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June 29, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This has been a very unique year. What I am most impressed with is how everyone here at Good Shepherd CES; staff, students and families, all found a way to deal with the challenges head on. Despite so many difficulties, together we were able to make great things happen. This speaks to the spirit, dedication and expertise of everyone involved. Good Shepherd CES is truly a special place filled with talented and gifted people!

As I dispense my last duties as Principal and enter retirement, I am struck by the memories I shall take with me. Memories of caring devoted staff addressing the needs of their students. Memories of supportive parents, working hand in hand with school personnel to ensure student success. Memories of the parish, which has been a great partner in the faith development of our students, and of course, memories of wonderful, happy, caring children.

Starting out as an Educational Assistant in 1989, I have seen much change in education over the years. What has remained constant however, is the beauty of our children, the caring and support of our families, and the dedication and talent of our staff. All should stand proud, for everyone has and continues to do so well.

The last three years at Good Shepherd CES and over thirty with our school Board, have gone by so quickly. I would like to thank all parents, staff, students, Catholic School Council and the Parish for all you have done to make this school and community so successful. I will never forget the people I have met and will cherish the relationships I have enjoyed. It has been a privilege to be the Principal of Good Shepherd C.E.S and with the York Catholic District School Board!

I leave you with this Irish Blessing:

*May the road rise to meet you  
May the wind be always at your back  
May the sun shine warm upon your face  
The rains fall soft upon your fields  
And until we meet again  
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.*

God Bless!

Yours in Catholic Education,

R. M. Amos  
Principal

## **Our Best Wishes to Our Grade Eight Graduates!**

On Wednesday June 9<sup>th</sup> our grade eight students attended a special Mass virtually held from St. Elizabeth Seton Church. Many thanks to Fr. Roy Roberts, the Parish Team, School Staff, and everyone else involved in organizing this beautiful Mass.

On Tuesday June 22, 2021, our virtual graduation ceremony was held. This was followed up by a grade eight clap out parade on June 23, 2021. What exciting events these were. Many thanks to everyone involved in organizing the evening. Wishing our graduates all the best in the future!

## **Bus Information**

Busing information can be found on the web site noted below. Please check busing information the last two week is in August for route number and pick up and drop off times. [www.schoolbuscity.com](http://www.schoolbuscity.com)

## **School Organization**

We are now in the process of formulating class lists for next year. There will be several drafts but the lists will not be finalized until Labour Day weekend. Information regarding students grade placement will come over the Labour day weekend. Hence we will **not** be able to tell students the names of teachers until that time.

## **First Day of School Procedures**

On the first day of school, Wednesday September 8th, students will go to the designated areas as noted below. Once the bell rings, teachers will meet the students with class lists and call out names. Information as to class placement will be sent home prior to the first day of school.

## **Wednesday September 8, 2021**

At 9:00 am students assemble as follows:

Kindergarten is full day, every day. All students including kindergarten students start school on Wednesday September 8. Kindergarten students are to meet in the fenced area and the teacher will come and pick them up at the bell.

Gr. 1,2,3- In Primary yard near Primary doors (if rain assemble in the gym)

Gr. 4-8—In Junior/intermediate yard near Junior/intermediate doors (if rain, assemble in Gym)

## **Bell Times**

9:00 AM - School Begins

12:00-1:00 Lunch and Recess

10:20-10:35- Recess

2:20-2:35- Recess

3:30 PM – Dismissal

## **Report Cards**

Our school will be delivering report cards electronically on Tuesday, June 29th (*after 4:00 PM*) via the **Parent Portal**.

Parents are encouraged to sign-on to the Parent Portal *in advance* of June 29th, 2021 to ensure your username and password will allow access.

To access this portal, please visit our school's website, and click on the parents link in the top banner. From the Parents page, you will find a link to "Maplewood Parent Portal ConnectEd" on the right hand side.

For detailed instructions on registering, using the portal, and to seek support, please visit:

<https://sites.google.com/ycdsb.ca/ycdsbparentportal>

## **Farwell & Welcome**

As we come near the end of the year, there are some staffing changes for September. It is with mixed emotion that I share with you that Ms. Franzin, Ms. Comeau, Ms. Simone, Ms. Kilislian, and Ms. Slaven will be moving on to other assignments. I would like to thank them for their dedication to the students in their care. They will all be greatly missed and we wish them well in the years ahead. I would like to welcome to our school, Ms. Montesano, Ms. Graham and our new principal Mrs. Damiano. I know they will love their new school.



# **Multi-Year Strategic Plan**

### **Mission Statement**

Guided by Gospel values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

### **Vision Statement**

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

### **Core Values**

Excellence    Equity  
Faithfulness    Catholicity    Inclusion  
Integrity    Respect

### **Strategic Commitments**

Integration of Our Catholic Faith    Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement  
Effective Use of Our Resources    Engaging Our Communities