

2022 Questionnaire

Ontario Catholic School Trustees

The Catholic Church considers that elected democratic office is a position of immense responsibility, to be held in high trust and exercised with great humility, wisdom, and responsibility, in the interest of the common good.

This is particularly true with respect to those who seek to govern publicly-funded Catholic Schools. Education is of first importance for the future of our society; and Catholic education, properly conducted, can be of unique importance in passing our faith to future generations. Few endeavors offer comparable opportunities to integrate faith into the entire range of personal and social values for future generations.

The Church teaches that the ultimate purpose of this life is to seek the truth, which is God. “God is the ultimate end of his creatures and for no reason may the common good be deprived of its transcendent dimension.” This truth is most effectively communicated to our children by their families, parishes, and schools.

Please confirm your name, district and ward, and preferred contact information:

Candidate’s name: Kathy Doherty-Masters

School District: Waterloo Catholic District School Board

Ward: Kitchener /Wilmot

E-mail: Kathy.dohertymasters@gmail.com

Phone:

Social Media Handle(s): www.kdm4kids.ca, @Health4LifeKDM, Facebook - Kathy Doherty-Masters

YOUR VISION FOR SERVICE AS A TRUSTEE

Adapted from OCSTA’s “Becoming a Catholic School Trustee”

Catholic schools are not alternate public schools. In addition to the curriculum presented by secular schools, Catholic schools provide religious instruction, impart Gospel values, and display religious symbols, and serve as a critical part of the Church’s mission to evangelize youth. Catholic parents freely choose to send their children to Catholic schools with the full expectation that they will be socialized into a faith community in which the person and message of Jesus is central to instruction in all subject areas.

The distinctiveness of Catholic schools arises from their teaching students to incorporate the person and the message of Jesus Christ in all aspects of their lives, while our secular society makes the human person the measure of all things. Catholic schools provide the spiritual and transcendent dimension which says that God is ultimately the measure and meaning of life.

Q. 1. What draws you to the vocation of service as a Catholic school trustee?

I was a Catholic Educator for 30 years and have been retired for 5 years. During my retirement, through volunteering at Waterloo Catholic District School Board schools, I was still drawn to the people and students that I had spent time with for so many years. I felt that I still had more to offer.

Q. 2. What do you hope to accomplish as a Catholic school trustee?

During the last half of my career, I held the position of Healthy, Active Living Consultant. I hope to be able to continue to promote 'wellness for all', a theme that I used to guide my work with WCDSB.

Q. 3. What experience do you have that qualifies you to serve as a Catholic school trustee?

As previously stated, I was an educator with WCDSB for 30 years. During the last half of my career I was our Healthy, Active Living Consultant. As part of my job, I lead the system through various health-related initiatives through a faith based lens (ie. HPE curriculum - 2015).

[we invite you to attach a copy of your resume]

Catholic school trustees are called to express their personal faith in full communion with and participation in the faith life of the Catholic Church.

Q.4. In your view, what are the most important contributions Catholic education can make to the lives of children, and the communities they will become part of?

The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations act as a guide in all subject areas as we look to close the achievement gaps with students. They assist in developing student character, help them to be creative and holistic thinkers, caring family members and responsible citizens.

Q. 5. Please describe the nature of your devotion to Christ and the Catholic Church, including ways in which you witness to your faith in your daily life.

I am an active member of the parish that I regularly attend, St. Francis of Assisi, Kitchener. I was a member of the 60th Anniversary committee, on the One Heart, One Soul capital campaign team, and currently am a member of our Environmental Laudato 'Si Team.

Q.6. As a trustee, how do you propose to ensure that the sacramental needs of Catholic students are supported by the Catholic school system?

I will ensure the board support of retreat opportunities in sacramental years continues. I will also encourage a strong home, church and school triad to support students and staff on their faith journey.

Q.7. In addition to ensuring that students are taught the Catholic notion of incorporating faith into all aspects of our lives, trustees are responsible for ensuring that students are encouraged to do their very best in all their studies, covering the full range of provincial educational curricula. How do you see yourself assisting in that process?

I am very familiar with the organization of curriculum documents. During the time I was inservicing staff on the HPE curriculum, I had the chance to partner with the Institute for Catholic Education to share the plethora of resources for staff, students and caregivers. I recognize the resource support needed in a wide array of areas in order to support students.

Q.8. In order to ensure that Catholic schools and the communities they teach in remain true to the Catholic faith, it is important that Catholic school boards and individual trustees remain in contact with their local parishes and bishops. What is your plan for remaining in touch?

I am part of the Laudato Si Project at my parish. We have now completed the first year of the 7 year plan, so there are many more projects to come. This has been a collaborative effort with many other parishes.

Q.9. Some have proposed that separate Catholic schools be abolished. In what ways do you envision yourself advocating for the continuing rights of Catholics to educate their children in separate Catholic public schools?

As OECTA continues to message, our Ontario Educational System is one of the best in the world. Our Catholic Education system delivers quality education in addition to reinforcing holistic values in a safe and accepting environment. Continuing to reinforce that the system of Catholic Education is viable and sustainable is what I can do to advocate.

Q.10. Trustees are responsible to students and parents for ensuring that the fullness of Catholic values, beliefs and teachings are passed on to our children, and for helping to ensure that our children carry those values and teachings into the broader community. How do you propose to ensure that you yourself are aware of the full range of matter you will be expected to impart to students?

I am a life-long learner. Since I have retired, I have taken on positions of responsibility. One such example is that I am the chairperson of the Mayor's Advisory Council for Kitchener Seniors. We are a diverse group of citizens that advise the mayor and council on various issues to make our city a better place for all. I am used to working with a variety of people throughout my career, and will continue to do so as an elected official.

Q.11. As elected public officials, trustees are accountable to their constituents for prudent, wise, and equitable use of resources, in an open and accountable fashion. In what specific ways do you propose to discharge that duty?

For almost a decade I have been involved with an organization called Cycling Into the Future. I have worn many hats with the organization, including that of vice chair. I am very familiar with the importance of good organizational governance.

Q.12. It is a [statutory requirement that candidates](#) for the office of Catholic public school trustee be Catholic. Please attach a copy of a letter of reference from your pastor confirming your Catholicity,

or other evidence, if available.

[attach letter of reference]

Pressing SUBMIT will cause a copy of this document to be returned to Catholic Conscience, for posting on our website for use by voters in choosing trustees. Should you wish later to revise or withdraw your responses, please contact us at info@CatholicConscience.org.

SUBMIT

Thank you for helping to improve

our electoral process and our schools!

CERTIFICATE OF BAPTISM

Church of St. Mary's
at Kitchener, Ont.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY

that Kathleen Anne Doherty
Child of Patrick J. Doherty
and Gloria A. Heath
born in Kitchener
on the 27 day of Mar. 1964

WAS BAPTIZED

on the 19 day of April 1964

ACCORDING TO THE RITE OF THE
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

by the Rev. C. Straus C.R.
the Sponsors being Donald Landrigan
and Joyce Landrigan as appears
from the Baptismal Register of this Church.

Dated Feb. 7/75

JR Doran CR Pastor