I am happy to share with you the 2016-2017 Annual Director's Report! Throughout the past year, we have continued to provide innovative and inclusive education to all of our learners. It is my pleasure to highlight some of the many accomplishments and successes that align with our mission, vision, values and strategic priorities.

One of the most exciting accomplishments was the development of the 2017-2022 Multi-Year Strategic Plan. Throughout the past two years, our Board has undergone an in-depth consultation process to develop our Multi-Year Plan. Through on-line questionnaires, face-to-face discussions and conversations with students, staff, parents and community partners, we have established a new direction for the Sudbury Catholic District School Board.

I proudly present the new mission, vision, values and strategic pathways that make up our new Multi-Year Strategic Plan:

**Mission:** To realize each student's potential within our inclusive Catholic learning community by nurturing and developing their mind, body and spirit.

**Vision:** Leaders in Learning and Faith

**Values:** Modelling Jesus in the world through:
Faith – Respect – Community – Innovation – Learning

**Strategic Pathways:**
- We are called to strengthen our faith-based, inclusive and equitable community.
- We are called to promote innovation.
- We are called to advance leadership and learning for All.

With a solid foundation in place, we look forward to further advancing our new strategic plan over the next five years. Our many successes to date are due, in large part, to the commitment and dedication of our Board of Trustees, senior administration, staff, families, volunteers, community partners and our parishes. We are entrusted with a great responsibility to care for and educate our students. It is a responsibility that we embrace fully and are honoured to accept.

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On behalf of the Sudbury Catholic District School Board, I am proud to reflect upon the many successes that were accomplished during the 2016-2017 School Year. Our staff and students continued to shine in and outside of the classroom, making Sudbury Catholic Schools true leaders in the community of Greater Sudbury.

Our schools have once again excelled in academics, the arts, and athletics. Our staff and students continue to set the bar high for academic excellence, while contributing to our community through social justice and non-profit causes. Our students embody what it means to be an Ontario Catholic School Graduate.

This year, we were fortunate to open the beautiful St. David Catholic Elementary School in its new location on Frood road. This new school welcomes Kindergarten students up to Grade 6. Students and staff were so excited to see their new school, in all of its natural light and beauty. Surrounded by nature, St. David embraces Indigenous culture and the environment, setting a solid foundation for inclusive learning.

As our Board moves forward in its Multi-Year Plan, we can look forward to seeing how the voice of all stakeholders are realized through our new mission, vision and values. Our new strategic priorities have kept our focus on inclusive, faith-based learning, with an emphasis on promoting innovation, learning and leadership throughout our school board.

We are thankful for our ever-growing community. The dedication of our staff, senior administration, parishes, community partners and parents has not gone unnoticed. The contributions and commitment to Catholic education is inspiring and motivates us to keep progressing as a Board. We look forward to providing a strong Catholic education where each child is nurtured, mind, body and spirit within a caring and safe environment.

We also remain resolved to govern with a style that emphasizes outward vision, encourages diversity in viewpoints, and strategic leadership.
About us

The Sudbury Catholic District School Board is located in the City of Greater Sudbury, the largest City in the Northern Ontario region. SCDSB is comprised of staff and students within the Greater Sudbury area, as well as those found in the District of Killarney.

There are 18 schools within the Board:

- 13 Elementary Schools
- 4 Secondary Schools
- 1 Adult Education Centre

We currently have 5944 students:

- 3999 Elementary Students
- 1945 Students

The Sudbury Catholic District School Board currently has 705 employees. Of this number, there are 432 teachers, 29 Early Childhood Educators and 244 Support workers. In addition, the Board also employs a large group of occasional staff.
**Acknowledgement of First Nations Sacred Territory**

The Sudbury Catholic District School Board would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of Atikameksheng Anishnawbek.

We would also like to acknowledge our Elders who have worked with us in creating a learning environment that welcomes and supports everyone.

**Our Mission**

To realize each student’s potential within our inclusive Catholic learning community by nurturing and developing their mind, body and spirit.

**Our Vision**

Leaders in Learning and Faith

**Values**

Modelling Jesus in the world through:

- Faith
- Respect
- Community
- Innovation
- Learning
2016 - 17 Strategic Priorities

- We are called to live a culture of Catholic Faith and Community.

- We are called to live a culture of excellence and learning for all.

- We are called to live a culture of innovation.

- We are called to live a culture of respectful relationships and responsible governance.

- We are called to live a culture of stewardship in the use of all resources.
Strategic Priority 1: We are called to live a culture of Catholic Faith and Community

- Catholic Education Week provided all of our schools with the opportunity to showcase our schools' participation in faith learning and themed activities. This year's theme was “Walking Forward Together”, and promoted special masses, lessons, creation of artwork, diversity activities and much more.

- Staff and students were able to work with many organizations and social justice causes, helping to improve our community for all. These initiatives included: non-perishable food collections, fundraisers for the Canadian Cancer Society, ALS, Terry Fox, the Elgin Street Mission, toy drives and many more.

- Monthly newsletters were distributed to all educators via the Internet to highlight a monthly virtue, prayer, symbol, Saint, Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectation as well as to provide links to other resources.

- Many opportunities were provided to staff and students to develop their faith and to build our Catholic Community, including retreats, liturgies and celebrations.

- Students participated in bullying prevention and awareness activities as well as Treaty Week and Indigenous Education week.

St. Charles College continued their annual canned food drive to support the Sudbury Food Bank. With help from Holy Trinity, St. Paul, St. John, St. David and Pius XII, the staff and students helped raise over 125,000 cans, helping to feed hundreds of people within our community.
St. David students collected funds to support the annual Terry Fox Walk at St. David Elementary School. Over the past 10 years, St. David School students have raised over $5000 for cancer research.

As part of Catholic Education Week, students at St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School completed banners that supported the theme of “Walking Forward Together”.

Fostering positive learning relationships and honouring Indigenous identity is one way our Board is responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action. Joel Agowissa, an Elementary Indigenous Support Worker, directs the White Buffalo Circles program, teaching both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students and teachers about the history, beliefs and cultural traditions of Canadian Indigenous peoples.
Strategic Priority 2: We are called to live a culture of excellence and learning for all

- There was a significant decrease in suspensions recorded in the Secondary Schools. While there were 125 suspensions in the 2015-2016 school year, there were only 33 in 2016-2017.

- The Open Doors Program offered at both St. Charles College and Bishop Alexander Carter further helped decrease the gap in student achievement with 39 credits obtained at Bishop and 66 credits obtained at St. Charles College.

- The International Student Program continued to grow and to offer many opportunities for staff and students, including having two Kindergarten teachers teach in a summer camp in Kunming, China.

- In November, the system-wide Professional Development Day was dedicated to closing the gap in student achievement and well-being.

- There are Native Language Programs offered for Grades 4-8 at St. Charles College Elementary, St David School, St. James School and Holy Trinity School.

- Our schools continued to excel in the arts. The Elementary School band performed at 3 different festivals this year - The Northern Ontario Music Festival where they received a Silver award, the Kiwanis Music Festival where they received a Gold award, and the Canada's Wonderland Music Festival in Vaughan.

- Our Secondary Schools completed theatre productions:
  - Bishop Alexander Carter – Wizard of Oz
  - St. Charles College – Grease
  - Marymount Academy - Jungle Book

October was Attendance Awareness Month at Sudbury Catholic Schools and the Attendance Counsellors held a poster contest. To engage students from FDK to Grade 12, the poster contest promoted the importance of regular school attendance. It was a huge success with 447 students participating.

The co-winning entry is pictured here from Chris Hein, student at Bishop Alexander Carter.
The Sudbury Catholic District School Board completed another successful Summer Learning Program in July 2017. Students chose between three different programs: The Summer Literacy program, the Indigenous Arts and Literacy program and the Summer Numeracy program. To get each day started, participating students also took part in Taekwondo. This daily physical activity helped to energize and build confidence before they began their day.

In June 2017, the Catholic Parent Involvement Committee hosted a health and wellness session at Marymount Academy. Principals, Trustees, teachers, parents and community partners gathered together to discuss finding balance between the mind, body and spirit and incorporating strategies in our everyday work.

Intensive Support Facilitators have been supporting Kindergarten to Grade 6 classroom teachers in literacy and numeracy. Numeracy Facilitators and Curriculum Consultants worked on a 6-week project with Grade 3 and Grade 6 students at St. Paul Elementary and St. John Elementary schools. Lessons consisted of diagnostic assessment and targeted plans using strategies from EQAO. Teachers observed and documented their students' learning throughout the project.
Strategic Priority 3: We are called to live a culture of innovation

- The consultation process ‘Your Voice Matters’ began in October 2015. This process allowed us to engage with all stakeholders within our system. Phase one involved parents, staff, students and community partners responding to 4 questions focused on our strengths and how we can improve. 942 participants shared 3,443 thoughts and assigned 46,605 stars in an online collaboration. Phase Two involved a face-to-face session in November 2016 with 100 stakeholders contributing to the dialogue. In June 2017 the Board of Trustees adopted its new mission, vision, value statements and strategic pathways which form its new multi-year strategic plan.

- Two Teacher Learning and Leadership Programs were introduced involving two Secondary Schools:
  - St. Charles College teachers are working from Grade 7-12 to create an online French newspaper with FL and Core French students. They are working across grades to improve student confidence and skills using French.
  - Bishop Carter Alexander is using technology for professional learning (virtual sessions, One Note for Principals, Facilitators and lead learners).

- The Learning Innovation Committee has been established with the goal of increasing student engagement and achievement by providing meaningful opportunities for students to collaborate and demonstrate their knowledge and skills through the use of technology and a focus on 21st Century skills.

- Students with SEA equipment (Special Equipment Amount) has increased to 333. Students with special education needs have access to school iPads and other assistive devices to help them achieve success.

Students at a variety of age and skill levels have begun exploring coding and robotics. Students at Holy Cross Elementary School have implemented coding into their learning. Coding is about developing a set of commands, in a particular order, to program a computer or robot to complete a task. Learning the language of coding can drive future innovation. Coding is the basis of computer science and learning to code is the first step in the creation of revolutionary new technologies.
To better support secondary students, all four secondary schools within the Board have undergone construction to transform their libraries into Learning Commons. Built on innovation and collaboration, Learning Commons offer students a multi-purpose space to learn, study and create. Each space is equipped with Green Screens, 3D Printers, robotics and more. The Learning Commons are vibrant spaces that encourage student collaboration and learning.

Students in the PEACE program worked with laser technology and machinery to produce engraved signs, awards and pens. During the 2016-2017 School Year, 189 handmade PEACEPens were created for 35 different customers. Over 300 hours were logged towards Co-op credits through the PEACEPen business.

St. Charles Elementary offered a very successful Intermediate Instrumental Music program last year! The program served 60 students from 3 classes and offered students the opportunity to play an instrument that they otherwise would not have had the chance to play and learn about. Students also had the opportunity to be part of the School Board Band that travelled to other schools within our system to perform during the month of December. Testimonials from students and parents were very positive and supportive of the program. All Grade 7 and 8 students in the SCDSB receive instrumental music classes.
Strategic Priority 4: We are called to live a culture of respectful relationships and responsible governance

- Social workers, Psychotherapist, Child and Youth Workers and LHIN Mental Health and Addictions Nurses support schools by providing staff, students and parents with consultations and presentations. Nineteen student presentations were held in 2016-2017 with a focus on mindfulness, substance abuse, anxiety and social skills.

- St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School and Bishop Alexander Carter Secondary School have implemented mental health walk-in clinics through a partnership with Child and Family Services.

- October 28 PA Day focused on equity and closing the gap for all learners. During this day, staff completed a variety of workshops including a session on supporting and building an awareness of LGBTQ students.

- Social media has been used as a tool to share learning experiences and ideas. Schools have been posting about different lessons, accomplishments and ways in which staff and students are focusing on mindfulness. These stories and experiences are grouped together by using hashtags such as #SudburyCDSB and #mathsudburycatholic

Secondary Students learn about the meaning behind the traditional Pow Wow. During Indigenous Education Week in May 2017, St. Charles College hosted their first ever Pow Wow! Students from Secondary Schools, as well as elementary students from their feeder schools attended this spiritual and cultural celebration.
During Catholic Education Week, all four secondary schools participated in Diversity Day at Marymount Academy. Students gathered together to talk about the importance of diversity, respecting differences and understanding how to combat oppression in their schools!

Our Elementary Schools are thankful for the many visits they receive throughout the year from members in our community. Will Morin, a local artist shared his knowledge of the Ojibwa culture with St. David Catholic Elementary students. He even helped them craft traditional drums and participated in a birthing ceremony to welcome the drums into the classrooms!
Strategic Priority 5: We are called to live a culture of stewardship in the use of all resources

- To continue to increase awareness for health and safety, monthly health and safety talks were held. A half-day Health and Safety professional learning session was also held in April 2017.

- Academic and Board staff attended the Privacy and Information Management Symposium which was held in Sudbury in April, 2017.

- Budgets continued to meet Ministry of Education compliance requirements. Through consultations with staff and other key stakeholders a budget was established to address both Ministry and Board priorities.

- Variance reports have been distributed to the Board of Trustees monthly during the regular Board meetings and represent a balanced budget.

The new site for St. David Catholic Elementary School opened in the fall 2016. The new school features a beautiful landscape, large windows and a bridge overlooking a creek. The new building houses 230 students from junior kindergarten to Grade 6. The school also pays respect to the environment and provides a warm, safe and welcoming environment for students and staff.

The Grand opening of the School site took place on October 14, 2016 and was attended by Sudbury MP Paul Lefebvre, Mayor Brian Bigger, Architect Amber Salach of Yellowega Bélanger Salach Architecture, Trustees including Board Chair Michael Bellmore as well as students, staff and community partners.
Kindergarten classes at several of our elementary schools studied the stages and growth of butterflies this Spring in an interactive way! Through butterfly kits from EarthCare Sudbury, the classes worked together to transfer the caterpillar larvae to their new homes. Their new friends were then released back into the environment once they turned into butterflies! The students loved the chance to watch them develop and progress and were excited to release them into their natural habitats.

Many students at St. Francis Catholic Elementary School learned about the importance of protecting Mother Earth! Classes learned about how to reduce waste and reuse and recycle items whenever possible! Some classes even put their creative skills to the test by building 3D structures with recyclable materials.
How can we achieve our Board Improvement Plan Goals?

IF we…

1. Nurture an inclusive, collaborative and respectful culture rooted in our faith.
2. Promote and support mental health and well-being for all students and staff.
3. Reduce the gaps in student achievement through improved literacy, numeracy and assessment.

THEN all students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 will have a better sense of well-being and will achieve greater success.
Working Together: How are we achieving our goals and continually improving as a Board?

To help meet our strategic priorities, we are always looking for ways in which we can improve our work. This report showcases the many ways in which we are focusing on supporting student and staff achievement, wellbeing and equity. Building on these successes we will continue to work at enhancing student learning, particularly in the areas of numeracy and literacy, as well as building an environment in which all members of our community are respected.

This can only be achieved by working together! Throughout the 2016-2017 school year, there have been various opportunities in which our staff, students and community members have united together to achieve our goals. Here are a few examples which demonstrate the power of collaboration and team work within the Sudbury Catholic District School Board!

Bishop Carter Alexander students worked together to clean up the community during Catholic Education Week in May 2017!

Students at St. Charles College teamed up with students at Holy Trinity Catholic Elementary School to practice their reading and literacy skills and share written stories.

Pius XII Elementary School students completed a Family Math Event. The event was organized by the school's Intensive Support Facilitator and allowed families to learn about math and solve some problems together!
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Bishop Alexander Carter C.S.S  
Immaculate Conception School  
St. Anne School

Ray Desjardins  
Vice Chairperson  
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St. Charles Elementary School  
St. David School

Jody Cameron  
Zone 6 Schools:  
Marymount Academy  
Plus XII School

Nancy Deni  
Zone 4 schools:  
Holy Trinity  
St. Charles College  
St. John School  
St. Mark School

Tyler Peroni  
Zone 5 Schools:  
Holy Cross School  
St. Benedict C.S.S.  
St. Joseph School  
St. Paul School

Estelle Scappatura  
Zone 1 Schools:  
St. Albert Adult Learning Centre  
St. Francis School  
St. James School

Emma Jessop  
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Superintendent of School Effectiveness

Nicole Bédard  
Superintendent of School Effectiveness

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