

BOARD CELEBRATES RETIRING COLLEAGUES

The Northeastern Catholic District School Board held a special reception today in honour of retirees. Along with a few special guests and colleagues, they gathered for a celebratory luncheon in Timmins. The group of retirees this year includes Principals, Teachers and the pillar of a school's operation, a School Secretary.



From left: Director of Education Paul Toffanello, Principal Melodie McCrae, SAT Ray Ginglo, Program Principal Claire Lamarre-Goyer, School Secretary Helen Pinkney and Chair of the Board Colleen Landers.

Among the individuals receiving accolades was Melodie McCrae, Principal of St. Patrick School in Kapuskasing. Colleague John Casonata spoke on behalf of the school staff and described McCrae as a true model for all who had the pleasure to work with her. "Melodie pursued her vocation as Principal with the desire to become knowledgeable and active in all aspects and all levels of school learning," stated Casonata. "She has become an active participant in student achievement and teacher development. While being an administrator, Melodie never lost sight of the fact that she must also be a teacher. On any given day, you might see Melodie reading to a group of young students or sharing a positive word with those student who believed the world was out to get them. The one common thread that defined Melodie's career at St. Pat's is her desire to get people to work together. She firmly believes that we all have a stake in the direction of the school and share any success that it experiences."

All retirees received a token of appreciation for their valued contributions to our Catholic school system. Retirees this year included Program Principal Claire Lamarre-Goyer, Principal Melodie McCrae, Special Assignment Teacher Ray Ringlo, Teachers Robert Brown, Jane Walsh-Larose, and Marylee Mascioli, as well as School Secretary Helen Pinkney.

While the Board is saddened to see these individuals depart, we acknowledge that they have indeed earned their retirement over the years. "We are pleased to recognize our retirees for their service to our students, particularly in nurturing their spirit of faith and learning," shared Director of Education Paul Toffanello. "Through their love for our students and their commitment to learning, they have touched the lives of many people. On behalf of the Board, I wish to thank them for being part of our Catholic education community, and for the many sacrifices that they have made during their careers to ensure that the needs of our students were met. I wish them all the best as they begin an exciting new phase of their life journeys."

**For more information, please contact:
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