



**Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board**  
**Board of Trustees ~ Meeting Highlights**  
**January 25, 2021**

**February's Virtue ~ Empathy**

Empathy is being able to identify with, and feel the concerns, feelings and needs of another person. A person of empathy is able to listen sensitively, understand and lovingly "be with" another person. Empathy is at the heart of the ministry of Jesus who first sought to love and understand the people he later healed, and empathy is also at the heart of discipleship.

*Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart and a humble mind.*

1 Hebrews 3.8



**Catholic Faith & Culture**



Chairperson Lori DiCatri delivered her [Inaugural Address](#) to the Board of Trustees. The full address is also available on the Board's website.

**Director's Report ~ Gary O'Donnell, Director of Education**

**The Closure Period:** Teachers were engaged in Remote Learning with their students since the Christmas Break. Five Sites opened with approximately 15 students receiving special education supports and services, and Child Care Centres remained open. All Staff who could work at home, worked at home and are continuing to do so (CEC staff). Reminder - families are eligible for \$200 from the Ministry of Education (K-12).



**Return to School:** The decision was made by the Minister of Education on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 based on the up to date data. Return to school is scheduled for January 25, 2021. Communication has been shared with our schools and families. The decision was made by specific health regions. We met with Public Health on Wednesday afternoon, and discussed updates to Protocols which include: Enhanced Screening Protocols, Masking for Students 1-3, Requirements for mask wearing outdoors, and possible Asymptomatic Targeted Testing.

### Faith Formation Activities:

**Theology on Tap - January 20** – with Dan Moynihan. Dan shared reflections on the theme “In this time of challenges... and looking at them as an obstacle to overcome” and in terms of our Catholic Faith.

Approximately 40 staff attended this virtual event.



### Upcoming Events:

- Saturday, Feb 6th at 6:30 pm - joint event with wellness committee, Comedy with Bob Cates - Christian comedian
- Trivia Night with Ross and Bob Upgren Wednesday February 10th @ 6:30 - hoping for at least one representative from each school

**Indigenous Education Presentation** – Dr. Niigan Sinclair, a professor at the University of Manitoba, spoke to BGCD SB staff through a Google Meets presentation January 19, 2021. This was an outstanding presentation, where Dr. Sinclair shared the five principles of Indigenous Education. He talked about the challenges, but also shared a message of hope.



#### **FIVE PRINCIPLES IN INDIGENOUS EDUCATION (IE)**

1. Indigenous Education spans every subject, every field, every area.
2. Indigenous Education invites and includes the community - aka: EVERYBODY.
3. Indigenous Education encompasses the entirety of human experience, especially “mystery”.
4. Indigenous Education is primarily process-driven, not product-driven.
5. Indigenous Education is about the future, not the past.

**Career Night** – January 12, 2021 – This was another event that moved online this year, but proved to be a great success.



### OCSTA Recognizes Trustee Bev Eckensweiler

Congratulations is extended to Trustee Bev Eckensweiler who was recently honoured with the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Associations (OCSTA) Presidency Award for her service to Catholic Education. [Read the full media release.](#)



### Kindergarten Registration –

 A poster for Kindergarten Registration 2021-2022 for the Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board (BGCDSB). It features a colorful logo with the word "Kindergarten" in large, multi-colored letters and "Registration 2021-2022" below it. The text "for all BGCDSB schools is NOW OPEN" is in a red banner. Below that, it says "Register online today [bgcdsb.org/register](http://bgcdsb.org/register) or contact your local elementary school for more information [www.bgcdsb.org](http://www.bgcdsb.org)". It also includes a paragraph about welcoming new students and their families for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year, with bullet points for Junior and Senior Kindergarten eligibility.

Due to the pandemic, we were unable to hold our “Let’s Learn” Kindergarten Registrations in the fall. Kindergarten registration is ongoing, and we continue to promote in local newspapers, social media, through signage, etc. We encourage families to visit the Board [website](#) or call their local school to register. [Contact information for Schools](#)

It is also time for grade 9 registration for our secondary schools. Please contact visit the Board website or call your local high school to register.

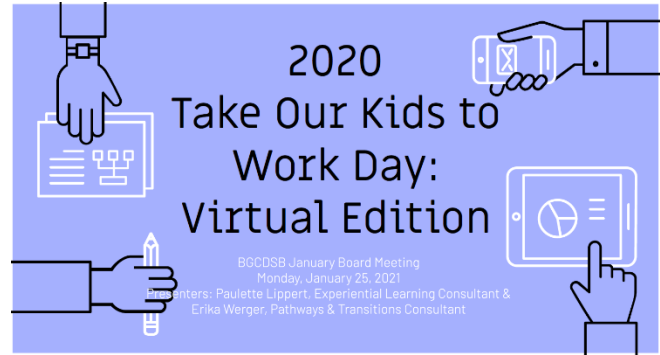
A banner for St. Mary's High School. It has a dark blue background with white text. It says "St. Mary's High School" at the top, followed by "September 2021 Registration NOW OPEN". Below that, it says "Contact 519-376-4278" and "http://bgcdsb.org/register". There is a QR code and a small logo for St. Mary's.

A banner for Sacred Heart High School. It has a red and black background with white text. It says "Sacred Heart High School" at the top, followed by "September 2021 Registration NOW OPEN". Below that, it says "Contact 519-881-1900" and "http://bgcdsb.org/register". There is a QR code and a small logo for Sacred Heart High School.

## Student Achievement Skills and Pathways

### Take your Kid to Work Day

Paulette Lippert, Experiential Learning Consultant and Erika Werger, Pathways & Transitions Consultant, shared information on this year's Take Our Kids to Work Day. This event was virtual this year, held on November 18, 2020. View their presentation [here](#).



### PPM 164

Cathy DeGoey, Superintendent of Education, provided Trustees with an overview of *PPM 164 on Remote Learning Requirements*. BGCSB is committed to implementing these guidelines so students receive a consistent approach to remote learning in times of extended interruption to conventional in-person learning or for those families who are choosing to opt-out of conventional in-person learning at school. A memo was provided to staff on remote learning requirements, including implementation and reporting, and effective practices to support students.

## Stewardship of Our Resources

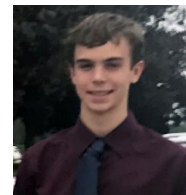
### New Board and School Websites

Sam Goving, Marketing & Training Support Services Manager, provided Trustees with a walk-through of the newly updated websites. Check it out at <https://www.bgcsb.org/> From the Board site you can easily navigate to all the school sites as well.

## Student Trustee Reports

### Student Trustee Reports:

**Quinton Rodgers ~ St. Mary's High School Owen Sound**  
(no report available)



**Baxter Legace ~ Sacred Heart High School Walkerton**

### Catholic Faith & Culture

- The morning announcements were very uplifting throughout online learning. The vice-principal, Mr. Dunn gives inspirational quotes and encouraging messages to the students. As Well as Mr. Van Straten putting funny videos for student's birthdays.
- Mrs. McGillivray is encouraging others to donate money to help the community of Igloolik, Nunavut. Mrs. McGillivray took students to the community last year for a school trip and the town recently had a fire in a co-op store.



### Student Achievement

- Megan Martin, a grade 12 student also received a grant from Ledge Leadership. The grant is going to support healthy activity living within the genesis program.



### ***Mental Health & Well Being***

- Mr. Koebel and myself helped Sacred Heart receive a grant from Ledge Leadership and the Grey Bruce Youth Engagement Network. The grant is going towards outdoor equipment for students to use.

### ***Policy & Procedure***

**The following Policy was approved by motion:**

- BP 6-37 and AP 6-37 Assessment Evaluation Grading and Reporting

The next Policy Review Committee Meeting is February 17, 2021. [Policies and Procedures](#) as well as Policies and Procedures under review can be viewed on the board website at [www.bgcdsb.org](http://www.bgcdsb.org)

### ***Committee Reports***

**SEAC (Special Education Advisory Committee)** – Mike Lemme

December 16, 2020 SEAC held a virtual meeting hosted by Sacred Heart School Mildmay. Principal Brad Lacey and Teacher Lindsey Brigden share some information about Sacred Heart. For 2020/21 they have 127 in person students, 8 virtual students (5 families), and 3 families moved to homeschooling. A brief update on things happening at the school was shared and the school team is happy with the progress that is being made. SEAC has 2 new reps from the community, Debbie Shore Reid representing the Learning Disabilities Association of London, and Marlene Webb from Community Living Walkerton. The January SEAC meeting was cancelled. The next SEAC meeting is February 17, 2021.

**SAL (Supervised Alternative Learning)** – Robyn Garvey

The SAL Committee met in November with a Sacred Heart High School SAL student and again in January with a St. Mary's High School SAL student. As always the SAL team worked collaboratively to put together individualized plans to support, encourage and assist these students on the road to success. The team around the virtual SAL table do an incredible job tailoring each plan to meet the unique needs of the student. It is very evident how vested every member is in the success of each student that comes through the SAL program. Robyn also pointed out what incredible students we have in the SAL program. This program relies on a team effort, and parents also play an important role on this team.

### **Dates of Interest:**

January 27, 2021 – NTIP Committee – 9:15am - virtual  
February 12, 2021 – Indigenous Education Advisory Committee – 9:30am - virtual  
February 16, 2021 – Communications Committee – 9:30am - virtual  
February 16, 2021 – Organizational Culture & Well-Being – virtual – 2:00pm  
February 17, 2021 – SEAC – 10:30am – virtual  
February 22, 2021 – Board Meeting – 9:15am Committee of the Whole – 10:30am Open – virtual  
February 24, 2021 – Community Partners Meeting – 5:00pm - - virtual  
March 11, 2021 – Catholicity Committee – 1:30pm - virtual  
March 11, 2021 – Mental Health Advisory Committee – 9:00am – Virtual  
March 17, 2021 – SEAC – 10:30am – Virtual – Hosted by Sacred Heart Teeswater  
March 22, 2021 – Board Meeting – 9:15am Committee of the Whole – 10:30am Open – virtual  
April 14, 2021 – NTIP Committee – 9:15am - virtual  
April 15, 2021 – AODA Committee – 1:30pm - virtual  
April 21, 2021 – Innovative Leadership Strategy Committee – 1:30pm - virtual  
April 21, 2021 – SEAC – 10:30am – Virtual – Hosted by St. Mary's High School Owen Sound  
April 26, 2021 – Board Meeting – 9:15am Committee of the Whole – 10:30am Open – virtual  
May 1, 2021 – OCSTA Virtual AGM – 9:00am to 12:00pm

The next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for **Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 at 10:30a.m.**