

*Quarterly Verbal Report to the Board – Mario Pascucci*  
*Board Meeting of May 26, 2009*

Ladies and gentlemen, staff, fellow trustees ..... back in January, we approved the board's official slogan ... *A Tradition of Excellence in Catholic Education.*

As we celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, it is clearly evident through the small things we do, as well as the larger, more public things, that we truly are a system with a proud tradition and brand of excellence that permeates all that we do.

I had indicated in January that I wished to provide a quarterly verbal report outlining some of the accomplishments, events and activities germane to our board. This is my second such report. And, while it is by no means a complete list, it does encompass some key areas.

- ▶ I had the opportunity to represent the board and speak at a number of community and education-related events over the past few months including our pre-Catholic Education Week Mass at St. Francis Xavier Parish, the Rotary Club, our student trustee elections and the CPCO annual meeting.
- ▶ Dufferin-Peel trustees successfully hosted the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association Annual General Meeting and we have received tremendous feedback from all corners including the Minister of Education, who characterized Dufferin-Peel as a leading board in this province.
- ▶ We recently submitted a brief in response to the Ministry's consultation paper on school board governance.
- ▶ Vice Chair Abbruscato, Trustee Thomas, Trustee Hobin and I attended Mississauga City Council in April, where we screened our award-winning film *Mouse* for the mayor and Council. Vice Chair Abbruscato, Trustee Zanella and Trustee Da Silva and I will be doing the same at Brampton City Council tomorrow.
- ▶ I had the honour and privilege of providing closing remarks at the board's Theatre Arts Night held recently at the Living Arts Centre.
- ▶ I also had the honour of addressing the Bishop and our local parish priests at our recent Zone Meeting.

- ▶ In April, as part of our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, we honoured former Premier Bill Davis and our first director of Education, Joe Hugel, as well as some extremely talented student speech competition winners and teacher Nancy Bodsworth. What a special night and outstanding event that was for our board.
  
- ▶ Trustees recently attended a retreat that focused on the board's Strategic Plan.
  
- ▶ We recently received the reports from the Ministry-appointed facilitator... reports that upheld the board's pupil accommodation review process.
  
- ▶ Just last week, we celebrated the CCCSC Volunteer of the Year Award winners.
  
- ▶ This past weekend, trustee Hobin and I attended the OAPCE AGM where Trustee Hobin presented a workshop. Congratulations to Director John Kostoff who received an Honorary Membership Award from OAPCE, as well as Maureen Nolasco, a "graduated " parent of Robert F. Hall and CCCSC who received the "Media" Award from OAPCE for her work with The School Advocate which is received by all of our schools in DP.
  
- ▶ We continue to speak with the provincial government directly to the Minister and through our local MPPs to make sure that Dufferin-Peel's interests are well represented at Queen's Park.
  
- ▶ Trustees continue to regularly attend school council meetings, community meetings and events such as Carrassauga

In closing, I would like to pick up where I began ... with our tradition of excellence in Catholic education .... I say to you all ...the tradition continues. We have created a surging momentum in our system. Let's keep it up. Let's continue to spread the good news of Catholic education and of the wonderful things that take place daily in our Catholic schools.

Thank you to my trustee colleagues, faculty and staff for all you do to make Dufferin-Peel a leading school board on Ontario.