

School Board Trustees

Wellington Catholic District School Board

Cassandra Chornoboy	Andrew Finoro
1. What role do you think schools and school boards can play in addressing and responding to issues related to poverty?	
<p>The Social Justice aspect of one's religious life prompts us to care for those in need both here, and abroad. In our local neighbourhood, Catholic schools support Sister Christine's efforts by fundraising and raising awareness. The Board is in full support of these endeavours by uniting all 3 high schools in these projects. On an international level, the Board promotes the bi-annual Guatemala trip to the orphanage (NPH Guatemala, Friends of the Orphans"). I personally had the opportunity and privilege to serve the children by helping them improve their infrastructure (IE: Dug 5 ft trenches, painted dormitories, and bricked some of the road).</p>	<p>Continuing to educate our students and employees about the needs of others and the importance of helping in whatever way they can. Encouraging them to initiate or be involved in programs throughout the year to support those in poverty.</p>
2. How would you rate poverty as an issue for schools and the school board over the next four years? Top priority, medium priority, or low priority?	
<p>Top priority.</p> <p>If families of low income households are struggling to pay for rent and groceries, there is a high probability that the children receive little mental stimulation or educational experiences.</p>	<p>Top priority.</p> <p>The number one concern for our students is there health and safety and poverty, obviously, has a direct bearing on their health. Studies have shown that children that come to school hungry find it difficult focusing and learning.</p>
3. What programs, supports & policy decisions would you promote for students/families living in poverty?	
<p>For students who come to school unfed in the mornings there are Breakfast Programs that are administered by parent volunteers that are provided within school hours. At Christmas time each classroom provides Christmas for a family by collecting food and gifts for each member of</p>	<p>Any viable program that helps relieve the poverty of others, particularly children should be supported. All schools should become familiar with various successful programs already in existence that continue to help provide food for children. Round table talks with key players</p>

<p>said family and fulfilling their specific requests. Budgeting and saving should always be taught in the family life classes as these life lessons can help fight poverty.</p>	<p>should be frequent with the objective of finding affordable housing for families. As funding is always an issue, we need to be innovative in our thoughts plus adopt what other communities are doing that are successful in addressing this issue.</p>
<p>4. Affordable after school programming space is hard to find. Would you support the use of schools between 4 to 6pm, particularly in low-income neighbourhoods?</p>	
<p>It is unfortunate that the 4-H Program is predominately in the rural areas as it is a major youth leadership program. It is also quite affordable with a set cost which allows you to take part in as many clubs as you wish. As a Trustee, I would be open to consideration to allow programs to be run in the schools after hours if a few critical conditions were met. 1) The School Board's insurance provider would have to receive whatever assurances they requested 2) The visiting group would have limited access to the building (IE: Only the gym, equipment, and washrooms) 3) The group would also be responsible for their own supervision and cleanup. Personally I would support the use of the school facility for reputable programs, which have good standing within the community.</p>	<p>I am in favour of the above. However, one would need to see the details of what the after school program would involve, how it would benefit students and the logistics of who would run it and be responsible for the program.</p>