



Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board

MEDIA RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Going Green

15 schools recognized for reducing environmental footprint

(Windsor, Ontario, Friday June 16, 2017) – With three new buildings added to its family of schools making a commitment to improving their environmental footprint, the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board joins a record number of schools in Ontario that have been certified as eco-friendly.

Stella Maris Catholic Elementary School, Assumption College Catholic Middle School, and Cardinal Carter Catholic Middle School have all been certified by the provincial government as EcoSchools, bringing to 15 the number of WECDSB schools to receive such a designation.

“This is a really a celebration of all the hard work our students and staff have done towards greening their schools,” said Mike St. Pierre, a curriculum consultant who oversees the implementation of the EcoSchools program in WECDSB schools. “These people are keenly aware of the importance of protecting our environment and taking meaningful steps in their schools to reduce waste, lower energy consumption, and improve their school grounds.”

Some examples of the many activities schools participate in include holding lights-out lunches, sweater days when thermostats are slightly lowered, garbageless lunch days, and walk or ride your bike to school days, St. Pierre said.

Across the province, a record number of 1,830 schools were certified for the 2016-17 school year. Ontario EcoSchools works with 56 school boards to nurture student leadership and foster environmental learning and action in school communities. Certification is based on a provincial standard established by twelve years of benchmarking: currently, the program certifies 37% of all schools in Ontario and reaches close to 850,000 students.

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