

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CDSBEO Receives Capital Funding for School Addition in Russell

Kemptville, ON (Wednesday, March 8, 2023) – The **Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario** has received funding to proceed with the construction of a six-classroom addition at Mother Teresa Catholic School (grades K-6) in Russell. The funding is being provided through the Ministry of Education's Capital Priorities Program in the amount of \$3.79 million. The new addition will help to address accommodation for 138 permanent pupil places.

The Board is currently proceeding with the design phase of the project, with tentative plans to open in September 2024. In 2021, the CDSBEO also received funding through a joint capital submission to renovate space for a 24-child preschool program at Mother Teresa Catholic School.

"Russell is indeed a growing community, and the addition of permanent classrooms is essential to meeting the learning needs of the many families in this area. This expansion represents and supports the wellbeing and learning of students in the communities in which they live," noted CDSBEO Director of Education Laurie Corrigan.

CDSBEO Board Chair Sue Wilson expressed her gratitude for the funding.

"This investment is as appreciated as it is necessary. This addition will be tremendously valuable for the students and families served by Mother Teresa Catholic School. We are grateful to the Ministry of Education for this funding, and the benefits this addition will provide to our local community."

"Our government is investing \$14 billion over ten years to build new schools, improve existing facilities and create childcare spaces to ensure young people can reach their full potential," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education. "We believe that students deserve to learn in-person in state-of-the-art, accessible, modern facilities. An expanded Mother Teresa Catholic School is part of our government's investment in construction to get it done for parents, students, and communities."

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario operates 39 elementary and 10 secondary schools across eight counties. The CDSBEO offers excellence in Catholic education through provincial-leading programs to approximately 13,300 students.

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