



## WELCOME BACK MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Welcome back!

I am pleased to welcome all of our staff back as we accompany our students on another exciting year-long journey of learning and achievement.

The summer was an exciting one for Toronto Catholic on many fronts. Our summer school programs were again very successful with high levels of enrolment. In July, we welcomed our first group of 40 students from Beijing, China. The Board's *Focus on Youth* program ran for the sixth consecutive year. Along with millions of Canadians, we watched with pride as our two TCDSB athletes competed at the 2012 London Olympics. We applaud the inspiring performances of Anastasiya Muntyanu and Anjelika Reznik who represented us as members of Canada's Rhythmic Gymnastics Team. Seeing our students in action on the biggest stage in the world was truly a golden moment to remember and cherish.

September will see the Board embarking on a new three-year pastoral plan focusing on the theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity. This year, we will be emphasizing Faith as the foundation of our daily lives. Toronto Catholic schools have a proud history of inspiring students through curriculum that is rooted in Gospel values and informed by the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations. We are especially proud of our Board's inclusive learning community where we strive to educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.

The launch of our Multi-Year Strategic Plan began with a newly formulated vision and mission as well as multi-year goals providing a solid foundation for building on our successes and guiding us in the years to come. As I mentioned in my Annual General Meeting address and reminder last week, I invite all of you to visit our website to view the Multi-Year Strategic Plan for 2012-2015. Each Strategic Direction also includes Strategic Actions. (<http://www.tcdsb.org/board/pages/multiyearstrategicplan.aspx>) A video of my address at the AGM as well as a photo retrospective of the previous year is available on our website.

We will continue to align the Board's activities with the Multi-Year Strategic Plan. The TCDSB is committed to delivering effective, efficient and equitable programs and services that will continue to support high levels of student achievement. Investment in school facilities is a high priority and is being supported by an ambitious capital, renewal and maintenance plan to ensure our buildings are conducive to learning. It will be a busy and exciting time for several of our schools as they look forward to opening new additions or moving into new school buildings this year.

All of us –teachers, support staff, parents, students, and spiritual leaders – share a collective responsibility for making our schools places of excellence where the faith of our youth is nourished and where they are inspired to become good citizens in a global community. Thank you for your active support in helping our students realize their full potential.

On behalf of the Senior Team, I wish you a spiritually and academically successful year as we continue to move forward together.

Sincerely,

Bruce Rodrigues  
Director of Education