



Director's Annual Report 2018



Algonquin & Lakeshore
Catholic District School Board

Strategic Plan

Providing focus for our Catholic school system, the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board strategic plan provides for us a strong sense of direction and identifies the broad strategies, initiatives and measures of progress that will guide the work of staff. Approved by the Board of Trustees, the strategic plan is organized under the pillars of Discipleship, Scholarship, and Stewardship and identifies academic, operational and financial goals that align with the vision we hold for our students.

Vision

Catholic schools in the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board inspire and nurture strong communities of faith, engaged communities of learning and compassionate communities of service.

Knowing that we are alive in the faith of Jesus Christ and that we are called to put our faith into action, we educate our students to grow in grace and knowledge, and to lead lives of faith, hope and love. Accordingly, we remain resolute in our commitment to academic excellence and the relentless pursuit of success for each student and staff member, fostered within faith-filled Catholic learning environments.

Director's Message

Guided by our Catholic education mission, our Board's strategic plan and our ongoing commitment to the success and well-being of every learner, it is my pleasure to present the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board 2018 Director's Annual Report.

In the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board we take pride in knowing that our students and staff are part of energizing Catholic learning communities that are grounded in gospel values, founded on exceptional instructional practices and focused on student learning.

This is the final Annual Report that I will submit as Director of Education and it provides me with a unique opportunity to share with you some of my personal reflections, as well as highlight some of the many accomplishments from across our system this past year. We are all witnesses to the many successes in our Catholic school communities and I am sure that as you read through the pages of this report you will find rich examples of students and staff building communities where our faith flourishes and comes alive, where students are deepening their learning and where staff are growing as professionals.

Eight years ago, I began this journey as Director of Education with great enthusiasm, a firm commitment to serve the students and staff of our Catholic school board, and possessing a deep passion for Catholic education. As I prepare to retire from this role, I continue to possess these same characteristics and commitments. The opportunity to serve the students and staff in this privileged position in Algonquin and Lakeshore has been both humbling and inspiring.

As we look to the future and build on the successes of the past, I share the following thoughts with you about where I believe our focus must continue to lie. In this Catholic school board I believe:

- We need to continue to be visionary in our thinking and innovative in our approaches to teaching and instruction.
- We need to continue to challenge our beliefs about learners and learning environments, so that when we say "all students" we really do mean "all students."
- We need to specifically name, call out, challenge and change those practices that do not align with our espoused beliefs about equity, inclusion and the dignity of the human person.
- As a Catholic school system, whose mission it is to develop students who reflect the image of God, we need to ensure that what we espouse and what we enact, on a day-to-day basis, is consistent with our Catholic mission and inclusive of those who may find themselves to be marginalized.

Each member of this Catholic school board community must continue to be committed to building strong communities of faith, engaged communities of learning and compassionate communities of service.



Strong Communities of Faith means a continued focus on the faith development and faith formation of students and staff. In this regard, the Ontario Bishops recent pastoral letter, "Renewing the Promise" will help to frame and guide much of these efforts over the next few years.

Engaged Communities of Learning means continuing to maintain a focus on student achievement and well-being and the relentless pursuit of success for each student. And, as a result, continuing to be classroom innovators who focus on instructional approaches that keep student learning at the centre.

Compassionate Communities of Service means always being guided by our fundamental belief in the dignity of the human person and focused on the success of all whom we encounter. And, of utmost importance, as educators and leaders, always remembering that we are called to serve.

I wish to personally thank you for the confidence you have placed in me over the past eight years. Your support of my leadership and of our collective vision has provided me with the ability to lead a Catholic school system that remains focused on our faith and on supporting opportunities to be creative and innovative in our approaches to the education of students in our Catholic schools.

In closing, I ask that you always remember this message from *Renewing the Promise*:

"You are powerful witnesses to the presence of Jesus in the lives of our students, and you provide the good soil each school day for the roots of faith to grow in our students. . . Each day, provide a welcoming environment as students arrive to school. . . Create inclusive places of learning that invite and enable each person in your care to grow fully to be all that God knows and hopes them to be. . . Model for them the gratitude we have for all that has been gifted to us. . . and, with confidence in your own abilities, make this world more loving, and more just, through your good works and witness. . . Recognize that when your students return to their families and their communities at the end of each day they will do so reflecting the kindness, love and attention they experienced while in your care."

Thank you for enriching my life and enriching the lives of those whom you encounter each day.

Jody DiRocco
Director of Education
@jodydirocco

Discipleship



Students across ALCDSB had the opportunity to participate in the Nativity Exhibition, showcasing many uniquely handcrafted nativity scenes. This experience, founded by the late Tony Vella, aims to strengthen the Christian faith and promote Christian unity.

When students at St. Carthag Catholic School in Tweed found out there are children in the world who don't have access to toothbrushes, they took action! This small community collected over 1,300 toothbrushes to send to children in Mexico.



In their own voices and from their own experiences, secondary students and staff contribute to building more caring and healthy school communities during the ALCDSB Youth Wellness Summit.



Annually ALCDSB staff come together to affirm and celebrate the Board's distinctive identity as a Catholic School Board. This year, staff gathered for morning Mass and then joined together in groups for discussion.





ALCDSB Principals and Priests gathered for a day of celebration and to strengthen the school-parish relationship. Renewing the Promise, the pastoral letter from the Bishops of Ontario, served as the guide for discussions throughout the day.



St. Paul Catholic Secondary School students take time to connect with God through Christian meditation in their Peace Garden.



The social justice committee at St. Thomas More Catholic School led an initiative that collected toiletries for St. Vincent de Paul. Students collected, organized and packed the toiletries during their recess time.



Grade 6 students from across ALCDSB came together for a day of activities, which focused on empowering students to be witnesses to our Catholic faith. The day included praise and worship music led by the Josh Blakesley Band, a professional Catholic music group.

Scholarship



Young women from St. Michael Catholic School and Nicholson Catholic College participated in a day of learning about trades and technology at Loyalist College, hosted by Skills Ontario.



Students across Belleville & area participated in the first ever Mayor's Hunt for History, a program designed to teach youth about local history.

On June 8, students took part in the 2018 ALCDSB Math tournament at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School. Students had the opportunity to further challenge their math and creative problem solving skills.





Early Years planning continued to reinforce the core value of the Kindergarten Program and focused on building self-regulation, the effective use of outdoor learning spaces and introduction of the Early Childhood Education Mentoring Program.



Students at Holy Name of Mary Catholic School are taking their learning outdoors! Kindergarten students had the opportunity to grow tomatoes, make tomato sauce and invite family members to join them for a special lunch.



This year ALCDSB introduced DELF, an internationally recognized test of French proficiency. Thirty-three Grade 12 students wrote the DELF in May. These students came from Core French, Extended French and French Immersion programs.

This year ALCDSB has continued to develop the Universal Design for Learning Framework across our system. This allows ALCDSB to meet the needs of all learners by removing barriers and designing learning supports that are necessary for some but good for all learners.



Stewardship



ALCDSB staff annually supports the hard work and dedication of the United Way KFLA and the United Way HPE. This year, board office staff volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club in Kingston for the United Way's Day of Caring.

Nicholson Catholic College students hosted an international food fair with food music, traditional attire and décor inspired from various countries around the world. This year, ALCDSB welcomed 30 international students from seven different countries.



Students at Georges Vanier Catholic School had the opportunity to work in collaboration with post-secondary students and Wentworth Landscapes to design their dream playground as part of the Come Alive Outside Design Challenge.



Regiopolis-Notre Dame Catholic High School and Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School students had the opportunity to ride the "Big Bike" – an initiative run by the Heart and Stroke Foundation which allows 29 riders to power one big bike.



This year, the Director's Annual Charity Golf Tournament celebrated 20 years and raised \$20,200. The proceeds from the golf tournament went to the Algonquin and Lakehore Catholic Education Foundation, which provides immediate financial assistance to children and their families in our school system who are impacted by poverty.

Thank you to Bob Koubsky, retired Superintendent of Finance and Business Services, for his dedication to the tournament over the last 20 years.



In celebration of ALCDSB's 20 years as an amalgamated board, students from all five secondary schools and Loyola School for Adult and Continuing Education came together in collaboration to create a piece of art for the board office. At the September Board Meeting, Katrien Reed, teacher lead and students from St. Paul Catholic Secondary School came to officially unveil the art project.



Sacred Heart Catholic School in Batawa has created a space where students can learn about several of the different cultures that make up the Indigenous heritage of our country. Students and classes can come to the space to learn about the artifacts and ask questions for inquiry.



Students at St. Martha have been working with StopGap Foundation, an initiative that removes barriers in our local communities and raises awareness about accessibility for all. Students had the opportunity to speak with local businesses in downtown Kingston about acquiring ramps for their business.

ALCDSB At a Glance

Total students

11,537

3,565

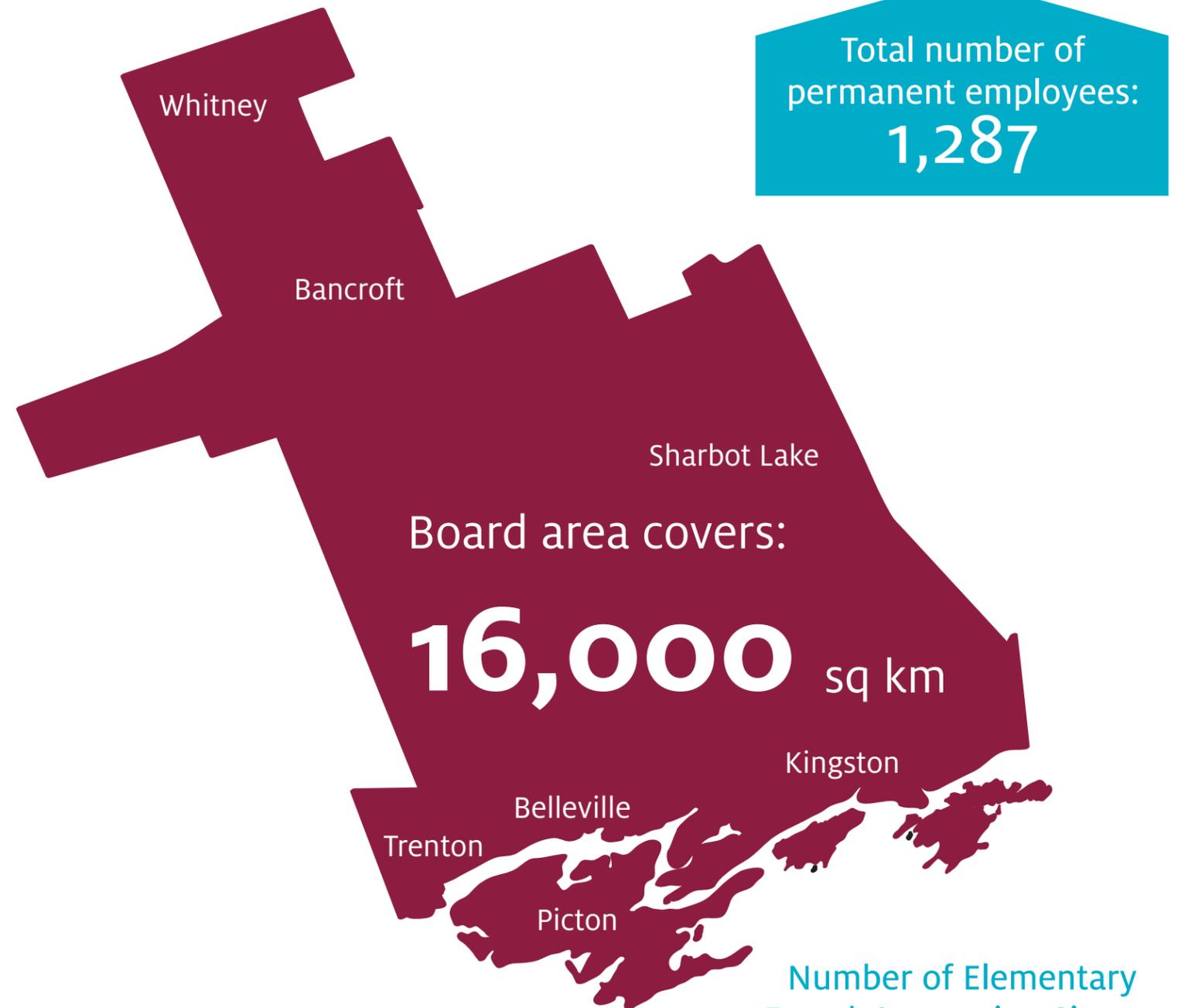
Secondary Students

7,972

Elementary Students



Number of elementary schools: 32



Number of Elementary French Immersion Sites: 5



16 Specialist High Skills Majors



Number of secondary schools: 5

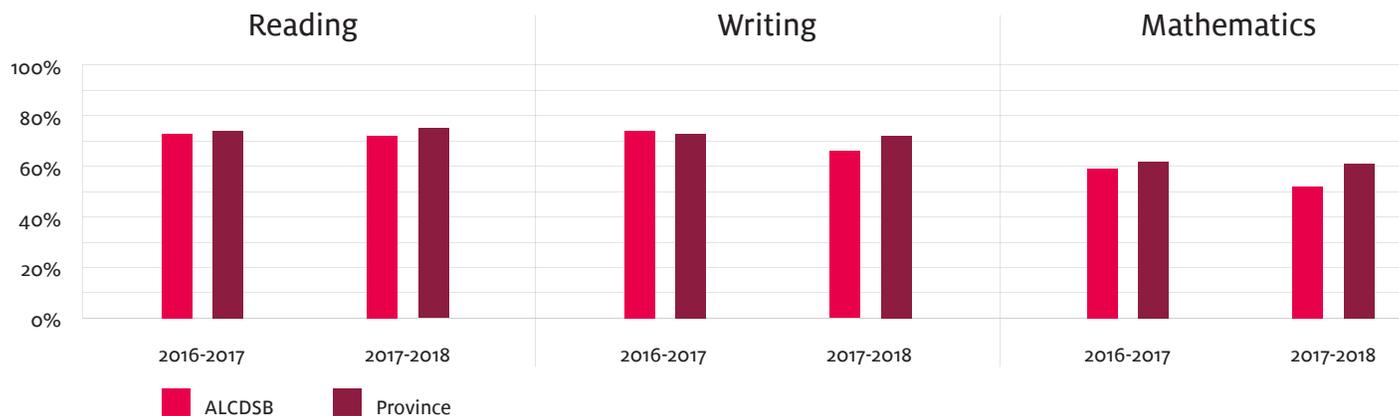


Number of adult learning sites: 5



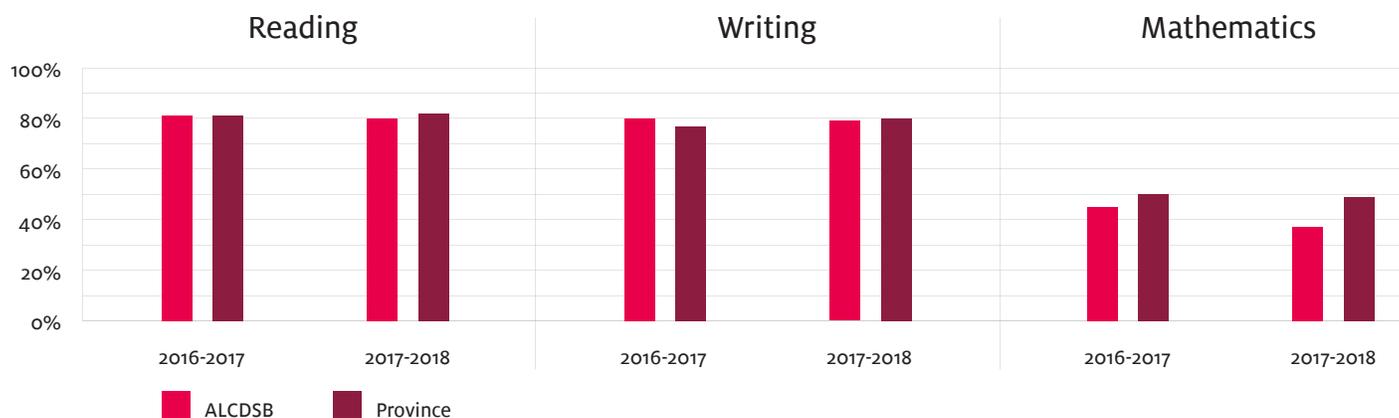
EQAO: Primary

Grade 3 Percentage of students at or above the Provincial standard



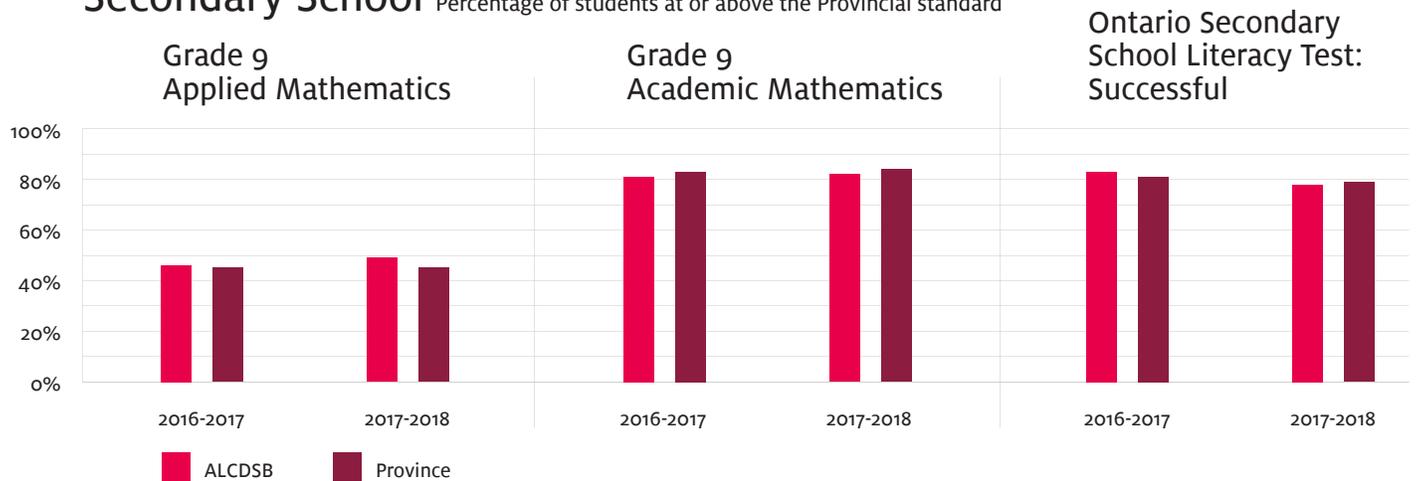
EQAO: Junior

Grade 6 Percentage of students at or above the Provincial standard



EQAO: Secondary

Secondary School Percentage of students at or above the Provincial standard



St. Paul Catholic Secondary School Colour Run in support of the Trenton Memorial Hospital Foundation



Renewing the Promise

Equity & Inclusion



Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School Wellness Team

Equity and Inclusive Education

Commitment to our students' well-being is the driving force behind everything we do in education. Our schools strive to bring out the very best in every child and help them reach their full potential. Everyone who works in ALCDSB shares that same commitment.

Our Dignity for All Professional Development series engaged school teams in deep reflection about privilege, justice, and charity. The Catholic Social Teachings prompted school based inquiries centered on protecting the human dignity of all those we serve.

Safe and Accepting Schools

Ontario Catholic schools should be a place where everyone – children, students, staff, parents and community – feels welcome, safe and respected. A safe, inclusive and accepting school environment is essential for student well-being and achievement.

The Caring and Safe Catholic Schools Working Group sought out new data collection methods to inform the planning of positive school climate and well-being initiatives and support actionable goals to enhance student well-being.

Mental Health

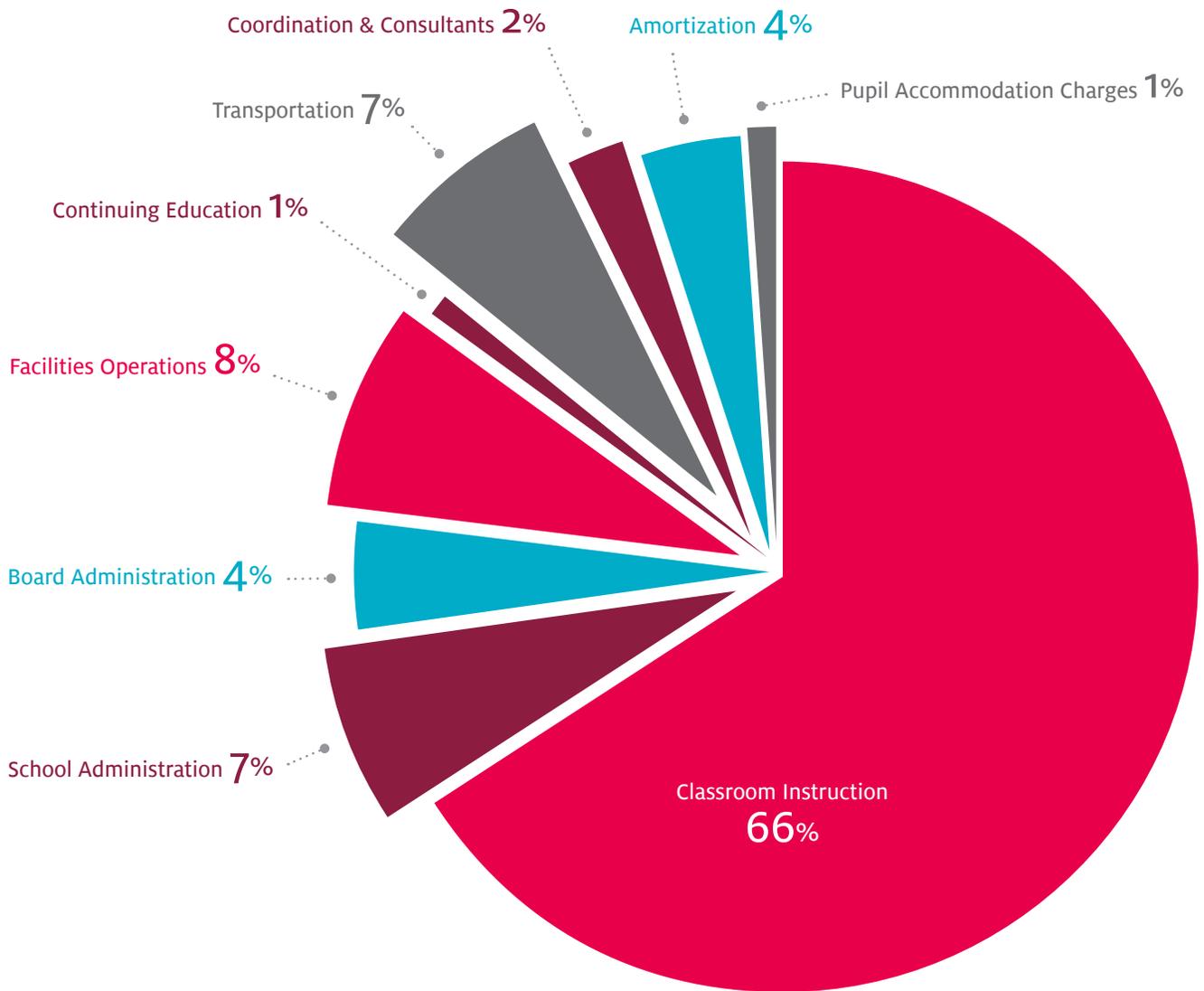
People with lived experience of mental illness are valued members of our communities. It is important for our communities to work together to eliminate stigma and discrimination.

School teams received training on mental health promotion skills and strategies to create 'Mentally Healthy Classrooms,' including social emotional learning skills, restorative practice, and creating welcoming and inclusive learning environments. In addition, training on our suicide prevention, intervention, and post-vention protocol was completed to build capacity within our system and develop connections with community partners.

Healthy Schools

ALCDSB educators create learning environments that support students' cognitive, emotional, social and physical development and also their mental health, resilience, and overall state of well-being.

We continue to celebrate and promote intentional health and wellbeing goals in all aspects of system planning. This is demonstrated through our board's commitment to health promotion, illness & injury prevention and knowledge building around personal, physical and emotional wellness for self and others.



Business & Financial Services

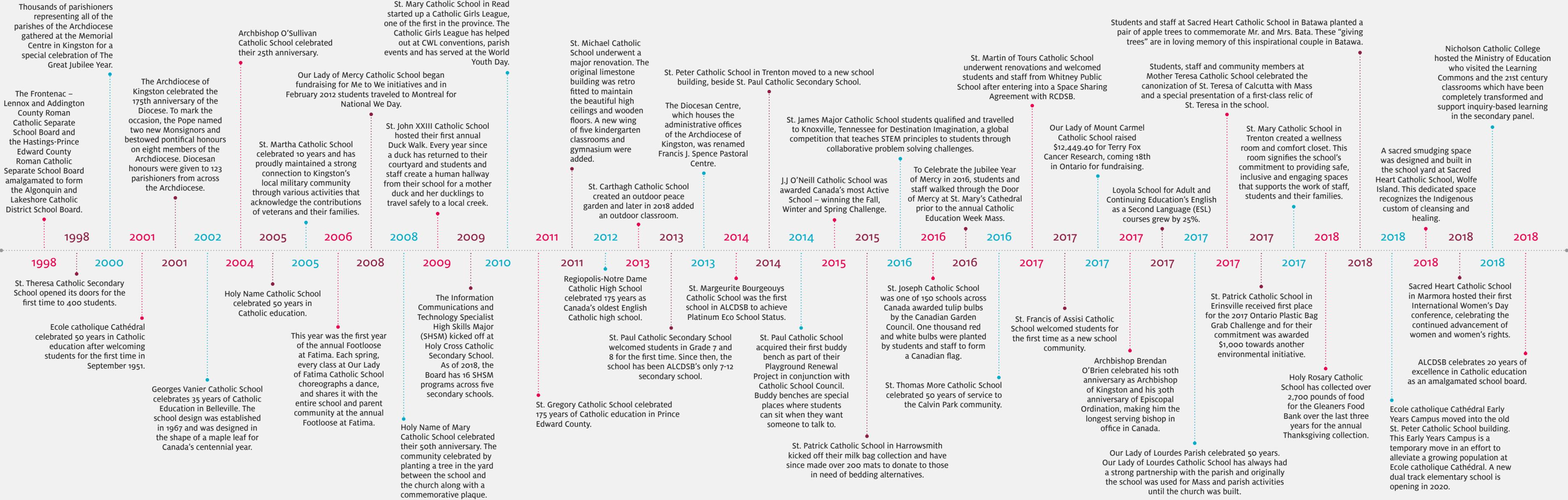
The role of the Business and Financial Services Department is to provide support and direction to all Board staff in the areas of finance and business operations. The Department provides the following services: Financial, Budgeting, Accounting, Payroll, Purchasing, Transportation, Planning, Physical Facilities and Maintenance Services.

2018-2019 Budget

On June 19, 2018 the Board of Trustees passed a balanced operating budget of \$158.4 million and a Capital budget of \$6.9 million.

The chart illustrates how the Board's \$158.4 million operating budget for the year 2018-2019 was allocated.

Celebrating 20 years — A Glimpse of Our Accomplishments



Our Trustees



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Chair of the Board, Trustee for Quinte West

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Vice-Chair of the Board, Chair of Issues and Directions Committee, Trustee for Kingston and Frontenac Islands

Sean Kelly

Chair of the Finance and Operations Committee, Trustee for Belleville, Tyendinaga, Deseronto

Gavin Cosgrove

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Trustee for Kingston and Frontenac Islands

Jacqueline Van Herpt

Student Trustee 2017-2018

Andrea Brown

Student Trustee 2018-2019



St. John XXIII Catholic School Learning Commons



Algonquin & Lakeshore

Catholic District School Board

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