



NIAGARA CATHOLIC

LARRY HUIBERS
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

CAMILLO CIPRIANO
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION


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ABOUT US

NIAGARA CATHOLIC SERVES MORE THAN 20,000 STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES THROUGHOUT NIAGARA.

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MEDIA RELEASE

April 30, 2021

Niagara Catholic Announces 2021-2022 Student Trustees

Although many things are different in 2021, one tradition that continued this year – albeit virtually – is the election of our student trustees for the coming school year.

This year's elections took place during the annual Student Leadership Symposium on April 23. The election was the culmination of an extremely inspirational day filled with powerful messages highlighting the importance of faith and servant-leadership.

Steffen Zylstra (Grade 10, Saint Michael Catholic High School) will replace outgoing student trustee Luca DiPietro (Grade 12, Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School) whose two-year term concludes with his graduation in June. Steffen will join Sydney Yott (Grade 11 Saint Paul Catholic High School) as Student Trustees for 2021-2022.

Sydney and Steffen will also Co-Chair the Niagara Catholic Student Senate.

Niagara Catholic's Elementary Student Senate Co-Chairs were also elected during the Student Leadership Symposium. Nethum Perera from St. James Catholic Elementary School and Ava DeChellis from St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School will represent elementary student voice at the Student Senate for 2021-2022.

Chair of the Board, Larry Huibers, thanked Luca for his time as a student trustee and welcomed Steffen.

"When I was elected to the Niagara Catholic Board of Trustees, I was immediately impressed with the calibre our student trustees," he said. In the two years Luca has shared a spot at the trustee table, he has proven himself to be more than capable, he is compassionate and he considers every point that he adds to discussions, making him an outstanding leader. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank Luca for his leadership and service to Niagara Catholic and wish him well in the future, and welcome Steffen as our incoming student trustee. We are sure that you will continue the tradition of excellence.

Director of Education Camillo Cipriano congratulated Steffen, Nethum and Ava on being elected to their new roles.

“Congratulations to Steffen for his election as one of Niagara Catholic’s 2021-2022 Student Trustees. You are joining a very celebrated group who have represented the interests of students at Niagara Catholic, and I am confident that you will bring great energy and enthusiasm to your new role. I and all members of senior staff look forward to working with you and watching you grow and evolve in your new leadership role.

I also look forward to meeting with Nethum and Ava to hear the voices of our elementary students throughout the year. This is a wonderful first step at student-leadership, and I’m sure great things are ahead for both of you.”

He also thanked graduating student trustee Luca DiPietro on his two years of service to students across Niagara Catholic.

“Although I have not had many opportunities to meet with Luca in person due to the pandemic, I have nothing but praise for him in all of our interactions this year. He is both thoughtful and intelligent, winning combination for a very bright future. It was a difficult two years to be in your role, and you have excelled at every turn. Congratulations on your upcoming graduation, and I wish you well in the future.”