

2015-16 Director's Annual Report

Accessible Format

Director's Message

Our school district has much to celebrate! Success means that we are exercising our preferential option for the poor through our commitment to high levels of student achievement. High levels of student achievement equal better outcomes for children and families. Guided by our multi-year strategic plan, we have renewed our promise to assist the family and the parish with animating the faith of our students through prayer and action. I hope you share my enthusiasm for our accomplishments and relish in our community's future. We look forward as a community to 'Act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God.'

Chris N. Roehrig – Director of Education
Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board
Twitter: @ChrisRoehrig
LinkedIn: Chris Roehrig

"Act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

Image of Director of Education, Chris N. Roehrig



The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board had many accomplishments, celebrations, 'firsts', and innovative initiatives over the 2015-16 school year. We would like to share highlights from the year with you.

New Three-Year Board Theme

The 2015-16 school year was year one of the three-year Board theme; *Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)* The system focused on 'Act Justly' and demonstrated the theme in action throughout the year. Staff kicked off year one of the theme at an all-employee faith day in September where faith development was the focus of the day.

Image of Year 1 theme artwork

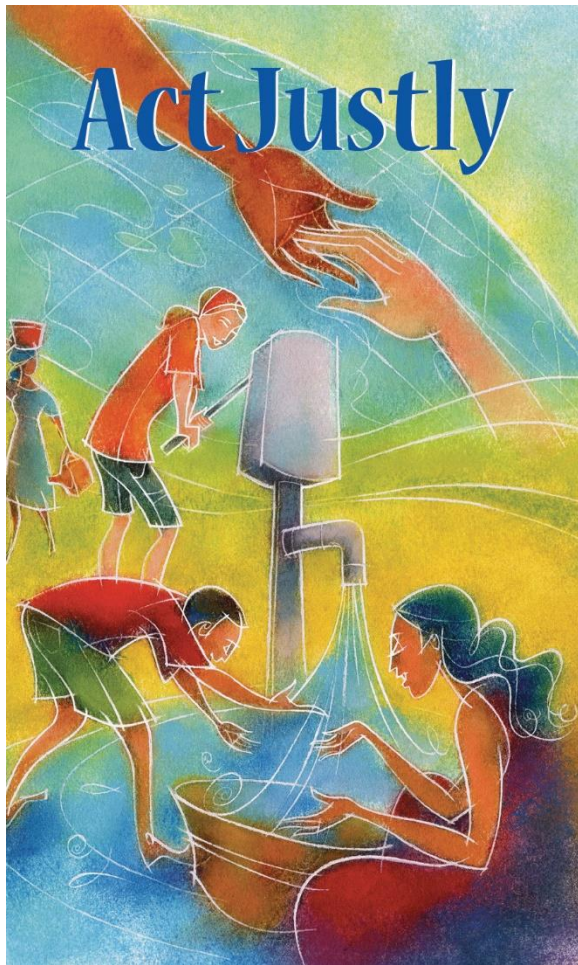


Image of students sitting around a painted 'Act Justly' fabric banner



2015-16 Faith Day

The 2015-16 staff Faith Day was held at Holy Trinity Catholic High Schools. Over 1,200 staff gathered in faith to learn, celebrate and bring in the new school year.

Image of pottery bowls given to each school and site location.



Image of Bishop Tonnos, parish priests and Director of Education, Chris Roehrig



Praxis of Faith Series

The 2015-16 school year saw the continuation of the popular Praxis of Faith Series supporting the Catholic Faith Formation pillar of the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan.

Praxis of Faith Series brochure. (http://www.bhncdsb.ca/sites/2016-17/files/news/2015-16/brochure_praxis_of_faith_2015_16_web.pdf)

Special thanks to everyone involved in providing these inspirational and informative sessions.

Holy Family ELKP Presents - Stations of the Cross

Kindergarten students from Holy Family, Paris worked very hard to produce a beautiful video of "Stations of the Cross". See our youngest Catholic learners in action.

Link to YouTube Video "[ELKP Presents - Stations of the Cross](#)"

Awards

Catholic Student Leadership Awards

The 2015-16 Catholic Student Leadership Awards was an inspirational event honouring one student from each school of the district who reflect our Catholic virtues and is a leader in the community. We

were honoured to have His Excellency Bishop Douglas Crosby, Bishop of the Diocese of Hamilton, Mayor Charlie Luke, and supportive priests, parents, and staff in attendance.

Image of 2015-16 Catholic Student Leadership Award Recipients



Distinguished Catholic Graduate Award

The Board believes in the importance of recognizing our Catholic school graduates who exemplify the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations in their daily lives. The Distinguished Catholic Graduate Award is bestowed annually at the Catholic Student Leadership Awards ceremony during Catholic Education Week.

Image of Chair of the Board, Rick Petrella; John Webb; Director of Education, Chris N. Roehrig



Recipient of the Distinguished Catholic Graduate Award 2016 – John Webb

Outstanding Contribution to Catholic Education Award

The Board believes in the importance of recognizing individuals in the Catholic community who have made or continue to make outstanding contributions to Catholic education in the district encompassing Brantford, Brant County, Haldimand County and Norfolk County. The Outstanding Contribution to Catholic Education Award is bestowed annually at the Catholic Student Leadership Awards ceremony during Catholic Education Week.

Image of Dr. Robert Dixon; Rick Petrella, Chair of the Board



Recipient of the Outstanding Contribution to Catholic Education Award 2016 – Dr. Robert Dixon

Congratulations BHCNDSB Students!

Students from Assumption College School, Holy Trinity, and St. John's College participated in the DELF B1 exam on May 10, 2016 at St. John's College. This was the first time that the DELF exam was offered in Brantford and it was a great success. The DELF (Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française - Diploma of French Language Studies) is an official French proficiency test, which is an evaluation of one's proficiency in French. The aim of the exam is to validate specific linguistic skills. A DELF Certificate offers international recognition of French proficiency and is a testimonial to one's success in learning French. Congratulations to all of the BHCNDSB participants. All students received their B1 certification. Félicitations!

Image of 2015-16 DELF Certificate Recipients



Celebrating the Arts

The 2015-16 school year saw the continuation of our system's dedication for the Arts.

Congratulations to students and staff who participated in the *2016 Celebration of the Arts* at the Sanderson Centre in Brantford. As usual, the performances were exceptional and certainly highlighted the talent from across our school district. We were happy to, once again, have Catholic school graduate Kyle Christie host the evening.

Image of Secondary Junior Band



Image of Secondary Chorus



Image of Video Introduction of Performance



The 2016 *Board Art Show* was a huge success with over 400 pieces of Art created by students from Kindergarten to Grade 12. The art was on display at the Wayne Gretzky Centre, Brantford; Eva Brook Donly Museum, Simcoe; and the Haldimand Museum, Cayuga as well as being available for viewing at the Sanderson Centre during the 2016 Celebration of the Arts performance.

Image of Art on Display at the Sanderson Centre



Image of Poppy Painting



Aidan Agnew
Grade 1
Poppies
Art and more
By Hand

Image of Quilling Technique Used to Depict our Board Theme: Act Justly



French Immersion

The 2015-16 year saw the opening of two new French Immersion program sites. Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary School in Paris and St. Joseph's School in Simcoe welcomed their first French Immersion Kindergarten students in September. The program will continue to grow and expand up to Grade 8 at each location.

Image of French Immersion Kindergarten Teacher and Students



Image of a French Immersion Kindergarten Student Enjoying a French Book



Image of French Immersion Kindergarten Teacher and Students



EQAO

Image of Primary Reading Results

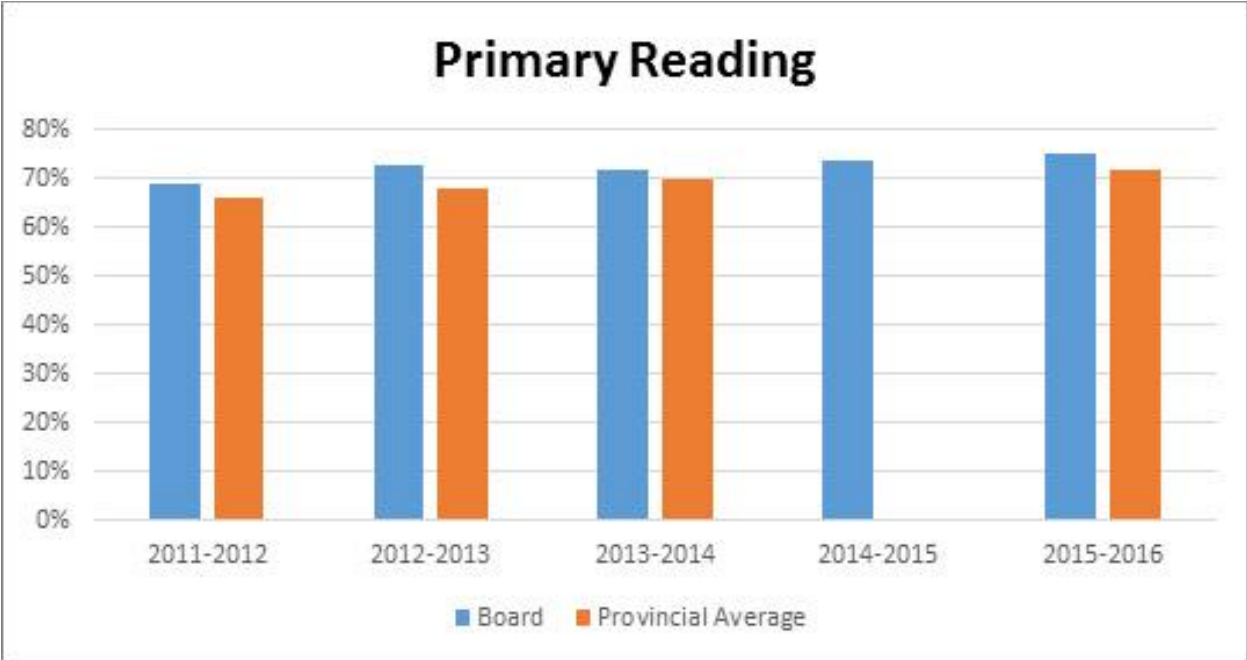


Image of Primary Writing Results

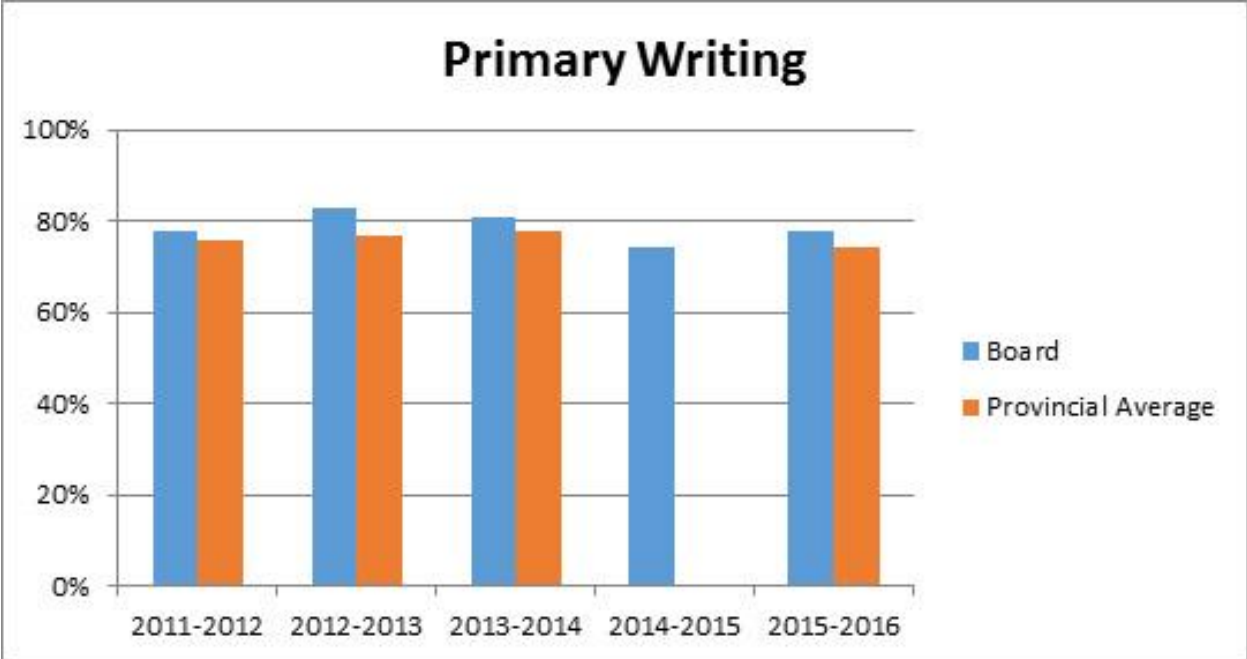


Image of Primary Mathematics Results

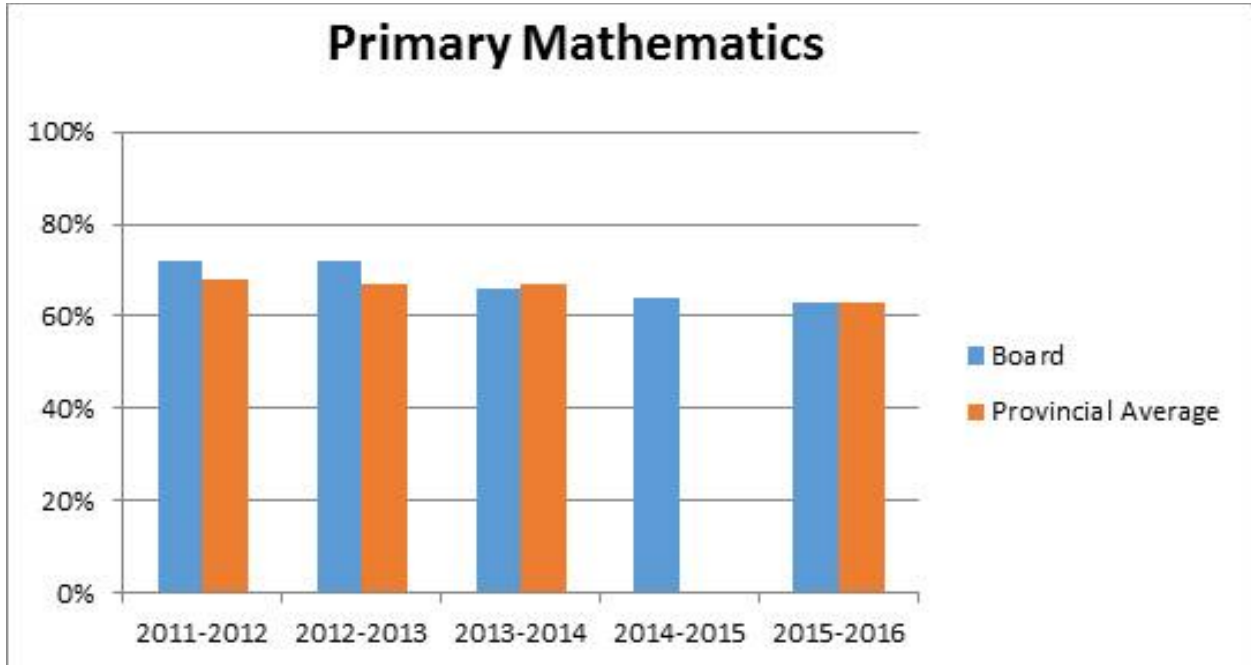


Image of Junior Reading Results

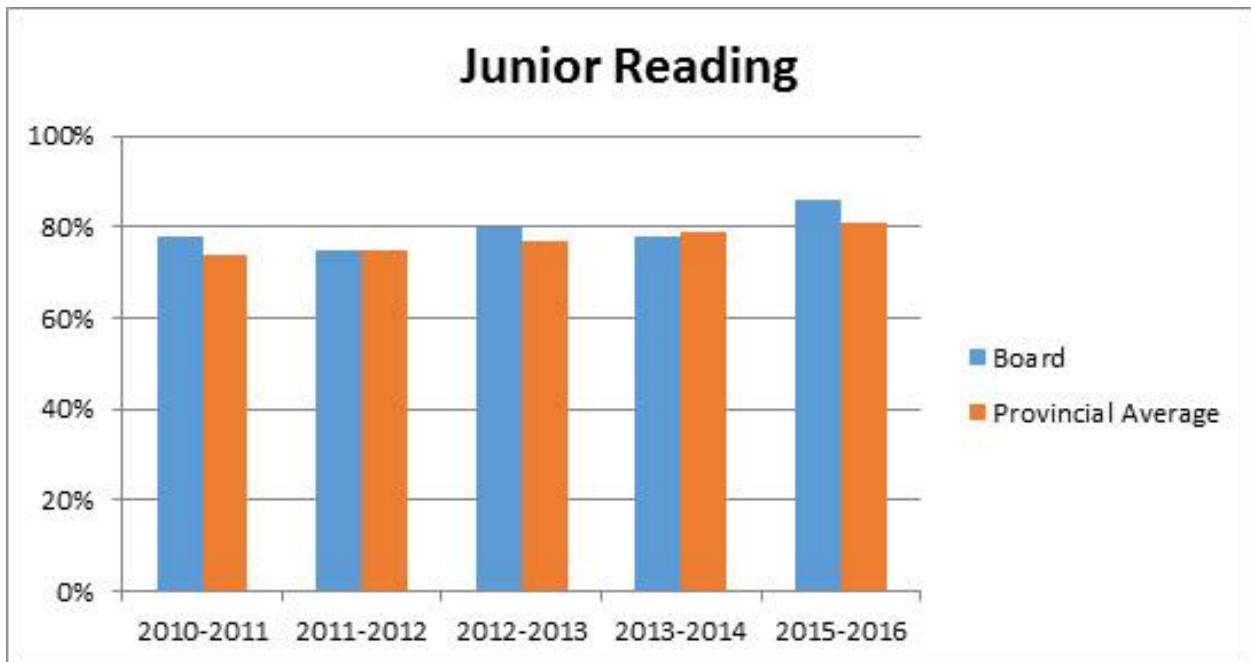


Image of Junior Writing Results

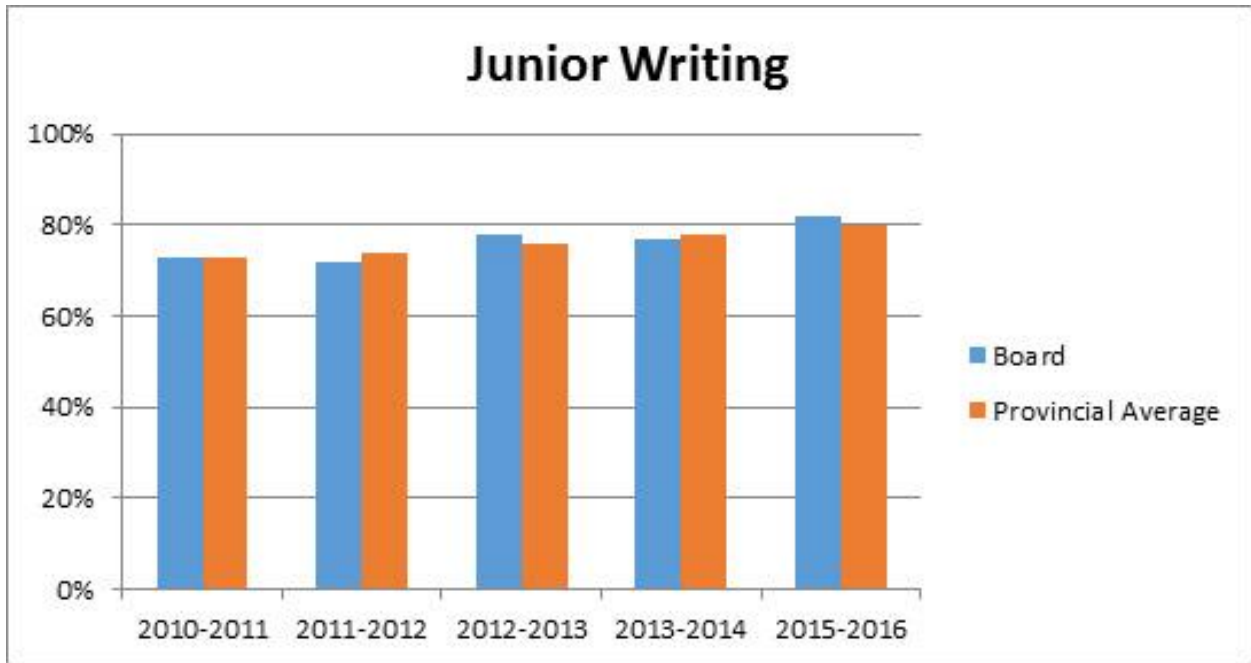


Image of Junior Mathematics Results

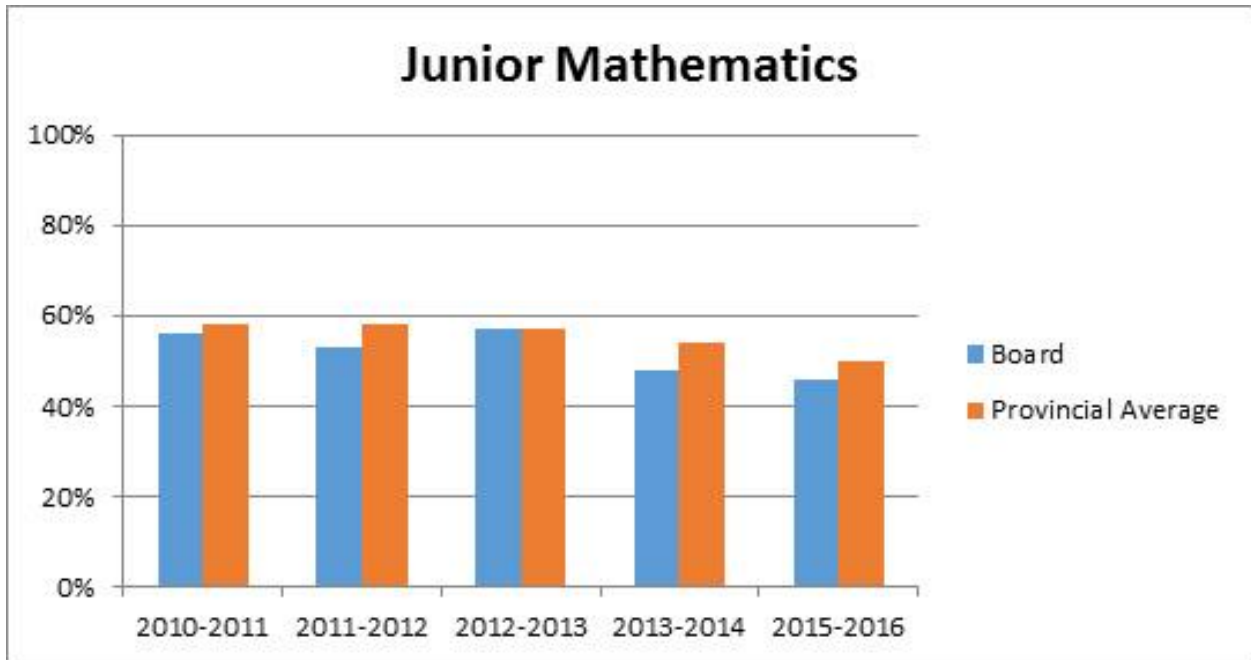


Image of Grade 9 Applied Mathematics Results

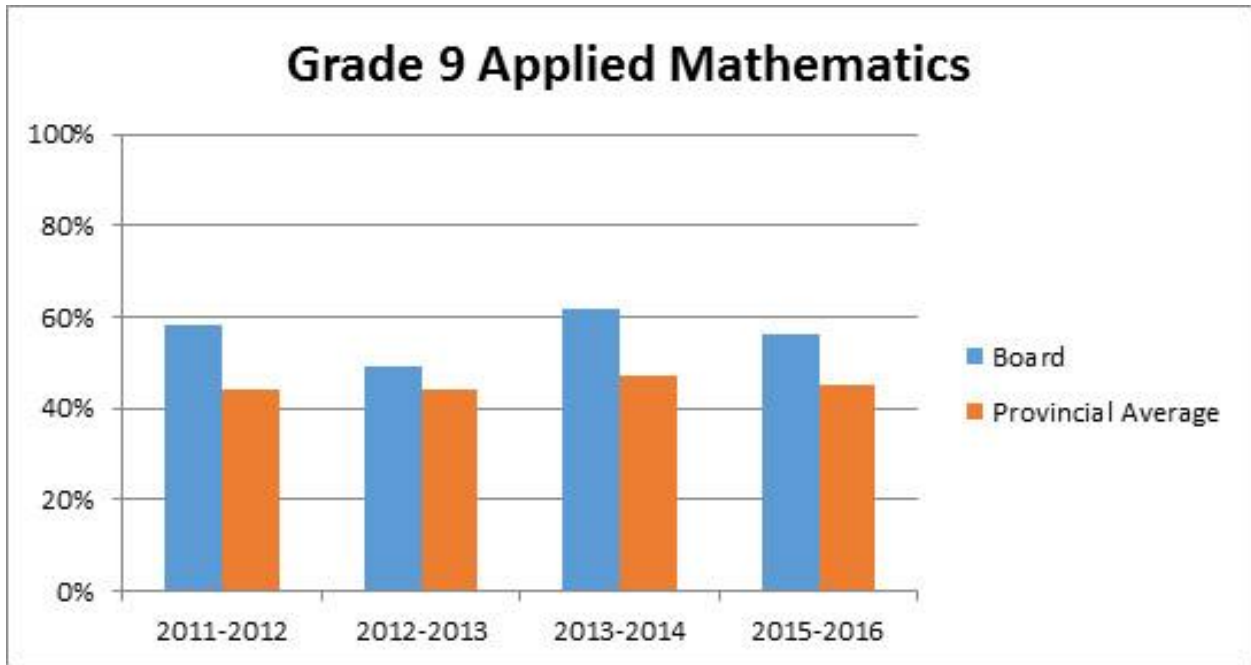
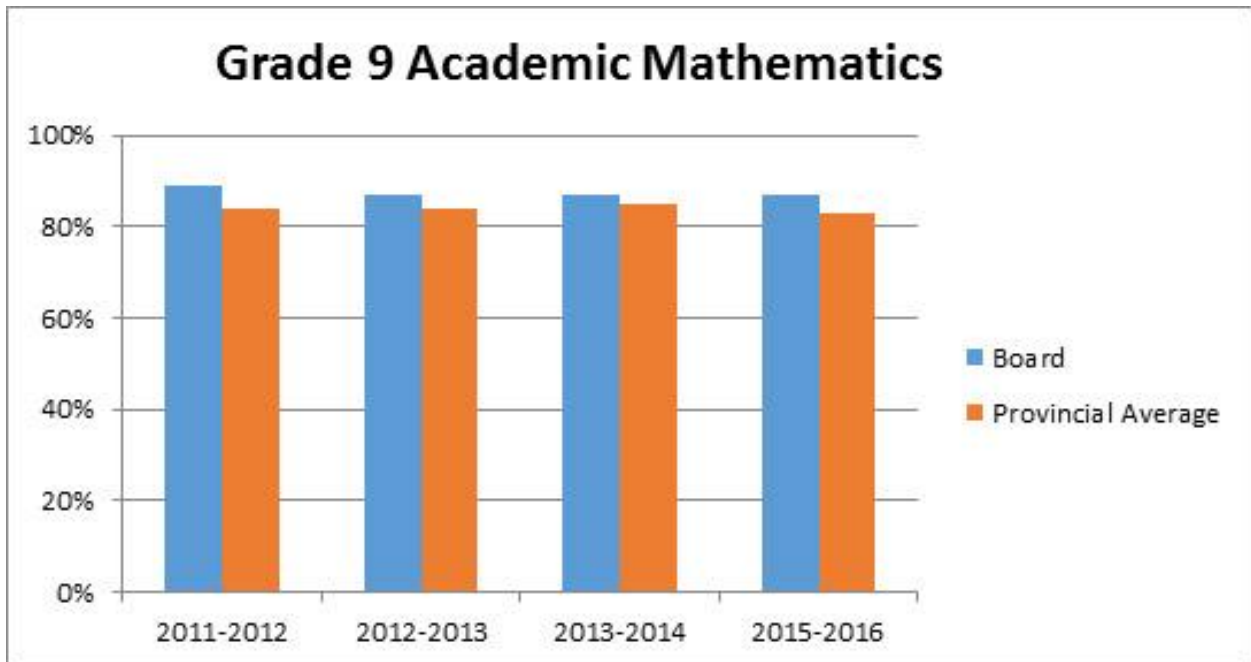
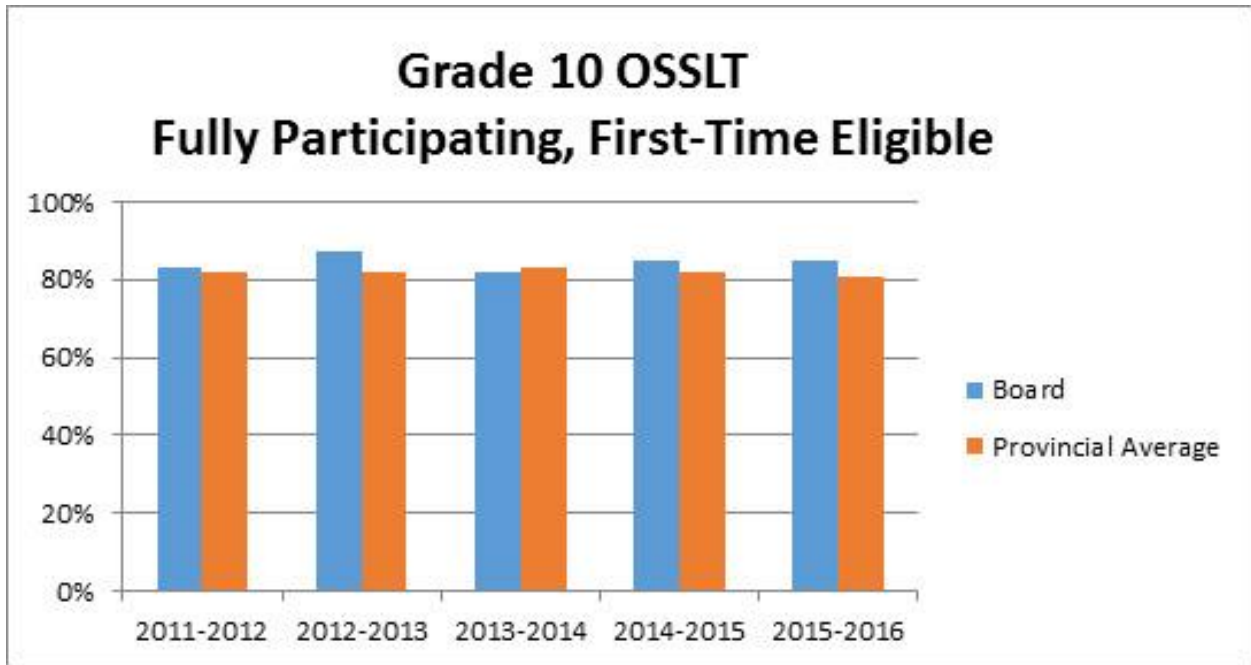


Image of Grade 9 Academic Mathematics Results





Sidewalk Chalk Drawings

Students and staff from across the district, once again, participated in 'Sidewalk Chalk Drawings' in support of Mental Health Awareness Week. Many students included our three-year Board theme, "Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly with your God" in their beautiful works of art and messages of inspiration and hope.

Image of Sidewalk Chalk Drawing in Support of Mental Health



Change Is Gonna Come!

Emily Giugovaz is a 10 year-old student at Holy Cross school in Brantford. Not only is she a remarkable vocalist with great charisma, she also was born with Spina Bifida, a birth defect that presents life-long and daily challenges. Emily, her family and her friends created a video to help raise awareness of this condition and also serve as a message that people cannot be defined by their challenges, rather they should be seen as unique individuals. Emily is full of sparkle and talent and is not only capable of rising to meet the challenges of Spina Bifida, she is also ready to take on the world.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8HKwn4I7Jg0&feature=youtu.be>

Jean Vanier – School Ground Greening Initiative

Jean Vanier Catholic Elementary School was the recipient of the 2015-16 School Ground Greening Grant from the Brantford/Brant Earth Week Event Committee. The school received \$9000 towards the implementation of their school ground greening project, as well as the assistance of a School Ground Greening expert to assist with the development of their school yard plan.

It has been a busy time for the dual-track French Immersion Catholic school, but they continue to come together and make great things happen including the transformation of their playground into an ‘outdoor learning environment’.

This year’s funding supports Phase 1 of the outdoor project targeting the Early Learning Kindergarten students who will be able to truly play and experience the best of nature using items including: rocks, logs, picnic tables, a sandbox, a bridge, outdoor music wall, a wooden stage, a water station and many other creative and tactile items that foster exploration and play.

Image of students, staff, dignitaries and community gathering to celebrate the School Ground Greening Grant. Photo with the help of a drone!



All Catholic Girls' Soccer Championship - Using Twitter to Share and Celebrate!

A big shout out to teacher and coach Mr. Jeff DeProsperis and the *All Catholic Girls' Soccer Championship* participants for using social media to not only capture images, but to bring together the players, their experiences and the spirit of the two-day event.

Image of two players 'in play' during a game



#sjcCatholicBMO was the hashtag used in tweets by participants and staff. Tweets included messages, selfies, Living in Faith Award winners, celebratory images, hospitality images and corporate sponsor identification. It is a great example of how our system is meaningfully participating online using technology, and particularly our social media tool of choice – Twitter.

For some great pictures and highlights of the All Catholic Girls Soccer Championship as well as other BHNCDSB sporting events visit Mr. De Prosperis' Twitter account: <https://twitter.com/JeffDeProsperis>

Toddler Artwork and Coffee? An unexpected combination brews up some amazing creations!

The Blue Dog Coffee Roasters featured the creations of some of Brantford's youngest artist, the children from the Parenting and Family Literacy Centre (PFLC) at Christ the King School. The PFLC is a drop-in program welcoming parents/caregivers and children from babies to 6 years of age to play and learn together.

Over the past few months, the children and their families who attend the program have been exploring different art mediums at the Centre. Art gives children an opportunity to express their ideas, feelings and how they see the world. Rich experiences are offered through art exploration. When children feel they belong, they become engaged learners and are able to express themselves in many ways.

Image of Noah (age 22 months) creating a work of art with Mom at the PFLC - Christ the King location



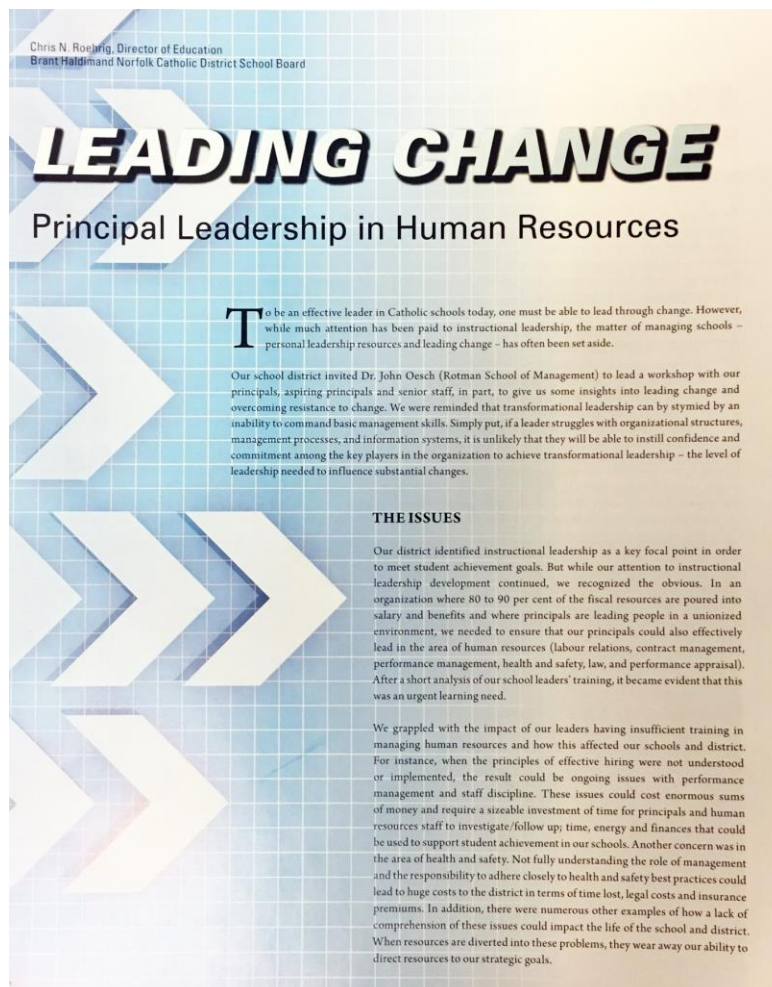
Board Leadership Development Strategy (BLDS)

The Board Leadership Development Strategy (BLDS) supports all four areas of focus of the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan. The goal of the strategy is to attract and develop effective leaders and to promote leadership practices that will impact student achievement and well-being. BLDS highlights include the Leadership in Human Resources Certificate training developed and offered by our Board to our administrators, as well as to administrators across the province; the CPCO Principal's Qualification Program Part 1 course being facilitated by two of our principals; and the ongoing new administrator mentor/mentee program.

'Leading Change' – Principal Connections

We are pleased to share that the Fall 2015 Volume of *Principal Connections*, the Catholic Principals' Council of Ontario's magazine, featured the article *Leading Change – Principal Leadership in Human Resources* that detailed the district's focus and initiatives that support leadership development of principals. Special thanks to our dedicated staff involved in the program.

Image of the Principal Connections' Leading Change article by Director of Education, Chris N. Roehrig



2015-2018 Strategic Plan (New)

The 2015-2018 Strategic Plan, created through our online public consultation initiative *Every Voice Counts*, truly is the voice of our families and Catholic community. Over 2,000 parents, staff and community members provided their opinions and thoughts about what was important to them and where they believed the Board should focus their efforts. The feedback provided through the sophisticated, automated online utility became the foundation of the strategic plan that will guide the Board for the next three years.

Image of the EveryVoiceCounts project logo



Image of students and staff holding a thank you message



Image of the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan Cover

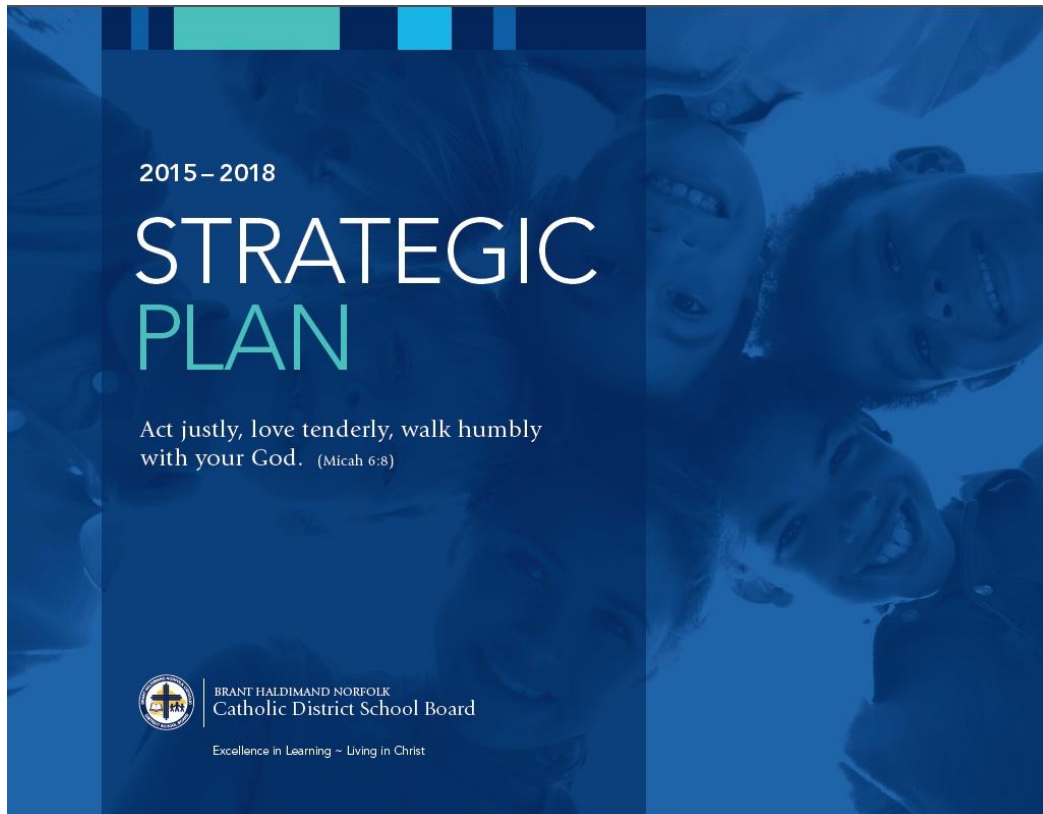


Image of the EveryVoiceCounts project logo

Included in the new plan is:

Motto

Excellence in Learning ~ Living in Christ

Spiritual Theme

Act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God.

Core Values

- We respect the dignity of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God.
- We exercise a preferential option for the poor (financial, intellectual, social and spiritual).
- We continually strive to deepen our relationship with God and one another.

Strategic Plan Pillars

Catholic Faith Formation

- Our Catholic schools will support the family and the parish in animating the Catholic faith of our students.
- Our Catholic students and staff will witness their faith through acts of justice in their community and in the global south.

[Hyperlink to detailed Catholic Faith Formation Goals, Initiatives and Next Steps](http://www.bhncdsb.ca/sites/2016-17/files/resources/strategic_plan/201516AnnRptFilesDontDelete/catholic_faith_formation.pdf)

[http://www.bhncdsb.ca/sites/2016-](http://www.bhncdsb.ca/sites/2016-17/files/resources/strategic_plan/201516AnnRptFilesDontDelete/catholic_faith_formation.pdf)

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Student Achievement

- Our Catholic schools will continue the tradition of academic excellence in literacy and mathematics.
- Our Catholic schools will increase the integration of technology into the classroom to improve efficiency, critical thinking and collaboration.

[Hyperlink to detailed Student Achievement Goals, Initiatives and Next Steps](http://www.bhncdsb.ca/sites/2016-17/files/resources/strategic_plan/201516AnnRptFilesDontDelete/student_achievement.pdf)

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Safe and Accepting Schools

- Our parents, students and staff will work together to make sure Catholic schools are safe places in which to learn.
- Students in our Catholic schools will feel welcomed and included at school

[Hyperlink to detailed Safe and Accepting Schools Goals, Initiatives and Next Steps](http://www.bhncdsb.ca/sites/2016-17/files/resources/strategic_plan/201516AnnRptFilesDontDelete/safe_and_accepting_schools.pdf)

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Communication and Community Engagement

- Our Catholic schools will be recognized as providing exceptional service, by friendly caring people, who are always willing to assist when someone needs help.
- Our parents will witness the good things that are taking place in our Catholic schools by using social media and electronic communication to stay connected.

[Hyperlink to detailed Communication and Community Engagement Goals, Initiatives and Next Steps](http://www.bhncdsb.ca/sites/2016-17/files/resources/strategic_plan/201516AnnRptFilesDontDelete/communications_and_community_engagement.pdf)

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Thank you for taking the time to view highlights from the 2015-16 school year. If you have any questions, would like more information or require a variation of this accessible report, please contact Communication Services.

Email: info@bhncdsb.ca

Phone: 519-756-6505 Ext. 234