



# HOLY CROSS

Catholic Secondary School

June 2021

## Principal's Message

Another school year is nearing completion, year two of virtual celebrations and limited options. Although the sun is shining more vibrantly every day, there is a heaviness upon us. The lockdown and all worries attached can be really trying on our resilience and optimism. Please know that anyone feeling this sadness is not alone and that there are better days ahead. We truly are in this together and, as more and more of us are vaccinated, the end is in sight. Hang in there.

The Holy Cross community lost a longtime and valued staff member, Educational Assistant Barb Storrington. **Barb** was a strong advocate for her students and also shared her many talents and gifts with her colleagues. So many people here are hurting right now, mourning her loss, but are grateful to have known her. We will plant a blue spruce tree near the outdoor classroom in her honour. Blue Spruce was a favourite of Barb's. We hope this space will honour her properly.

Like many organizations in Canada, our flags are flying at half-mast in honour of the **215 children**, uncovered in a mass grave at a residential school in Kamloops, BC. This serves as a stark reminder of the violence inflicted by the residential school system and by the Catholic church. It serves to remind us that the wounds carried by communities, families and residential school survivors is very much a present-day issue. We have parents in the Holy Cross community who have lived this intergenerational trauma and still entrust their children to our care. If we are indeed a Catholic school board where "all are welcome in this place", we have to ensure that all people are honoured, respected and feel safe. The flags are at half-mast as a symbol of unity but action remains. It is beyond time to put into place the recommendations of the TRC Final Report and to take responsibility, build

## This Month

- June 1– Response to Ontario University offer Of Admission**
- June 4– PD Day**
- June 8-Octo 8 Midterm**
- June 16– Full disclosure date**
- June 21-Used Uniform Sale**
- June 23– Half day classes**
- June 24-Graduation Celebration tentative**
- June 24– Credit recovery/rescue day**
- June 25-PD Day**

relationship, show respect, and enact mutual reciprocity.

As June is **Pride Month**, we again have the opportunity to focus on accompaniment, a chance to ensure that our students that we are all wonderfully made. As Catholics, we believe that we are wonderfully made in the image and likeness of a God who created us and loves us unconditionally – just as we are. We are called to love and celebrate one another, just as God loves and celebrates each one of us. We honour the inherent dignity in each other by treating one another with care, compassion, and respect. The month of June is designated as PRIDE month. This month, and each and every month, Holy Cross is committed to nurturing safe and inclusive learning environments where every student and every member of the community is welcomed, valued, and respected. All are truly Welcome in this Place.

## Principal's message cont'd

After input from students, staff and the Catholic School Council parents, the **HC uniform policy** will be adjusted next year (see details later in the newsletter) so that the green shortsleeved golf shirt can be worn year-round. This will allow students in the warmer months of the fall to be more comfortable and helps to make the uniform more equitable. Many thanks for all involved in sharing their input.

As we put together this newsletter, there is still no word on whether we will return to in-person learning this year. Things do look brighter for the fall, whereby we are planning for a quadmester and maybe even traditional four period days at some point in the year. This uncertainty makes planning for graduation very difficult. We are hoping to have some form of **modified Graduation Ceremony** on **Thursday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**. We have begun planning for a virtual ceremony and are delighted to announce that our Class Reps are **Ariel Vandervoort** and **Aiden Tulk**, our Salutatorian is **Amber Minutillo**, and the Valedictorian is **Caleb Bailey**. If we can have small groups come across the stage in person, we will do so, and / or an outside drive by will be organized. Unfortunately, so much is still unknown right now. As soon as we can, more information is coming, I promise you. We want to offer the HC Class of 2021 as much of the anticipated Graduation rituals as is possible. Gowns and tassels, the silver crosses, some trinkets are all being prepared and the Awards Committee is convening this week. I appreciate the support of the community as we endeavour to help celebrate the Class of '21.

Many thanks to **Mrs. McDonald** and the **Student Council Executive of 2020-21**. You have done so much to nurture school spirit, inspire hope and continue works of charity and social justice. Thank you **Madeleine Skebo**, **Caleb Bailey**, **Amber Minutillo**, **Carson Alderson**, **Emma Rizk**, **Emma Saganowich**, **Jack Kenney**, **Kathleen Beckenhauer**, **Katie Millar**, **Lauryn Furtado**, **Mary Williams**, **Natalie Vecchio**, **Olivia Gilbert**, **John Poulos**, and junior reps: **Samara De Jonge** and **Minraj Gill**. Good luck to the candidates vying for Student Council 2021-22; you have big shoes to fill!

Congratulations to **Mr. Robin Dzierniejko**, recipient of the **Katherine Splinter Award** for ALCDSB. His generous and humble spirit is no surprise to the Holy Cross community, but we are pleased that the rest of the board has noted it too. Well done, **Mr. Dzierniejko**.

There are some retirements this year, including **Ms. Terrie Hoey**, a long-time youth worker whose gentle presence and wisdom will be missed, **Mrs. Marie Hulse**, who has been an integral member of the Resource Department for many years as well as a multi-sport coach, **Mrs. Kim Hulton**, a guidance counselor and strong advocate for students via Student Success, as well as the contact for the Kingston Frontenacs at our school, and **Mr. John Esford**, a leader in communications technology, especially the SHSM, and the man responsible for capturing so much of school life here at Holy Cross. We will miss these valued staff members very much but wish them all the best in their next adventures.





Holy Cross Catholic Secondary  
School presents...

## ***Moving On Up!***

### **A Jump Start to Grade 9**

Holy Cross will host an orientation program over 2 days during the week before school begins (tentative dates: **Tuesday, Aug. 31<sup>st</sup> & Wednesday, Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>**)

Activities will include:

- Lock and locker distribution
- Literacy and numeracy refresher sessions
- Guest speakers
- Scavenger hunts/games
- Timetable distribution

This program is designed to help Grade 9 students settle in and meet new peers before the start of the academic year. We are hoping to meet in person (in cohorts) however we may have to arrange a virtual presentation in consultation with our Public Health partners.

More information regarding *Moving on Up* will be shared through elementary feeder schools and the Holy Cross website, **HCtoday**. Registration will take place online. Students will require a bagged lunch and their own transportation to and from the school.

***Please plan to join us!***

## Counsellor's Corner

### Graduate Information

**Celebrating the Class of 2021!**

**Mark the date – June 24**

**Watch HC social media and the school website for details – [www.hctoday.ca](http://www.hctoday.ca)**

### **OUAC and OCAS**

Marks have been submitted to OUAC and OCAS. Students should check their account to make sure all information is accurate. Students must accept offers of admission in their OUAC and OCAS accounts, and they must do so by the published deadline dates provided by the post-secondary institutions.

### **OSAP**

Ontario has launched applications for the 2021-22 Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) for full-time students. Students can now apply to the OSAP program for the 2021-22 school year for help with their postsecondary education costs. Students who have questions about OSAP or the OSAP application can contact the Financial Aid Office at the college or university they plan to attend.

### **Community Service Requirement for Graduates**

For the 2021-22 school year, the Ministry of Education has revised the 40-hour community involvement graduation requirement so that students will not be adversely impacted by the ongoing challenges related to COVID-19. For students graduating this school year, the **community involvement graduation requirement will be reduced to a minimum of 20 hours** of community involvement activities. This recognizes that graduating students have had barriers to earning their community involvement hours last school year and there may be continued barriers this school year. Students can include activities that are performed at home and for family members. Graduating students must submit their volunteer hours by **June 4** to ensure the community service graduation requirement is met.

### **ASPEN Student portal – course selection for 2021/22 school year**

Students can view their timetable, credit accumulation and course requests for next year on the Aspen student portal found on students' virtual commons. Students should review the courses they have chosen for next year on the 'my info' tab found at the top of the home page. Click on 'current schedule' and then click on the 'requests' tab found on the left. Students should contact their guidance counsellors if they would like to make changes to their course selections for next year.

Grade 12 students interested in returning next year should contact their guidance counsellor.

**Student Timetables for 2021/22** school year will be available in draft form on the students' Aspen portal by the end of the school year. Timetable/Teacher assignments may still change throughout the summer months. Final timetables will be made available at the end of August on Aspen.

### **Summer School July 2021**

The ALCDSB is offering full credit summer school courses from June 28 - July 23rd. Courses are delivered on-line and are asynchronous. The following courses will be offered:

Careers/Civics - GLC20/CHV2O (available in French)

English: Contemporary Aboriginal Voices - NBE3U

English: College level - ENG4C

English: University level - ENG4U

Functions - MCR3U

Functions and Applications - MCF3M

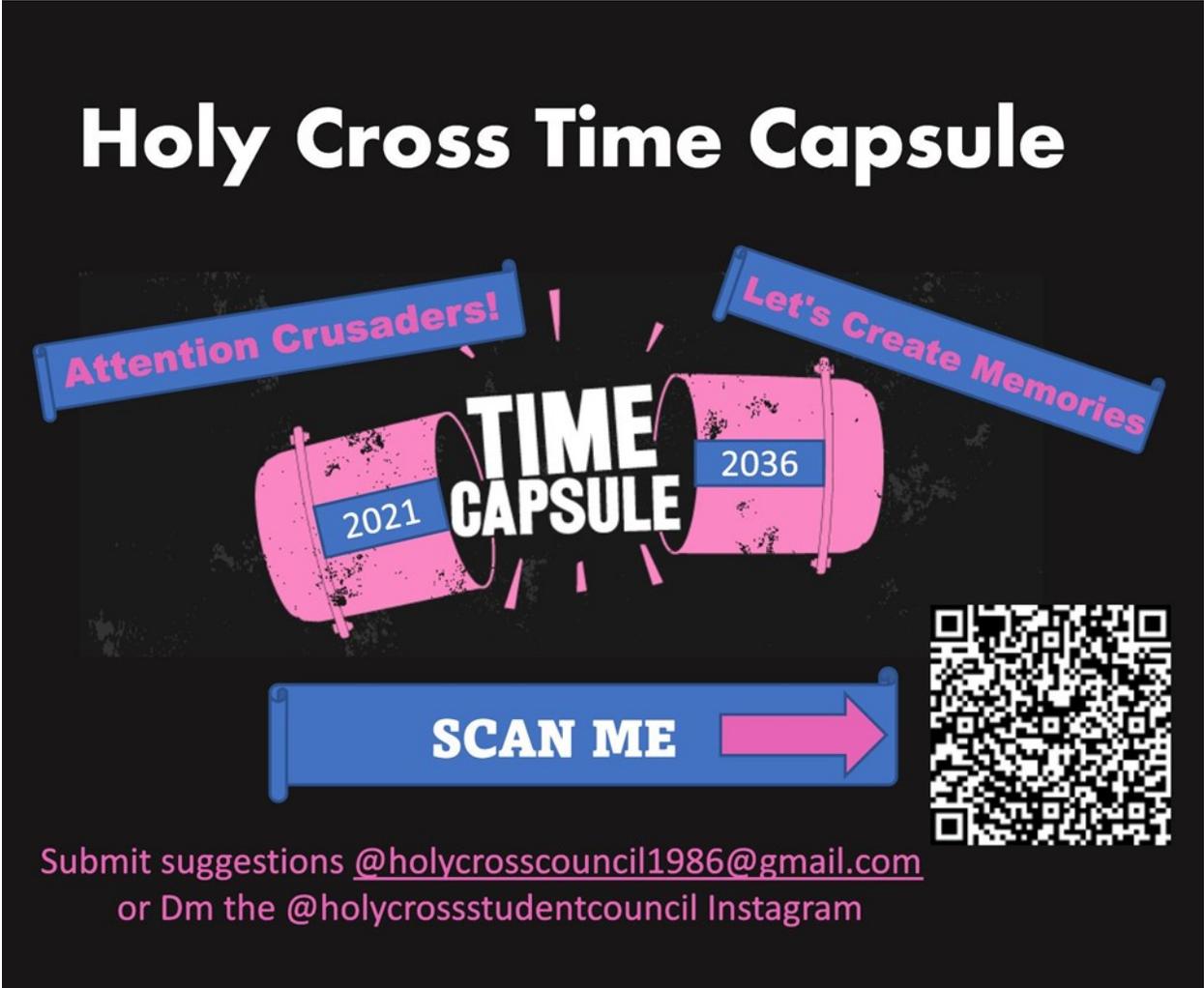
Advanced Functions - MHF4U

Cooperative Education - one and two credit co-op placements are possible. Students may need to find their own placements.

Please contact your guidance counsellor for registration information

## UPDATES FROM STUDENT COUNCIL:

Your Student Council is creating a Time Capsule! This will be opened on The 50th Anniversary of Holy Cross. (2036) We are looking for YOUR input into what should go in it, what container it should be put in, and where it should be located. All suggestions are welcome & they do not have to be pandemic related. Please submit your ideas by: Tues. June 8th



**Holy Cross Time Capsule**

Attention Crusaders!

Let's Create Memories

2021 **TIME CAPSULE** 2036

SCAN ME →



Submit suggestions [@holycrosscouncil1986@gmail.com](mailto:@holycrosscouncil1986@gmail.com)  
or Dm the @holycrossstudentcouncil Instagram

Connect with us:

Instagram: @holycrossstudentcouncil

Twitter:  @hcstudco

Email:  holycrosscouncil1986@gmail.com

## THANK YOU

With the end of the school year, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank and acknowledge the members of Student Council for their outstanding efforts in making this year as fun and memorable for the student body and staff as possible. It was certainly a challenging year to plan events and activities for, but they were committed to making it the best it could be.

From numerous spirit weeks including "Fake Break", to online talent shows & coffeehouses, to our absolutely gorgeous Christmas tree in the main foyer; to virtual activity bingo cards, to new spirit wear designs, to the addition of Music Mondays, to Friday morning announcements with the best cheesy jokes in town, to mental health day, and more. Student Council, we salute you.

(With that being said, they still have a few more activities for June planned. Stay tuned.)

*Thank you to head girl: Madeleine Skebo, head boy: Caleb Bailey, Amber Minutillo, Carson Alderson, Emma Rizk, Emma Saganowich, Jack Kenney, Kathleen Beckenhauer, Katie Millar, Lauryn Furtado, Mary Williams, Natalie Vecchio, Olivia Gilbert, John Poulos, & junior reps: Samara De Jonge & Minraj Gill.*

The **Student Council Election Campaign** is set to run May 31-June 3rd.

Applications were submitted and each candidate will be showcased during a **Virtual Town Hall** on Thursday, June 3rd. Each student has prepared a video/speech. The student body will then vote for their 2021-2022 Student Council. The newly elected council will be announced the following day, Friday, June 4th via social media and the RSS news reader. Good luck to all of the candidates.

Have a safe and relaxing summer,

*Mrs. Jennifer McDonald, Student Council Advisor*

## The Spirit Shop

The HC Spirit Shop online sales will open back up in June and we will arrange pickup once the lockdown is lifted. HC Spirit Wear can be paid for using the same payment process as for student fees. (schoolcashionline.com).

Grey HCSS Hoodie	\$45
Grey or Green Crewneck Sweatshirt	\$38 <b>SALE</b>
Grey Sweatpants with pockets	\$35
Vintage (Embroidered) Long Sleeve	\$15 or 2 for \$28 (green or white)
HC pajama pants	\$40
"We the West" Lanyard	\$ 3
Drawstring Cinch bag	\$15
Green or Dark Heather Grey T-Shirt	\$15 <b>NEW</b>

Unfortunately, the student leadership team cannot guarantee inventory as there are limited quantities and sizing available. In the event we cannot fulfil your order, you will be refunded.

# Octomester Dates

Octo 8 class: May 21 - Jun 22, 2021

Octo 8 exam: Jun 23, 2021

Octo 8 Credit recovery: Jun 24, 2021



# Order School Uniform

New to 2021, we are introducing a Virtual Agent option, exclusive for the In School Shop, along with On-Line and Call Centre options. Unfortunately, as a result of the provincial guidelines due to COVID-19, the In School Shops will remain closed for in person shopping.

During a Virtual Agent Appointment, you will be able to visually interact with a dedicated member of our team who will assist you with understanding and interpreting sizing & fit, advise you on all specific uniform requirements and provide you information on any special offers/bundles. You will be able to securely screen share to help complete transactions.

**Call centre ordering**  
**416-593-6900 | 1-800-668-8261**

All schools served by this location have a custom e-store. Visit **'search for your school uniform store'** search bar on our home page to access your store

<https://www.mccarthyuniforms.ca>



## PASTORAL NEWS



I would like to applaud all the students and staff of Holy Cross on the perseverance shown through the month of May. Even in difficult times and being remote, we have seen the blessing of our community and the support it offers. Thank you everyone for witnessing to God's love in new ways.

The Feast of the Sacred Heart falls on June 11<sup>th</sup> this year. This important solemnity invites us to reflect upon the love of Jesus Christ for humanity and the entire world. Together with Catholic schools around the province, we will be praying a novena for the nine days preceding the feast to spiritually acquaint ourselves with this important devotion. Furthermore, with June being Pride Month, we are reminded of our own role in extending Jesus' love, especially to all who face any type of marginalization. We pray that Holy Cross might be a welcoming home for all in the LGTBTQ2+ community, where the love of the Heart of Christ can be encountered.

We ask that you keep Barb Storning and her family in your prayers. A beloved member of our community, her death has been difficult, and she is deeply missed. Anybody who is struggling with this loss and looking for support is invited to contact me at [ncotman@alcdsb.on.ca](mailto:ncotman@alcdsb.on.ca). Furthermore, we are blessed with two wonderful youth workers, Terrie and Amey, who are also available. Please do not hesitate to reach out.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13*

Nick Cotman, Chaplaincy Leader

Twitter: @nick\_cotman

**All Are Welcome In This Place**

## Contact Us

Check on-line for more information at [www.hctoday.ca](http://www.hctoday.ca)  
**Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School**  
1085 Woodbine Road, Kingston, Ontario, K7P 2V9  
(613) 384-1919



## Looking Forward to Summer

June 28-July 23- Summer School  
Virtual



First day classes 2021-2022 school  
year

September 7, 2021

Further info about the Blood Drive:

Wednesday June 2nd is the HC group booking. 20-person goal for this year.

If you sign up even non-students/HC alumni can help towards the 20-person goal for the year.

## Yearbooks!

They are here but we are waiting to hear from the Province how we will be able to distribute them.

Stay tuned.



Algonquin  
& Lakeshore  
Catholic District  
School Board

ALCDSB PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND STAKEHOLDERS  
ARE INVITED ON  
WEDNESDAY JUNE 16, 2021 6:30- 7:30 PM

## DE-STREAMING FOR SUCCESS

WITH JASON TO  
COORDINATOR, SECONDARY MATHEMATICS AND  
ACADEMIC PATHWAYS AT TORONTO DISTRICT  
SCHOOL BOARD

USE THIS LINK TO JOIN:  
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/2RRCGVB](https://bit.ly/2RRCGVB)

# HOLY CROSS UNIFORMS

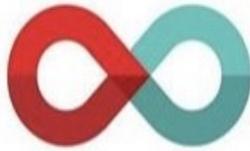
## *Uniform Donations*

Graduates are asked to donate all gently used, clean uniforms to the front foyer at the end of June. Bins will be set up in the main foyer to collect all donations. All items in good condition will be used for the Used Uniform Sale.

## *Used Uniform Sale*

We are pleased to announce that we are having a used uniform sale on Monday June 21<sup>st</sup> from 3:00p to 6:00p. Monies raised from the used uniform sale go to HC students in need. Please wear a mask and socially distance. Cash only.





**Canadian  
Blood  
Services**

BLOOD  
PLASMA  
STEM CELLS  
ORGANS  
& TISSUES

**NextGen  
Lifeline**

STUDENTS RECRUITING  
DONORS TO SAVE LIVES

# Try something new and donate blood for the first time.

Join **Canada's Lifeline.**

<https://myaccount.blood.ca/en/join-team/HOLY011675>

Reserve your time at our team donation on Wed., June 2, 2021



*Open the camera app  
on your mobile device  
to scan QR code.*



# Join our team Holy Cross Catholic Secondary!

It's as easy as 123... help us save lives together as a team

## Step #1 Sign up

- scan the QR code to log in or create an account

## Step #2 Join/Manage Organizations-Scan to Code

- Or go to [blood.ca](http://blood.ca) – click on my account
- Sign in or create an account
- search "Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School-Kingston"
- click and join the team
- view team – click and you can see how the team is doing

## Step #3 Book appointment – from our team appointments click on book and pick your time



### Team appointments

Your team champion has reserved group donation appointments for your team.



You can access and complete the donor questionnaire before appointment.

You can track your individual donations.

You can see team/group donations.

**SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR:  
INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY**

**Gr 10  
& 11**

**REGISTER  
NOW!**

**Email: [mcdojenn@alcdsb.on.ca](mailto:mcdojenn@alcdsb.on.ca)  
or talk to your guidance counsellor**

or

Take a photo  
of QR code  
to register



Want to be a  
Graphic Designer, Photographer,  
Computer Engineer, Game Designer,  
Journalist, Filmmaker, Animator, or  
have another career in ICT?  
SHSM is for you!

**Included FREE: CRP/First Aid  
training, Post-Secondary  
Exploration, Career  
Connections, Co-op, Trips,  
Red Seal diploma & more**

## 2021 – 2022 Updated Uniform Policy

After input from students, staff and parents, we are adding a year-round golf shirt option to the Holy Cross uniform. HC green golf shirts can be worn with the HC pants, kilt, or shorts. Shorts are still restricted to the spring uniform later in the year. We hope this increases comfort level and available options, while maintaining the high standards and consistency a uniform embodies. The following is our revised uniform policy:

Students are to wear the Holy Cross uniform at all times during the school day, including the lunch hour and during spare periods. Uniforms are available for purchase through McCarthy's, our supplier, online-only this year.

The uniform has several functions: safety, convenience, cost and community. Visitors to Holy Cross are readily identifiable to staff, enhancing security in our building. Students essentially have one wardrobe decision to make in the mornings. The cost to families over time for clothing is reduced. The uniform takes into account comfort and equity. Students in uniform have chosen to be part of a community of equals and demonstrate their desire to be a Crusader by wearing the uniform with pride.

The fall and winter uniform is in effect from September to June.

The fall uniform is described below:

**Girls:** solid grey Holy Cross dress pants **or** the Holy Cross kilt with black tights. White Holy Cross crested blouse **or** green golf shirt.

**Boys:** solid grey Holy Cross dress pants; white Holy Cross crested dress shirt with school tie **or** green golf shirt.

**Optional:** School crested vest, pull over, zippered sweater or cardigan.

**Footwear:** no boots, no slides, no flip-flops, sturdy and comfortable casual dress shoes should be worn.

\*\*\*\*Students **may** wear a black long-sleeved shirt underneath the golf shirt, if needed.

The spring uniform option is in effect from May until the end of June. The shirts and shorts described below must be worn together: students are not to mix with the fall uniform.

**Unisex:** green school crested golf shirt and tan knee length Holy Cross crested walking shorts.

**Footwear:** deck shoes, running shoes, sandals are permitted.

\*\*\*\*Students **may** wear a black long-sleeved shirt underneath the golf shirt, if needed.

## Updated Uniform Policy cont'd

Students are deemed to be out of uniform if they do not have one or more components, including footwear, or, if they have accessorized the uniform excessively, including wearing any form of headgear, hood or hat. A student unable to correct an issue is out of uniform and will be issued a warning for a first offence and this will be noted in Aspen, our data collection system. If a student receives a second warning for being out of uniform, it will be noted in Aspen and a study hall will be issued and parents will be contacted. If a student receives a third warning, parents will be contacted and students will be either sent home to correct the problem or sent to the main office to complete their schoolwork for the day.

Non-uniform days are also governed by a dress code that requires students to refrain from wearing immodest, revealing clothing and/or clothing with inappropriate design/language promoting drugs, alcohol, or sex. **Changing clothes in the halls is not permitted.**

Support is provided to students throughout this process through the main office. Should there be needs, they will be addressed separately and not pursued as an issue requiring discipline. Nothing is more important than having students in class, learning. However, persistent and willful violations of the Holy Cross uniform policy will be interpreted as an unwillingness, on the part of parents and/or students, to join our school community, and may result in exclusion from school.

As always, common sense will prevail in the application of discipline as it relates to the school uniform. Communication between students and staff is paramount and will almost always result in a satisfactory resolution of any issue related to uniform. Your support for the policy and cooperation in ensuring it succeeds in keeping our school safe, convenient, cost effective and unified is appreciated.





Heather Lynne Wells

Memorial Education Award



youthdiversion

An award to assist individuals who have faced adversity or challenges in their lives, and who have established a goal of post secondary education.

**Application Forms available at Student Services**

**Application due by: June 4, 2021 at 4pm**

For more information:

Website: [www.youthdiversion.org](http://www.youthdiversion.org)

Email: [info@youthdiversion.org](mailto:info@youthdiversion.org)

\*\*Will be awarded to the successful applicant in June 2021\*\*

