



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Communications
Department
80 Sheppard Avenue East
North York, Ontario
M2N 6E8

Media Contact:
Emmy Szekeres Milne
Acting Co-ordinator
Communications, Public and
Media Relations
emmy.szekeresmilne@tcdsb.org
416-222-8282 Ext. 2356

TCDSB HAS HEART

Tops \$230,000 in donations on 1st month anniversary of Haiti earthquake and meets the Federal Government pledge deadline

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is a community of faith, anchored in hope with heart and charity. It is that faith, hope and charity that has resulted in Board-wide TCDSB donations topping \$230,000 towards relief efforts for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. These monies have been raised just in time to have dollars matched by the Federal Government pledge. In addition, two schools donated just under 1,000 gently used shoes, while others bought much needed medical supplies identified by the Red Cross.

These donations for Haiti will continue to grow as there are many more planned charitable activities, as an outcome of the Board's Virtue of the Month for February, which is "Love". Through works of charity, students are reminded to let their actions be guided by the idea that God says we should love one another as He has loved us. It is this month that Catholic students, with their families, parishes and schools begin the liturgical season of Lent in preparation for the holiest of seasons: the Easter Season.

"The generosity of the Toronto Catholic school communities has demonstrated how our parents, parishes and educators have instilled a global perspective and community responsibility in our students" says Ann Perron, TCDSB Director of Education. "Our students are made aware of the needs of those less fortunate in our society and our world. They learn through the teachings of Christ that it is possible to change the misfortune of others and become familiar with the values and actions involved in social justice. They learn to appreciate the value of life and the need to protect it in all its stages and situations. Through such fundraising campaigns, our students are encouraged to become responsible citizens who give witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life".

The TCDSB community continues to pray for the strength and courage of the survivors and the aid workers as they grapple with the enormity of the devastation while attempting to re-build their homes, schools, churches and businesses.

- 30 -

The Toronto Catholic District School Board educates more than 90,000 students from diverse cultures and language backgrounds in its 201 Catholic elementary and secondary schools and serves 474,876 Catholic school supporters across the City of Toronto.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES 2009-2010

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