



*Office of the Director of Education
Office of the Chair of the Board*

June 14, 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians, Staff:

We are pleased to inform you that the Toronto Catholic District School Board has approved its fourth consecutive balanced budget. Ongoing funding pressures continue to be a challenge for the Board, but the TCDSB was able to achieve a balanced budget without any major reductions to programs and services while maintaining system-wide stability without compromising student achievement.

The \$1.1 billion budget for 2013-2014 features a modest surplus of \$713,000.

This budget highlights the Board's commitment to achieving effective and equitable programs and services while better meeting the needs of all students. We remain focused on student achievement and well-being, stewardship of resources and excellence in governance which are key components of our Multi-Year Strategic Plan. We are also continuing to reinvest in our schools and communities through the most comprehensive capital program in our history that will see us continuing to build better, state-of-the-art learning environments for our students. For information about our building program which includes new and replacement facilities, major school additions and renovations, visit the Investing in our Schools section of the board's website www.tcdsb.org

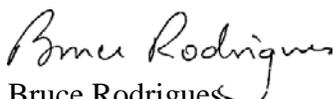
The approved budget was also the product of the most extensive community consultation process ever undertaken by the Board. It featured an online survey, a special public meeting and included for the first time, use of automated computerized telephone messaging to all parents in the board.

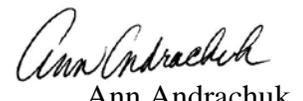
We thank all the parents, staff, students and Catholic school supporters who took time to participate in the process and provide feedback and suggestions to the Board.

As reflected in the input received, the Board reaffirmed its investment in 21st century learning, Special Education, Full-Day Kindergarten, capital, transportation services, school maintenance, parental engagement, tutoring and research focused on improved student learning. We also ensured that the budgets for Chaplaincy and Religion and Family Life were preserved despite the fact that no Government funding is provided for those areas. This reflects our commitment to Living our Catholic Values and ensuring that our students are inspired to live out our Catholic Graduate Expectations.

The success rate of our students on EQAO assessments and the continued improvement in graduation rates demonstrate that we have been successful in targeting our spending to the areas that support student achievement. Our thanks to the parents, educators and others who help our young people succeed.

Sincerely,


Bruce Rodriguez
Director of Education


Ann Andrachuk
Chair of the Board