

REPORT

TO: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**SUBJECT: SCHOOL PROFILE
ST. BERNADETTE CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019

ORIGIN

Director of Education

BACKGROUND

Since the first Catholic school opened in 1855, the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board has built a long and rich tradition of excellence that continues to serve not only as a performance standard, but a defining characteristic of Catholic education in Hamilton-Wentworth. Today, the HWCDSB provides a quality, Christ-centered education to 28,985 elementary and secondary students at 48 elementary schools and 7 secondary schools throughout Hamilton.

One school will be profiled in this report each month. This month's report highlights St. Bernadette Catholic Elementary School.

COMMENT



The original St. Bernadette Catholic Elementary School on Governor's Road, 1958-1991



A new St. Bernadette Catholic Elementary School was opened in 1991 to accommodate the housing boom along Governor's Road. At its height, it served as many as 650 students and housed 11 portables.

Address

270 Governor's Road
Dundas, ON L9H 5E3

School Administration

Principal: Mrs. D. Catania
Superintendent: Mr. M. Hucal

Grades

K – Grade 8

Enrolment

of students: 245 (as of October 31, 2018)

Family of Schools

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School

About St. Bernadette CES

St. Bernadette Catholic Elementary School opened on September 21, 1958 to serve the rural communities of Dundas, Lynden and Copetown. The red brick schoolhouse consisted of four classrooms, student washrooms and a small office. Enrolment at the time of its construction was 91 students. The school's population grew throughout the 1960's and, with limited facilities, accommodations were made to bus students to the local community centre for physical education classes. In the late 1980's, new housing development along Governor's Road led to a rapid increase in enrolment. In 1991, the

HWCDSD was awarded \$4.1-million for the construction of a new 326 pupil Ministry rated capacity school. An Official Blessing was held on December 15, 1991, officiated by Bishop Anthony Tonnos. The new 3,400 m² school included a library, 11 classrooms, a science lab, an industrial studies room, a family studies room, a main foyer and office area, washrooms, a gymnasium/stage, and a child care centre. In 1992, the HWCDSD received an additional \$1.1 million capital grant to expand the site. At its height, St. Bernadette CES served as many as 650 students and housed 11 portables. Enrolment, currently at 245, is projected to remain steady over the next several years. On April 24, 2018, the school marked 60 years in the Dundas community with an Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Douglas Crosby.

Since 2012, St. Bernadette has been twinned with St. Bernadette's Primary School in Southwest Uganda. The school was built by St. Bernadette School in Dundas following a year-long fundraising campaign initiated and led by the graduating class of 2011. Yearly support is provided to St. Bernadette's sister school for the purchase of textbooks and supplies. The African school provides a primary education to 900 orphans each year.

School Motto

"Academic Excellence, rooted in faith and hope"

PREPARED BY: M. JADON
MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

SUBMITTED BY: D. HANSEN
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION