRST® LEGO League Challenge Class Pack Fair at St. Luke School. The FIRST® LEGO League Class pack program was offered to NPSC classrooms and proved to offer a high-quality, project-based-learning environment to their students while implementing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) skills. Guided by teachers through innovation and creativity, students developed innovative solutions to real-world problems, as well as designing, building and coding a LEGO® robot to solve themed challenge missions.

Teachers reported that through these STEM opportunities, students acquired new, essential and transferable skills where students became the facilitators of new learning.

Parents, staff and media also attended the fair, which consisted of two major elements: group presentations of Innovation Projects, as well as a tournament-style Robot Challenge. Student teams showcased their oral communication, literacy and STEM skills as they shared their solutions and completed various challenges in the mini-competition at the school. All students were recognized for their enthusiastic participation, collaboration and innovative team thinking.



PURSUE THEIR DESIRED CAREER PATH



Summer Challenge Returns to NPSC with *All Shook Up!*

Since 2003, the Summer Challenge program has provided an exciting opportunity for students in Grades 7 to 12 to completely immerse themselves into the arts world. In this program, students gain a unique musical theatre experience through their specific roles, whether as one of the play's characters, as dancers, singers, musicians, or as a member of the technical crew. The entire cast works together to provide an energetic theatrical experience for the entire community to enjoy.



Following a two-season hiatus due to the pandemic, NPSC was thrilled to bring Summer Challenge back to the local community with the production of *All Shook Up*, featuring the timeless music of Elvis Presley. Inspired by Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night", *All Shook Up* is an upbeat comedy about a magical jukebox, a leather-jacketed stranger, and the impact they have on a loveless town in the 1950's. Approximately 60 students were expertly led by an exemplary caring team of adults to provide a first-class program.

12 Days of Coding!



During the 2021-2022 school year, approximately 300 students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 participated in the annual NPSC Twelve Blocks of Christmas. Students participated in the competition by engaging with the board's curated coding activities throughout the 12 school days that the challenge offered. The activities were centred around core curriculum topics and were divided by grade level. Observations by classroom teachers and the Technology Enabled Learning Facilitator revealed that students began to understand complex coding concepts and programming language.

Students as young as kindergarten were learning algorithms by programming robots to do basic commands and functions. Students developed their coding skills using various programs supported by NPSC, including a program called Scratch.

Experiential Learning at NPSC



This past year, NPSC continued its rich history of leading and participating in both the School College Work Initiative (SCWI) and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP). Both programs bring college and school board staff together to develop forums, activities and dual credit programs that facilitate the transition to postsecondary learning for many secondary school students, while providing opportunities for students to experience careers in the skilled trades.

In an effort to engage both our elementary and secondary students in a process to build awareness of and gain knowledge about the skilled trades, a variety of experiential learning opportunities were offered through both OYAP and SCWI during the 2021-2022 school year. Several experiences were designed to support our students in both in-person and virtual learning environments. For each event, educators and students participated from their home schools and were guided virtually to complete a hands-on project, linked to various skilled trades.

Student workshop titles included: "Building Miniature Picnic Table", "Building A Shed", "Building A Miniature Dragster", "Pizza Night", "Building A Model Handbot", "Kendaaswin SCWI Workshop" and "Easter Egg Decorating".

Summer Learning at NPSC

Mental Health & Well-being

This past summer we were fortunate to offer a social skills camp for primary students using the evidence-based program, “You are a Social Detective”. NPSC Mental Health Lead Trish Tessier and social worker Andre McKennedy hosted this two-week camp for five students who benefited from the small group program. The program focused on understanding their social environment, developing social-emotional learning, self-regulation, and engaging students in learning new calming strategies to assist them with coping in a larger group learning environment. The program incorporated typical school day transitions to and from gym, recess and snack time.



Evidence-Based Reading Intervention

NPSC hosted 28 Kindergarten to Grade 3 students in an evidence-based reading intervention program. The in-person program was led by our English Catholic Curriculum Coordinator Samantha Andrusiek, which included two teachers and three Tutors from the Tutor Supports Program who supported the programming and instruction of the students. Students developed skills in a variety of areas including phonological awareness, sight word recognition, reading decodable books and guided reading, which are foundational skills and were identified as areas of need in developing the students to becoming proficient readers. Parents were also directly engaged in their child’s learning by completing daily activities at home such as reading decodable books and reviewing sight words.

Supporting Students With Special Education Needs

Our Special Education Summer program was host to 40 elementary students and 20 secondary students in July and August 2022. The program was offered to students with multiple exceptionalities and included a variety of hands-on learning activities. Led by the Coordinator of Special Education Theresa Bitonti and a team of teachers, this program provided students with opportunities to build upon their communication and socialization skills.

Various interactive sessions included: learning to cook, dancing, creating art, playing an instrument and practicing recreational skills.

CODE Summer Learning

This past summer, a total of 36 students participated in the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) Summer Learning program for students in Grades 3-6, sponsored by the Council of Directors in Education (CODE). The focus of the program was to support learning with a high focus on further developing reading, writing and mathematics skills using “STEAM Education”. NPSC partnered once again with Science North to offer regular coding workshops and “Ask a Scientist” sessions. Families of students were also invited to learn from these sessions, which enhanced both levels of student and parent engagement. A key component of the program was parent engagement, where the teachers established regular opportunities to discuss with parents their individual child’s needs as well as provided resources to support their learning and development.

Tutoring Supports Program

NPSC recruited seven tutors to support the “Tutoring Supports” program in the latter half of the 2021-2022 school year. The tutor program ensures the delivery of literacy and numeracy support to students (Kindergarten through Grade 12) in support of their achievement and well-being. These tutoring supports focused on students at risk and who have been impacted by learning disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

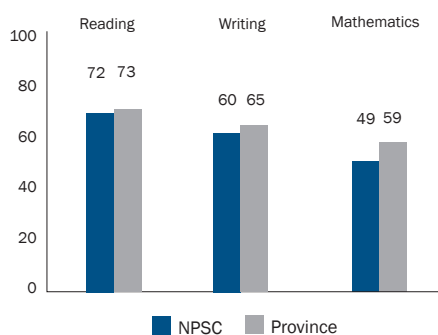
NPSC also invested in several valuable resources including decodable books to be used to support students who are struggling to read and some supplemental mathematics resources that the tutors used with specific students based on individual needs.

EQAO ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS 2021-2022

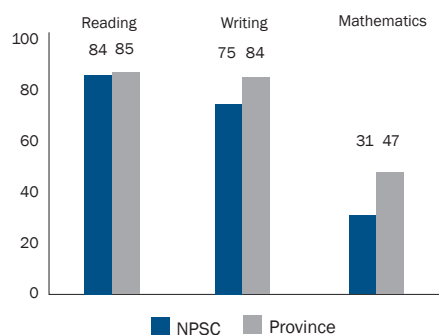
Following a pause for the previous two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) released provincial and board data from its 2021–2022 assessments. Students across our NPSC schools participated in the EQAO assessments. Our Board EQAO data reveals NPSC student outcomes are similar to those of other jurisdictions, where the pandemic has had a more significant impact on mathematics than on literacy achievement.

It is important to note that EQAO results for this past school year report on the achievement results of its new digitalized and modernized assessments, which introduced a new online model of assessment delivery that differs from that of the prior paper-based assessments. As a result of the modernization of the EQAO assessments, this past year’s results represent a new baseline of data both at the local and provincial levels.

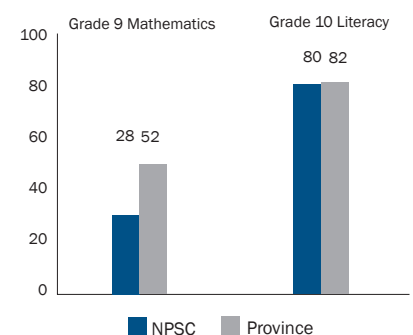
PRIMARY - GRADE 3



JUNIOR - GRADE 6



SECONDARY



HONOURING SERVICE TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Celebrating 25 Years of Service and Retirement



We were so pleased and excited to recognize and honour our 25-year employees and our retirees on November 3, 2022, who reached this milestone over the past two years. Over 70 family members, staff and friends gathered for an evening of recognition and reconnecting. We thank you for your service to NPSC and Catholic Education! Prayerful best wishes to all of our retirees on your next adventure!

Retirement of Anna Marie Bitonti, Director of Education



This past May 2022 marked the retirement of Anna Marie Bitonti following an accomplished 20 years in the role of Director of Education for NPSC. Throughout her tenure as Director, Ms. Bitonti remained steadfast in her focus on student success and supporting all students in reaching their full potential. NPSC honoured Ms. Bitonti's service to Catholic Education and her retirement at an open house on June 2, 2022. Our NPSC community deeply values the legacy of leadership in Catholic Education Ms. Bitonti fostered and we extend our prayerful best wishes for much health and happiness in retirement!



Trustee Judy Manitowbi Recognized for 25 Years of Service

This past year, we honoured the retirement of Judy Manitowabi, Trustee representing Nipissing First Nation. Serving NPSC as a Trustee for 20 years, Judy provided visionary leadership to our Board in her role representing Nipissing First Nation over the many years. With her leadership and wise counsel, the Board developed specific strategic priorities (ENDS) in Indigenous Education for all students, expanded Indigenous Language and Culture programs, deepening our focus on equity, diversity and our Truth and Reconciliation journey.

Chi-Miigwech Judy and we wish you much continued success for the future!



NPSC Nominated for Excellence in Governance Awards

In Fall 2022, the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board (NPSC) was honoured to be shortlisted for an Excellence in Governance award, in the "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion" category, through the Governance Professionals of Canada. These awards recognize and celebrate the dedication and contribution that governance professionals, their boards and their organizations make toward raising the bar on good governance practices in Canada. NPSC joined 22 organizations from a variety of sectors and was the only school board in Canada shortlisted. The nomination for the *Excellence in Governance* award focused specifically on the work of NPSC in the areas of Indigenous Education, Truth and Reconciliation, Special Education, Mental Health, and Board linkage with the community. Representatives of the Board of Trustees including Chair Shawn Fitzsimmons and Trustee Judy Manitowabi attended the *Excellence in Governance Awards* on November 17, 2022. Although NPSC was not named the finalist in this category, it was an honour to be nominated and shortlisted for this national award.

OUR TEAM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Chair Shawn Fitzsimmons
(City of North Bay)



Vice-Chair Barbara McCool
(City of North Bay)



Jacques Bégin
(East and South of the City of North Bay)



Leo de Jourdan
(City of North Bay)



Mike Sawyer
(Nipissing First Nation)



Shelly Warren
(City of North Bay)



John Willemsen
(West Nipissing)

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION



L-R: Audrey Gribbons (Assistant Superintendent of Education), Jody Weller (Superintendent of Education), Paula Mann (Director of Education), Grace Barnhardt (Executive Superintendent of Corporate Services & Treasurer)



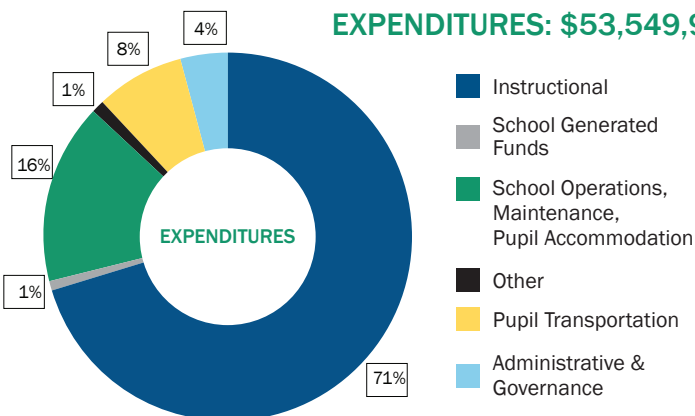
Student Trustee Allison Patenaude
(2021-2023)



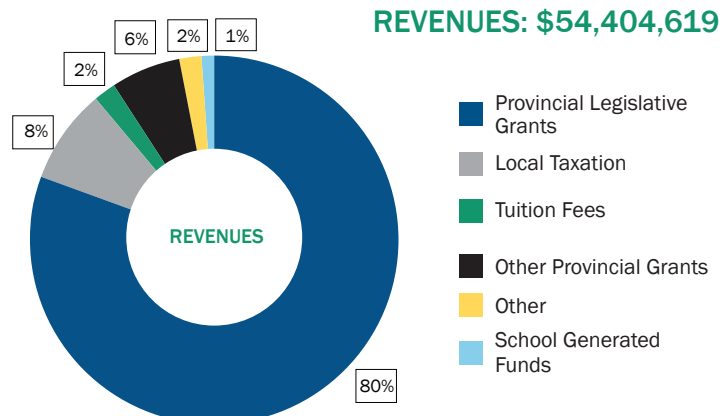
Indigenous Student Trustee Lauren Lacelle
(2022-2023)

BOARD OPERATIONS

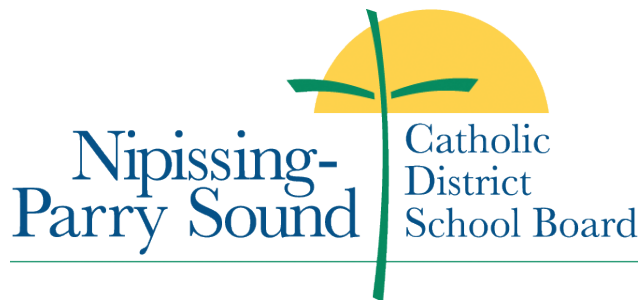
EXPENDITURES: \$53,549,950



REVENUES: \$54,404,619



ROOTED IN FAITH ALIVE IN SPIRIT



1000 High Street
North Bay, Ontario
P1B 6S6
705-472-1201
contact@npsc.ca



www.npsc.ca     