



NIAGARA CATHOLIC

LARRY HUIBERS
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

CAMILLO CIPRIANO
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

CONTACT

ISSUED BY:
JENNIFER PELLEGRINI
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Office: 905-735-0240 ext. 297
Mobile: 905-651-3818
Email: jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com

ABOUT US

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

SOCIAL MEDIA

f @NiagaraCatholicDSB
t @niagaracatholic
i @NiagaraCatholicDSB

MEDIA RELEASE

April 28, 2022

Niagara Catholic Addressing Period Poverty in Schools

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is installing 70 sanitary napkin and tampon dispensers at no cost to students to address period poverty in schools.

Trustees received an update of the Board's Period Project campaign – first approved in May 2021 and initiated in September 2021 – at the April 26 Board Meeting.

Controller of Facilities Services Clark Euale told trustees that the Board will install 57 machines to dispense sanitary pads and tampons, and 13 sanitary napkin dispensers, and will provide materials for each in schools beginning next month.

One dispenser will be installed in each Catholic elementary school, alternative school, and Continuing Education school. Two will be installed in each Catholic high school.

The 13 pad dispensers are ones provided by the provincial government. Niagara Catholic will pay for the remaining dispensers, 114 cases of brand-name tampons, and 114 cases of brand-name pads to stock them, at a cost of approximately \$44,250.

After the initial central purchase of tampons and pads, schools will place orders for the supplies as required.

The Period Poverty Project initiative was first brought to the Board through a notice of motion by Trustee Leeanne Prince last May. A report was presented to the Board at the September 28 Board meeting recommending the Board move forward to provide free menstrual products to students.

"There's so much stigma that surrounds periods that prevents these important conversations from happening, so I am grateful to our Board for being open to talking about period poverty," said Niagara Catholic Student Trustee Sydney Yott. "Access to hygiene products is necessary for those who menstruate. Without access to the products that they need to maintain their period, they really have no choice but to resort to other ways to manage their period. The decision by the Board to support all menstruating students will allow them to focus and devote full attention towards their education."