

## REPORT

**TO: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

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

**DATE: FEBRUARY 7, 2023**

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### **ORIGIN**

Director of Education

### **BACKGROUND**

A School Profile program was established in January 2019 to recognize and celebrate school excellence. Each month, one school in the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board is highlighted at the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

This month's report highlights St. Lawrence Catholic Elementary School.

### **COMMENT**



*St. Lawrence Catholic Elementary School moved to its current site on Macaulay St. E. in 1967 when the former school building on Ferrie St. was no longer able to accommodate the growing enrolment. The school consisted of 24 classrooms, a library and a gymnasium.*



*St. Lawrence Catholic Elementary School underwent extensive renovations in 2010 following the school's amalgamation with St. Mary Catholic Elementary School. An addition, built on the site of the old gymnasium and office area, increased the school's capacity from 30,000 to 75,000 ft.<sup>2</sup> A Blessing and Dedication for the new additions took place on June 13, 2011.*

**Address**

88 Macaulay St. E.  
Hamilton, ON L8L 3X3

**Trustee**

Mr. M. Valvasori

**School Administration**

Principal: Mrs. M. Trotta  
Superintendent: Miss J. Angiolillo

**Grades**

K – Grade 8

**Enrolment**

# of students: 294 (as of October 31, 2023)

**Family of Schools**

Cathedral High School

**About St. Lawrence CES**

St. Lawrence Catholic Elementary School opened in 1864 in the old "Malt House," a two storey brick building located on the corner of Ferrie and John Streets. There was a great demand for a Catholic school in the city's north end which at the time was experiencing a population boom brought on by the laying of new railway lines and the transformation

of the harbour into a major transportation centre. The top floor of the building was converted into a girls' classroom while the first floor served as a boys' classroom. In the 1870's, an addition was built to accommodate growing residential development in the area. By 1885, the school had outgrown its quarters and the building was demolished and replaced with a more up-to-date facility. In 1922, a third building was constructed on the Ferrie Street site and the school grounds were expanded. By 1940, enrolment had reached 365 students. In 1957, a four-room addition was built and within six years, two portables were installed on the school grounds as enrolment rose to 656 students. Realizing that the Ferrie Street building could no longer adequately accommodate the growing school population, the board purchased a parcel of land bounded by John Street to the west, and Macaulay and Picton Streets to the north and south. St. Lawrence Catholic Elementary School opened in 1967 with 24 classrooms, a library and a gym. Over the next three and a half decades, enrolment would fluctuate and by 2005, school enrolment had decreased to 286.

Following a report by the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) in 2010, the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board made the decision to amalgamate St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, a school whose history dated back to 1855, with St. Lawrence Catholic Elementary School. Over the next 14 months, St. Lawrence underwent extensive renovations to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century learning needs. A new addition was built on the site of the old gym and front office area along Macaulay Street to make room for a new double-sized gymnasium, front foyer, atrium, offices, conference room, library, staff room, and art, science health and Special Education classrooms. The addition increased the school's gross floor area from 30,000 to 75,000 ft.<sup>2</sup>. Existing teaching areas also received a facelift with the installation of new windows, flooring, HVAC systems, trim work and furnishings. The new additions were officially blessed and dedicated by Rev. Varghese (George) Palamattam, Pastor of St. Lawrence Church, on June 13, 2011.

### **School Motto**

"St. Lawrence Catholic Elementary School: leaders of love building a caring community"

PREPARED BY: M. JADON  
MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

SUBMITTED BY: D. HANSEN  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION