



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WECDSB selects Chairperson, Vice-chairperson**

(Windsor, Ontario, Dec. 6, 2015) – Barbara Holland and Mary DiMenna will remain on as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board.

Holland, a 16-year trustee who was first elected chair in 2012, was acclaimed to the position of Chair, while DiMenna was voted into the position of Vice-Chair. Lisa Soulliere, a trustee from the Lakeshore area who has been with the Board for 16 years, also ran for the position of Vice-Chair.

Holland thanked her fellow trustees for their confidence, as well as their courage and wisdom to help achieve a number of the Board's goals including solving issues of excess capacity, getting the Board's budget under control, launching innovative new programming, improving enrolment, and securing funding for a new building to replace Catholic Central High School.

"Difficult, often painful decisions had to be made to ensure that our resources kept a tight focus on student achievement," said Holland, a Ward 6 & 7 trustee who has served on many Board committees while working closely with the Diocese of London. "This took courage and foresight, vision and collaboration. I look forward to celebrating more good news for the children entrusted to us in the coming year."

DiMenna, a former elementary teacher who has represented Catholic ratepayers, parents and students in Essex, Kingsville and Leamington since 2003, thanked her fellow trustees and said she looks forward to continuing "the diligent work of caring for our children."

"The children are our future and significant board resources are being directed to them for their continued spiritual growth, academic success and emotional and physical safety and wellness," she said.

Trustees Fred Alexander, Fabio Costante, Mary DiMenna, Frank DiTomasso, Barbara Holland, Bernie Mastromattei, Lisa Soulliere, Susan Tope and Fulvio Valentinis were elected in 2014 through the municipal elections process to serve a four-year term. A Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are elected annually at the Board's Organizational Meeting in December to a one-year term that begins immediately.

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