



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Toronto Catholic District School Board Congratulates “New Teacher of the Year” from Notre Dame

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is proud to announce that Rosemary Paniccia, a teacher at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School, has been chosen as one of three teachers in the province to win the Premier’s Award for Teaching Excellence in the New Teacher of the Year category.

“As a Catholic educator, Rosemary has distinguished herself as a caring, hard-working, visionary new teacher,” says Oksana Kawun, Principal at Notre Dame. “Forgiveness and hope are part of her educational philosophy. She models and promotes the joy of learning. She is current in her knowledge of educational trends, educational research and pedagogy. In her daily lessons, she uses various motivational and differentiated instructional strategies to encourage her students to become involved and connected with their daily learning.”

Ms. Kawun explains that the Teacher of the Year award winner enriches her English classes through the introduction of multicultural and female authors in an effort to provide a more meaningful and relevant learning experience for her students.

“Rosemary approaches her teaching duties with genuine passion,” says Ms. Kawun. “Her compassion always comes through in her professional relationships with her students.”

While teaching the Grade 10 Civics course, Ms. Paniccia organized a career day for students. She is the teacher leader for the Empowered Student Leadership Team (ESP), mentoring and coaching students as they take on leadership roles to promote anti-bullying and implement other safe schools initiatives. She also works with student leaders to organize the Grade 9 Orientation/Retreat experience, focusing on topics such as teamwork and surviving the first year of high school.

“We are very proud of Rosemary Paniccia’s recognition with the Premier’s Award for Teaching Excellence,” says Director of Education Ann Perron. “In her first three years of teaching, she has already accomplished so much on behalf of her students. She has shown tremendous dedication and enthusiasm for the learning experience, and is a wonderful role model for other new teachers in our system.”

“Catholic Education Week is a wonderful time for us to celebrate the achievements of one of our dedicated staff members who contributes so much to student success at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School,” says Chair Angela Kennedy. “We are very pleased that Rosemary Paniccia has given us one more reason to celebrate excellence in our schools. I know that she will continue to inspire her students with her energy and talent in the years ahead, and I wish her every success .”

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The Toronto Catholic District School Board educates more than 93,000 students from diverse cultures and language backgrounds in its 201 Catholic elementary and secondary schools and serves approximately 475,000 Catholic school supporters across the City of Toronto.