



# NEWS NEWS NEWS

September 16, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Halton Catholic Board Celebrates 40th Anniversary With New Vision

Since the amalgamation in 1969 of the four municipal separate school boards of Burlington, Oakville, Milton and Georgetown into the Halton Roman Catholic Separate School Board, the Board has grown and transformed into a vibrant Catholic School Board that provides the best of Catholic education, from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 and Continuing Education to over 29,000 students in Halton Region at 40 elementary and 8 secondary schools as well as its 2 Continuing Education/ Adult Learning Centres in Oakville and Burlington.

The Board has become a provincial leader in student achievement in literacy and numeracy, as well as in Special Education and is distinguished by its commitment to servant leadership, continuous school improvement planning and the preservation of the enduring gift of Catholic education.

This year, the Halton Catholic District School Board commemorates its 40th anniversary as a Catholic School Board and its commitment to delivering Catholic education to the communities that it serves.

The Trustees of the Halton Catholic District School Board affirmed a new vision at the September 15, 2009 Regular Board Meeting to both acknowledge this milestone anniversary and to provide a clear direction that reflects the purpose and values of the Board. This Vision Statement will assist the system as it embarks on a collective strategic renewal process to address the challenges in Catholic education that the new decade will present.

Trustees were very pleased to celebrate this **Vision Statement - *The Halton Catholic District School Board is a model learning community, widely recognized as distinctively Catholic, providing exceptional education, while nurturing the call to love and to serve as a people of faith, living out God's plan.***

Trustees believe that it clearly communicates the strategic direction of the system's next phase in its ongoing development and growth. Trustees directed the senior management team of the Board to share the Vision Statement as plans are formulated to engage all stakeholders in dialogue that will lead to a process of active renewal and strategic planning, guided by the Board's Mission and Vision.

"As trustees, we are proud of this Vision Statement which we believe powerfully conveys the direction for our system growth, while providing clear decision-making criteria to motivate and inspire our stakeholders to achieve our common vision for Catholic education in Halton," explains Alice Anne LeMay, Chair of the Halton Catholic District School Board. "It paints a vivid and clear picture that aligns with our organization's Catholic values and culture, and describes where we are going and what we hope to achieve."

"Renewal and strategic planning are exciting processes that empower us to explore what is possible. It affirms our belief that dreams can be achieved and challenges can be conquered through shared effort and common purpose," says Michael W. Pautler, Director of Education, Halton Catholic District School Board. "We will build on our rich traditions and draw upon the dedication, expertise and gifts of all of our partners in Catholic education to pursue new possibilities and avenues. In so doing, we will continue to fulfill the promise of Catholic education and ensure that our Catholic learning communities maintain their culture of high learning expectations rooted in faith."

-30-

For more information, please contact:

**Alice Anne LeMay**

Chair of the Board

Halton Catholic District School Board

(905) 825-2108

Alternate Media Contact:

**Chris Jewell**

Administrator, Communications Services

Halton Catholic District School Board

(905) 632-6314 ext. 157