

News Release

April 19, 2011

For Immediate Release

Dufferin-Peel Director John B. Kostoff receives Distinguished Leadership Award

John B. Kostoff, director of education at the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, received the 2011 Distinguished Leadership Award from the Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers' Association (OCSOA) at the association's annual general meeting held April 14 in Windsor.

The Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers' Association is the professional organization of Catholic supervisory officers in Ontario. It is dedicated to furthering the interests of catholic education and to promoting the professional development of its members.

Among the criteria for the award is: "to ensure that the mission of Catholic schools is promoted, not only to parents and guardians of students in the system, but to the broader community as well." John Kostoff was recognized by his peers as "an unwavering champion of Catholic education and a true servant leader."

His nomination was strongly supported across the province and included comments such as, "deeply rooted in servant leadership", "a highly credible ambassador for catholic education", "brings humility, integrity, compassion, honesty, support and civility to the consciousness of the Catholic community."

John Kostoff has been the director of education at Dufferin-Peel, one of the largest Catholic boards in the province, since 2007. He has held positions as a teacher, consultant, department head, principal, superintendent and associate director during his 33 plus years at the board.

He holds a number of degrees in theology, history and education and has taught at the university level in faculties of education in the U.S and Canada.

In 2010, John published "Auditing Our Catholic Schools", a book that provides practical examples of how school boards can raise the level of awareness of the distinct nature of Catholic schools.

In 2010, he received the Administrator of the Year Award from the Ontario School Library Association.

"I am both gratified and humbled to have been considered for this award," said John Kostoff. "I can truly say that honours such as this are the result of collaborative relationships and I have been blessed to have been accompanied by many outstanding companions on my Catholic educational journey."

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board is one of the largest and most diverse school boards in Ontario. It serves approximately 87,000 students in 145 schools located throughout Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon and Orangeville. With over 10,000 employees, the board is also one of the largest employers in the region.

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