Superintendent's Report - February 2023

Education Planning Day

Following a successful Education Planning Day on February 24, Lakeland Catholic invited attendees to share their feedback in the form of a survey. In addition to staff, Board Trustee, and parent participation, students, members of the greater community, and clergy were also invited to join the table and provide their input.

Of the 35 responses received, 20 per cent were teachers, 40 per cent were support staff, 14.3 per cent were administrators, 11.4 per cent were parents, 8.6 per cent were trustees, and 5.7 per cent were community members.

When asked what attendees liked most about the event, responses included having Elders attend, the collaboration that occurred during group sharing, the opportunity to understand all angles of what goes into making Lakeland Catholic schools "so great," the various points of view and rich discussions, building relationships, and feeling heard.

"I loved the opportunity it provided me as staff and a parent to understand all angles of what goes into making our schools so great. I enjoyed the togetherness, meeting other like minded individuals as well as communicating the challenges we each face in various sectors," one resident noted.

Another said, "The ability to hear from all stakeholders and be solution focused on where we want our division to go today, tomorrow and the future."

Providing their thoughts on a scale from one to five, respondents felt the information presented was high quality, with 57.1 per cent selecting four, 34.3 per cent choosing five, and 8.6 per cent choosing three.

Future topics suggested ranged from discussing the division's education goals more thoroughly to learning more about the grants available to schools and educators. Information and conversations about how Lakeland Catholic can ensure all students are succeeding and getting the supports they need, student outcomes, more time for exchanging ideas, and information regarding the capital plan were other recommendations.

Just over 57 per cent of respondents agreed they made a valuable contribution to the event, while 22.9 strongly agree, 2.9 per cent strongly disagreed, and 17.1 were neutral. These results were consistent when asked if attendees received value from attending the Education Planning Day.

Discussing the roles of various stakeholders, getting to know members from other schools and the central services team, and seeing how the division creates education goals were some of the items those who responded felt were interesting and useful.

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One respondent noted, they appreciated "sitting with others, realizing we are all facing similar challenges."

"The full workshop was valuable as I am new to the division," one attendee wrote.

Most agreed the event materials provided were appropriate and helpful (62.9 per cent), while other strongly agreed (25.7 per cent), or were neutral (11.4 per cent).

Nearly everyone who attended either strongly agreed or agreed that the event was well organized and clearly met the objectives of the day, with only 5.7 per cent neutral and 2.9 per cent strongly disagreeing.

The results for the question of whether the activities were appropriate and reasonable in the time allowed were 57.1 per cent agree, 34.3 per cent strongly agree, 2.9 per cent neutral, 2.9 per cent disagree, and 2.9 per cent strongly disagree.

On a scale of one to five, with five being extremely likely to attend, 31.4 per cent said based on their experience they were likely attend future events, while 54.5 were very likely, and 14.3 per cent were neutral.

Most of those who attended heard about the event through a personal invitation, with school principal or school email, word of mouth, employer, or a staff member being the other methods chosen.

Additional comments included attendees being grateful for the opportunity, with future considerations including the chance to collaborate with other groups, hosting a similar event with a focus on the division budget, and restructuring the guiding questions.

The Education Planning Day is in alignment with Three Year Education Plan Goal Three: Equity and Inclusion under the outcome where students and staff will experience success through equitable and inclusive decision-making and system processes.

Mental Health Matters Campaign Poster Design Contest

After sifting through this year's entries, Lakeland Catholic has selected two winners for the Mental Health Matters Poster Design Contest.

Shylit-Rae, a Grade 10 student from Light of Christ, and Wesley, a Grade 6 Holy Cross student, are this year's winners in their respective age categories.

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The students received a framed copy of their poster, a Lakeland Catholic swag bag, as well as a \$50 Amazon Gift Card.

The posters have been printed and will be displayed across the division.

Lakeland Catholic's Mental Health Matters Campaign aligns with Goal Three: Equity and Inclusion under the outcome where students are supported academically, socially, and emotionally for optimal wellbeing.

Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday

Students and staff came together to celebrate their faith on Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday.

Photo galleries from these events can be found <u>here</u>.

These ceremonies are examples of Goal One: Catholic Christian Identity, where staff and students develop their faith in a fully permeated Catholic Christian environment.

Pink Shirt Day

School communities wore pink on Tuesday, February 21 to show they won't stand for bullying.

Photos featuring our staff and students in their pink shirts can be found here.

Participating in this event is in alignment with Goal Three: Equity and Inclusion.

Mental Health Week at NDHS

École Notre Dame High School promoted mental wellness from February 6 to 10 in a variety of ways.

Handing out Skittle prayer cards, water bottles, a kindness wall, and a photo booth were a few of the activities they had scheduled throughout the week.

Click <u>here</u> to view photos from some of their activities.