



International Day of Persons with Disabilities

December 3, 2017

December 3rd is International Day of Persons with Disabilities. This is a day to recognize everyone in our schools, our offices and our communities who have disabilities, whether these challenges be visible or not. It is an opportunity for us to explore how we can better meet their needs, and ensure they feel truly included, valued, respected and loved.

As a Catholic community, we are called to believe in the worth and dignity of everyone, and to celebrate their unique gifts and talents. Each of us, though unique individuals, has been created in God's own image, and it is up to us use our own strengths, abilities and talents to support and lift up those who need assistance, and to defend their inalienable rights to equity and inclusion.

We applaud our own Special Education Advisory Committee, our Special Services Department, and the many educators and support staff in our schools who are committed to ensuring the best education possible for our students with special needs. We look forward every year to the many celebrations that shine the light on the gifts that these special students bring to our schools and communities such as the annual picnic for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students, the Special Mini Olympics, Best Buddies programs and the annual Bowling Banquet for Students with Multiple Exceptionalities. We thank all the parents and staff who, despite their own personal challenges, advocate tirelessly for the needs of those living with disabilities.

This December 3rd, we are invited to see beyond the differences and celebrate the beauty of each individual in our community.

We thank all of you for the role that you play in fostering a sense of caring Christian community in our schools and offices, and bringing our Mission and Vision as a Catholic school board to life.

Sincerely,

Rory McGuckin
Director of Education

Barbara Poplawski
Chair of the Board