



NIAGARA CATHOLIC

LARRY HUIBERS
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

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THAN 20,000 STUDENTS AND THEIR
FAMILIES THROUGHOUT NIAGARA.

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MEDIA RELEASE

June 23, 2021

Niagara Catholic Trustees Approve 2021-2022 Budget

Niagara Catholic's Board of Trustees approved the Board's \$268-million 2021-2022 budget during a Special Board Meeting on June 22. This represents a slight increase over the \$266.6-million 2020-2021 budget, and focuses on mental health supports, support to help students with reading and mathematics, students with special education needs, Indigenous education and COVID recovery.

Key investments in the 2021-2022 budget include:

- A total of \$31 million allocated to students with special education needs
- An additional \$315,000 in mental health supports
- An additional \$203,000 to re-engage students and reading supports
- An additional \$240,000 for math supports
- An additional \$350,000 for Indigenous Education
- \$4.8 million for COVID recovery

"Niagara Catholic's Senior Staff worked very hard to have a fiscally responsible budget for the 2021-2022 school year, while meeting the extraordinary needs of students as we emerge from the COVID pandemic," said Larry Huibers, Chair of the Board. "We have placed a strong focus on special education, mental health supports and Indigenous education, as well as ensuring that students have a strong foundation in key areas, such as reading, writing and mathematics.

Director of Education Camillo Cipriano thanked everyone who helped to create the 2021-2022 budget.

"The Board's 2021-2022 budget was created after consultation with a number of stakeholders," said Director Cipriano. "Having this input was incredibly valuable, as it helped us to know the areas where students, staff and families wanted us to focus our resources for the coming year. We believe that this budget addresses the needs of the system for the coming year, and we will continue to monitor and review spending and adapt as necessary to address any changing needs that may emerge. I am grateful to everyone who added their voice to our budget process, so we can be confident that we are meeting the needs of students and staff in the coming year."