



NEWS NEWS NEWS

October 6, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Halton Catholic Board To Host Second Annual Parent Conference

On **Saturday, October 17, 2009** the Halton Catholic District School Board's *Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC)* will host its second annual one-day Catholic Parent Conference for parents and community members at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, 2420 Sixth Line, Oakville, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

"The conference theme - *Walking Together in Faith*," explains Alice Anne LeMay, Chair of the Halton Catholic District School Board, "emphasizes that a Catholic school, inspired by the spirit of Christ, seeks to enrich the human person, so that each can develop and fulfill one's potential. As stated by Pope John Paul II, the Catholic school is a community effort, one that cannot succeed without the cooperation of all concerned - the students, the parents, the teachers, the principals and pastors."

This year's keynote speaker, Teresa Hartnett, the Director of Services, Office of Ministry, Family and Religious Education of the Diocese of Hamilton, will challenge participants with the theme 'Weaving the Catholic Partnership'. Noting that children thrive in loving families, she acknowledges that families need the support of many to raise healthy, happy and spiritual children. Teresa will reinforce that at the heart of our Catholic teachings is a message of our connectedness as people of God. Stating that strong Catholic partnerships produce children strong in faith and ability, she will challenge participants to weave partnerships of great strength for all of their children's sake.

Following the keynote address, participants will share in the Celebration of the Eucharist by His Excellency Bishop Gerard Bergie, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Hamilton.

The 15 workshops that are scheduled will engage participants in topics such as raising faith-filled families, Internet and personal safety, as well as Curriculum and Special Education related topics, as outlined on the conference website - www.hcdsb.org/conference.

"This second annual conference is an excellent opportunity for our parents to come together to dialogue and share ideas and strategies to become more actively involved in their children's education and faith journey," says James Rowles, Superintendent of Education for the Halton Catholic District School Board.

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Media are invited to attend the conference and may confirm their attendance or arrange a photo opportunity and interview by contacting Jim Rowles, as indicated below.

About the Halton Catholic District School Board

The Halton Catholic District School Board, a provincial leader in student achievement in literacy and numeracy, as well as in Special Education, provides the best of Catholic education to over 29,000 students of all ages at 50 faith-centred learning communities in Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville. Committed to servant leadership, continuous school improvement planning and the preservation of the enduring gift of Catholic education, the Board is an exciting and dynamic system in which to learn, grow and work.

Believing In You . . . Believing In Us

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