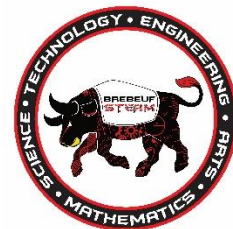




# The Relations



## BREBEUF COLLEGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2022

### PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTIONS



Where has the time gone? It only seems like yesterday that we were welcoming students back to a full day of school while still adhering to the many COVID protocols – and this continues to be the case! There is no doubt that this year, like the previous two, has been like no other; however, despite the challenges, students and staff have arisen to the occasion, continuing to ensure that Brebeuf remains a dynamic school with students at the heart of what we do. In a special way, I'd like to thank our amazing staff and students who have accomplished so much thus far. A special thanks to each of them for putting their faith into action in tangible ways!

Last year, as a staff, we started a journey on refocusing and being intentional on celebrating and speaking candidly about our school Pillars. All stakeholders were involved in the process and what came from the focus groups and feedback were four solid Pillars – FAITH, EXCELLENCE, TRADITION and FELLOWSHIP – that have now become the foundation for our community. Coupled with this, we started looking at our religious roots; we termed it the two lungs – Jesuit and Presentation Brothers traditions – and started exploring a Jesuit endorsement that would permit Brebeuf College School to celebrate and deliver Jesuit pedagogy in the classroom and school. We had Fr. Len Altilia, S.J. address the staff at a PD Day in September, and he did a wonderful job to set the stage for this pending endorsement with the Jesuits. I'm happy to report that at the time of this message, we are nearing ever closer to this endorsement that will further highlight our Pillar of Faith and will also allow us to continue to keep the Presentation Brothers and their tradition in the forefront. There is a lot of overlap with both spiritualities!

With the refocus and commitment to our school Pillars and in this case the Pillar of Fellowship, we have also kicked off a revamped House System and Mentorship System. The House System has all students assigned to one of six Houses – Jogues, Lalemant, Daniel, Lalande, Garnier, Chabanel – and students compete with other Houses for House prizes, etc. This really speaks to our Pillar of Fellowship and building the amazing brotherhood at Brebeuf College

School. Our senior students, who applied for a Prefect Leadership position last year, have been absolute stars in supporting our Grade 9 students and have already brought our Grade 9s together for fun activities (the AMAZING RACE in December), intramurals, fellowship, etc. Coupled with the above, there are so many other amazing things happening at Brebeuf that speak to our Pillars!

Our Pillar of Excellence is well and alive with students participating in interschool sports through our varsity Football, Jr. Soccer, Sr. Volleyball, Hockey Teams and really building fellowship and brotherhood. On deck and with the easing of restrictions, we hope to offer badminton, Jr. Volleyball, Sr. Soccer and Baseball! Our Robotics Team has also been working away diligently and placed very well in their February competition, while a number of Grade 9 students faired very well in the Math Beaver competition earlier in Semester 1. Along with this, our Grade 10, 11 and returning 12s wrote the OSSLT and many found great success in fulfilling that requirement. A special thanks for the phenomenal effort from our Staff Literacy Team who put it all together! Numeracy and Literacy and building Excellence in these areas will continue to be a major focus at Brebeuf College School. As we look ahead and continue to build on our School Pillars, students are continually being asked to live up to our school expectations of coming to school on time, being in complete uniform and learning to achieve success for their future through grit and resilience. It is important for us to know each of our students personally and we look forward to continuing to do this.

Our Pillar of Tradition has also been taking shape with a renewed emphasis on connecting with our Alumni for our Prefect programme and trying to build a mentorship programme with our Alumni that runs through our House System. More details will be forthcoming, and we thank all Alumni who have said “yes”. Along with this, during the Christmas season we were also able to offer amazing activities that were important to the fabric and tradition at Brebeuf, such as the St. Vincent De Paul clothing drive, Beuf Boxes, and raising money for the Presentation Brothers’

schools in Africa. Along with this, we continue to celebrate our Presentation Brothers’ history with the Angelus at 10:00 a.m. each day and we look forward to building upon our Jesuit Tradition with praying the Examen each Monday at 10:00am – it’s an amazing reflective prayer to help our boys with their mental health and well-being. Lastly, I’d like to welcome our Jesuit Scholastics to Brebeuf who have been interacting with our students through Grade level Retreats since September! It’s amazing to have them on board!

These are just a few highlights of how our school Pillars are coming alive! Of course, our Pillar of Faith continues to move all Pillars and breathe life into our Catholic school just like the Holy Spirit. Our Youth Ministry has been very involved with our Sacraments, building a partnership with St. Joseph’s Morrow Park, presenting our *Qui Vadis* series in which Alumni Brebeuf Clergy speak of their faith journey. With all we do at Brebeuf, it is important that follow [brebeufcollegeschool\\_tcdsb](#) on Instagram and/or Brebeuf College School on Twitter and Facebook. This will give you a great perspective of what is taking place on a daily basis at our amazing Catholic all-boys school!

As we journey into Lent, let us always be reminded that regardless of the challenges and crosses we carry, there is renewed life through the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The resilience, grit, and humility that Jesus showed throughout the 40 days (and during his life) exemplify the traits that we want to develop in our boys at Brebeuf College School. In a special way, we also want to remember our brother Lorenzo who passed away earlier in the school year – may his soul rest in peace.

Wishing our entire community a blessed Lenten season and a joyous Easter!

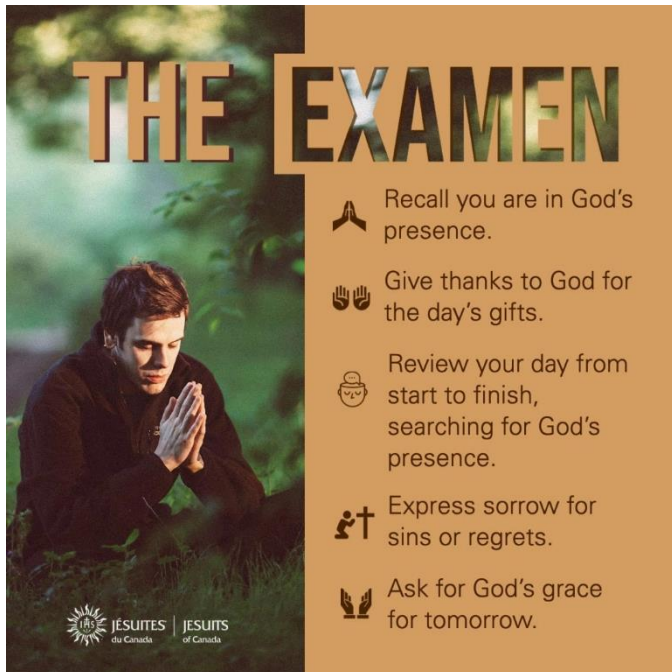
Linton Soares '02







# MEN FOR OTHERS



The Jesuit Examen

## OPERATION “COAT THE COLD”

The Brebeuf community donated **2348** articles of clothing to help the less fortunate in Toronto as part of our annual clothing drive in November. All proceeds were given to the St. Vincent de Paul Society to assist those who need warm clothes for the winter. It was a House Challenge, and below are the donation totals by House. Congratulations to Lalement House for coming out on top! Thanks for Ms. Makasci for her leadership in this initiative.

Lalement: 526

Jogues: 524

Chabanel: 516

Daniel: 296

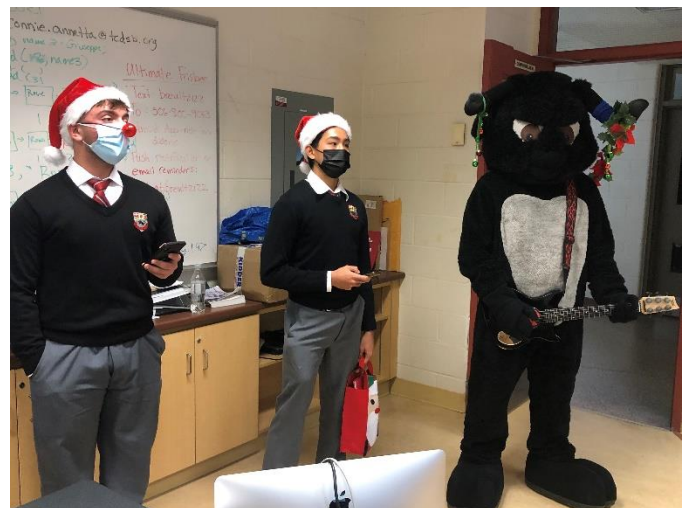
Garnier: 273

Lalande: 213



Brebeufians spending time with Our Lord at Eucharistic Adoration, which happens each First Friday after Mass

## BEUF BOXES



Bullsworth and friends raising awareness for Beuf Boxes

Thirteen families had nicer Christmases thanks to our generous donors to the “Beuf Boxes” campaign in December. The school collected money, gifts, and gift cards. Over \$3900 was raised to support these families.

As Ms. Chung, one of the organizers, noted: “We were supporting families in need within our own Brebeuf community and local parishes, and our goal for them was not to have extravagant gifts but to enjoy their holidays in peace and happiness without financial stresses or worries.”

## BROTHER HENRY



Our former Chaplain, Brother Henry Spencer, F.P.M., is doing well and living in a retirement home in

Scarborough. We miss him very much and hope that he can visit us soon!

## INDIGENOUS RECONCILIATION



As a small part of Reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, Brebeuf proudly displays the Wendat flag in its front entrance. The Wendat were the Indigenous people with whom St. Jean de Brebeuf lived and worked in the 17<sup>th</sup> century near Midland, Ontario. The flag will become a teaching tool for us to learn more about the Wendat and methods of genuine Reconciliation.

## NUTRITIONAL PROGRAMME

With the help of CYW's, student supervisors and other caring adults, Brebeuf feeds students during the lunch periods. The plan is to begin offering breakfast in the atrium again once students are allowed to gather outside their cohorts. In the meantime, we have received a special grant to support families of students who remain at home.

Special thanks to Brebeuf parents who donate grocery gift cards, the Presidents Choice Children's

Charity and the Angel Foundation For Learning for their generous aid.

Students who wish to receive nutritional support are encouraged to have their parents send an email to the principal at [linton.soares@tcdsb.org](mailto:linton.soares@tcdsb.org) or Mr. Wright at [David.wright@tcdsb.org](mailto:David.wright@tcdsb.org). Special thanks to Mr. Wright for co-ordinating our nutritional programme.

## BROTHER MAHER FUND FOR AFRICA



Brebeuf maintains an active link to the religious order – the Presentation Brothers -- which served at our school from 1984 to 2020, and this connection is an important part of our school's Faith and Tradition Pillars.

Brebeuf's Alumni and Friends raised over **\$14,000** in December through the Christmas Catalogue campaign to aid the Presentation Brothers' schools in Ghana and Nigeria. Funds help in many ways, including buying books, supplies, and uniforms; supporting high school scholarships; and funding a lunchtime feeding programme. The Brothers provide an education to both boys and girls, many of whom might not attend school but for Brebeuf's generosity.

A collection is taken amongst students and staff each First Friday. All are welcome to donate. Thanks to all of our generous donors.



# SCHOOL NEWS

## NEW VICE-PRINCIPAL



In September, Brebeuf College School was blessed to welcome a new Vice-Principal, Ms. Christine Hughes-Butler. She was formerly a teacher at Senator O'Connor C.S. We hope she will be happy in her future at our school!

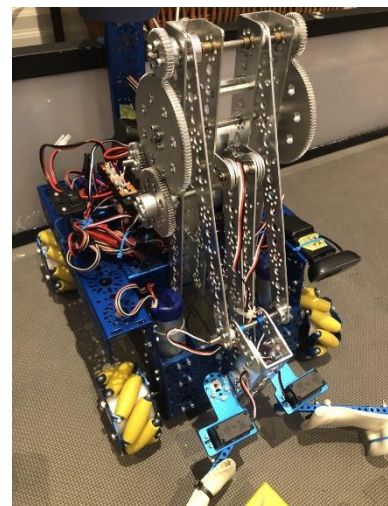
## ROBOTICS ROOKIES TO ROCKSTARS



A big congratulations to our Brebotics Robotics team who competed in the FIRST FTC Provincial Championships this February. The team qualified for provincials twice by ranking first in the North Bay Qualifiers and by having a fourth overall score in the North York Qualifiers. The team improved their score from a run average of 105 points to 142 points, despite COVID lockdown challenges. Brebotics ranked thirteenth overall at Provincials! Approximately eighty teams competed in Ontario and thirty-six competed at Provincials. Brebotics is also the first team in FIRST Robotics history to have the same Dean's List Finalist win twice in our Division. Only six finalists are chosen in Canada. The team worked hard to represent Brebeuf well at the top level and did outstanding work that will position us competitively for the future. Brebotics is currently preparing outreach STEM events, mentoring initiatives, marketing, and preparing for a tentative spring tournament.

Team award accomplishments this year so far:

- **Inspire Award** (highest ranked award) Trophy and team medals - North Bay Qualifiers
- **Compass Award Trophy** - North Bay Qualifiers
- **Fourth ranked scoring** team trophy and team medals - North York Qualifiers
- **Compass Award** Trophy - North York Qualifiers
- **Dean's List Finalist** - Provincial Finals



## I.S.P. COOKING



Here is a picture of the boys on January 27 making French Toast as part of their Life Skills Cooking programme. In preparation for the day in the kitchen, the students worked on reviewing a recipe, comparison grocery shopping for the ingredients, and practising kitchen measurements.

Featured here are (L-R): Liam, Christian, Yuwa, Andres, Luke, Sajid and Dylan.

## PREFECTS



In September, Brebeuf began a Prefect programme, whereby senior students applied and were selected to be mentors, leaders, and big brothers to our younger students. They assist with running our mentor groups for Grade 9s and activities within the House system. Before school started, students were introduced to leadership from a Jesuit perspective by Father Len Altília, S.J., former staff and Assistant for Jesuit Education in Canada. Thanks to Formators (Moderators) Ms. Walsh, Mr. Gregoris, Mr. Found, and Mr. Da Costa.



Adamyan, Vahe  
Akinyele, Marvel  
Antwi, Deshawn  
Coletta, Matthew  
Costales, Patrick  
Cuero-Valencia, Cristian  
Cumlat, Alexander  
Dam, Kardin  
De Castro, Luke  
Di Loreto, Carlo  
Dos Santos, Alex  
Edishou, George  
Ellacer, Nedel  
Emata, Kristen  
Falsarella, John  
Gamo, Jaymie  
Gamo, Matt  
Germinal III, Rafael  
Ghassemian, Jacob  
Jonathan, Jeevan  
Joseph, Joshua  
Kern, Jason  
Kim, Kevin Dohyun  
Kome Epule, Willy  
Lau, Brandon



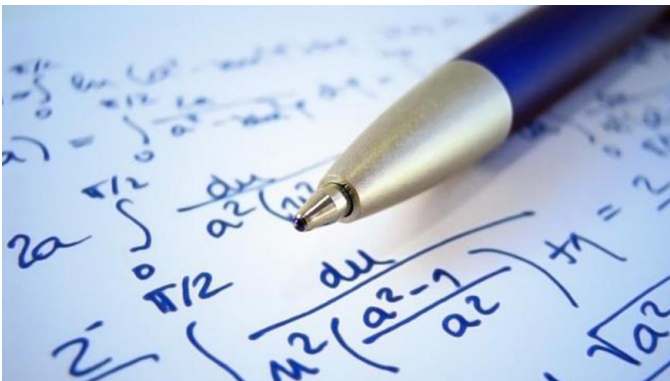
Liscombe, Nayan  
 Long, Matthew  
 Lorino, Alijah  
 Mackley, Jack  
 Marshall, Paul  
 Martins, Andre  
 Natsias, Paul  
 Poovingthal, Justin  
 Sabado, Kyle  
 Salewski, Jonathan  
 Salewski, Joshua  
 Satkunarajah, Ananth  
 Terzis, Peter



**Father Len Altília, S.J. speaking to the Prefects about Jesuit leadership.**

## MATH UPDATE

**By Brad Ryan (Head of Mathematics)**



This year, 2021-2022 the Enriched Brebeuf Mathematics programme is well on track toward helping over ninety boys excel at high level mathematics. Due to complications arising from Covid protocols, this year has been divided up into two two-period days in the first Semester, and now

back to a regular four-period day in the second Semester. There still are students who have opted for virtual learning, thus diminishing the overall number of students in regular Brebeuf College day school.

In Semester One, a Grade 11 class easily finished the course at midterm and completed most of the Grade 12 Advanced Functions course by the end. This class has started up with me again in Semester #2 to do their AP calculus work. The class will have the chance to write the AP-AB Calculus exam in May and therefore we will need to work very hard to prepare for it. In Semester #2 the Grade 12 Enriched Calculus and Vectors class are working with vectors, will then review all first year University Calculus, and will continue to work on second year University Calculus. They have the option of writing the AP-BC Calculus exam in May, and I would expect that most of them would be able to obtain near perfect on the exam if they choose to do so.

The Brebeuf STEAM programme is now fully set up and there are two Grade 9 STEAM-Enriched math classes that finished their course with me in Semester One. Class averages for these classes were very good and I am most proud of all these students and commend them for their hard work and effort toward achieving excellence in mathematics.

## LIBRARY & LEARNING COMMONS



**Ms. B. Manery, teacher-librarian, conducting an orientation session for a Grade 9 English class.**



## CO-OP NEWS



Eric Piccirilli worked at Wynn Construction as an assistant project manager / CO-OP student last semester.

He visited various job sites in Toronto and assisted his supervisor with hands on tasks and activities. Not only did this CO-OP placement allow Eric to learn about a career in project management, it also helped him gain valuable employability skills. Congratulations Eric!

The CO-OP Department would like to thank all of our community partners for supporting our students. If you are interested in becoming a CO-OP supervisor, please email us at: [stephanie.savelli@tcdsb.org](mailto:stephanie.savelli@tcdsb.org)

## DEBATING



No club better prepares students for professions such as law, teaching, business, and politics than debating. Plus, students learn to develop public speaking skills, logic, and

confidence. This year, we have a combined club with students from Brebeuf and St. Joseph Morrow Park. Each Thursday students assemble on zoom to

discuss issues and practise debating on a variety of topics.

New members are always welcome. Please join our google classroom: a5e3lex

## GUEST SPEAKERS



**Justice Cidalia Conceição Gouveia Faria via zoom with Ms. Pimentel-DeFaria's law class.**



**Marissa Papaconstantinou, Canadian Olympian, signing autographs after her presentation.**

## ARTS DEPARTMENT

### Arts Department Showcase: Sights & Sounds of First Semester

by Ms. Anna Maria Lo Bianco



The Arts Department continues to create thoughtfully despite the limitations that the pandemic has thrust upon the Arts. Although we were unable to currently host the community with our annual Christmas Arts' Night, staff and students were hard at work creating a *Sights & Sounds of the Semester* video to showcase our many talented Brebeuf artists.

This semester, Ms. Lo Bianco's drama students are grateful to be back in the theatre refining their dramatic techniques, Ms. Medeiros' visual artists are happy to be back in the art studio perfecting their skills, Mr. Found's music students are sounding more and more like an orchestra each day, and Mr. Martinez' media arts students are glad to be back at work designing in the computer lab.

Additionally, an exceptionally driven group of Brebeufians have entered the National Theatre School Festival, and a team of talented student writers are currently working away on not one but two original scripts that will be produced and professionally adjudicated this spring--more to follow about these awesome theatrical ventures in 2022 as the creative process unfolds!

Follow @arts\_brebeuf\_tcdsb for more information.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM

Students in Brebeuf's Gifted Programme and Social Justice Club hosted the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Social Justice Symposium on zoom. Students from eight TCDSB schools attended to learn more from Guest Speakers about racism in Canada and ways it can be remedied. Also, there was a Mass for Social Justice to learn more about Catholic teaching on racism from Father John O'Brien, S.J.

## SPORTS



### ATHLETICS 2021-22

By Mr. Brad Chin You

High school sports finally made its way back for the 2021-22 season! It had been a long two years since we experienced the sights and sounds of Brebeuf Athletics. Thanks to all of our dedicated Community and Teacher Coaches for their commitment and leadership with our student-athletes - especially in this climate.

Football is back again at Brebeuf! Congrats to Mr. Engel, Mr. Bayley, and Mr. Bowler for all of their tireless work with the Junior and Senior programmes. For a shortened season, the Juniors and Seniors were merged into one team, finishing third in their division, only to lose a heartbreaker in the semi-final. On extremely short notice, all of the players, managers, and coaches, practised daily to represent Brebeuf - and they did not disappoint.



Highlights included the epic 42-0 home opener win vs Romero, and memorable gritty games under the lights at Bill Cruthers. Under the leadership of Quarterback Peter Terzis, the Bulls will be back stronger than ever in 2022!



Brebeuf's Junior Soccer team came within one goal of advancing to the final round of the playoffs. Led by Mr. Debicki and Mr. Marinic, the boys went on to a 1-1-1 record in TDCAA tournament. With Charlie Connolly and Jacob Todd leading the way, the future is bright for Brebeuf soccer!



The Senior Volleyball Team, coached by Mr. Chen, had a great regular season, finishing second in their conference. After a convincing quarterfinal win vs Charbonnel, the boys lost in the semi-final in a close match. Special kudos to Jack Mackley, who led the team in blocks and kills.



Brebeuf's hockey programme continues to thrive. The Varsity "A" Hockey team tied in fifth spot in the TDCAA, while the Varsity "B" Hockey team pulled its way into a tie for second place, thanks to the goaltending of goalie, Sean Smolej. Led by coaches Mr. Chin You and Mr. Macdonald, the teams really came together to play as brothers. With talents like Nayan Liscombe, Justin Young, and feisty Daniel Condarcu, Brebeuf will be competitive again next season.



Unfortunately, another Covid lockdown led to the cancellation of all winter sports. The basketball and indoor soccer teams never got off the ground despite massive interest from our student body.

Spring sports are right around the corner, as we move towards fully re-introducing inter-school competition. Brebeuf's Badminton team has already been practising hard in preparation for their upcoming season. The Junior Volleyball, Track and Field, Senior Soccer and Baseball teams will be back in the coming weeks. Stay tuned!

# PARENTS

by Cristina Martins, CSPC Chair

The past two years have no doubt been exceedingly difficult, stressful, and challenging times for everyone and ones that we would like to forget and put behind us. The COVID-19 pandemic has presented many challenges for everyone – educators, parents, but especially students. The abrupt shifts to remote learning and having to adapt to changes in learning style have affected students enormously. Parents and families have always been and continue to be the heart of the education process and a vital part of the school team. Thank you for all the ways you have supported your son(s) with their learning. It makes a difference!

Throughout this pandemic, the CSPC has continued to meet virtually on a monthly basis. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 and the restrictions on gatherings imposed by Ontario and Toronto Public Health, we have not been able to organize in-person events. However, we have continued to work closely with the administration in an advisory role to enrich, enhance and improve student education, achievement, and well-being.

We recently received news that our application for a TCDSB Parent Reaching Out (PRO) grant was successful. This grant will be used to support the Stop the Stigma Committee at Brebeuf to secure a speaker for an upcoming event where parents will have the opportunity to participate. We know how much COVID-19 has affected the mental health of students, so this event promises to be informative, supportive and successful. More details to follow.

We are currently working with Mr. Soares to create a Memorial Garden at the school in memory of students that have passed while studying at Brebeuf. More details to follow.

It has been two years since the CSPC has held the Brebeuf Annual Used Uniform Sale. This is the largest CSPC fundraising event with all monies

raised going to assist various initiatives at Brebeuf, such as Kairos and Salesian retreats, team sponsorships, Muskoka Woods, the Brother Maher Graduation award, and many other programmes that directly benefit all Brebeuf students. However, with the social distancing restrictions imposed by the Province of Ontario and Toronto Public Health at the time of our last CSPC meeting, we may not be able to have run this sale once again this year. BUT do not get rid of those outgrown/no longer needed pieces of clothing just yet!! With the Province recently lifting many of the COVID-19 restrictions, we may now be in a position to hold this event. Stay tuned for more information.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the CSPC for 2021/2022:

Linton Soares, Ex-Officio  
Rob Gregoris, Spiritual Representative  
Sergio DeMiglio, Spiritual Representative  
Mike Da Costa, Teacher Representative  
Elvira Boyle, Community Representative  
Cristina Martins, Chair  
Tatiana de Oliveira, Vice Chair  
Paul Fettes, Treasurer  
Trish Berry, Secretary  
Filippina Abate, Member at Large  
Sandra Quevedo, Member at Large

Lastly, I encourage you to get involved in the life of the school and in your son(s) learning in whatever way you can. The CSPC is an excellent way for parents to get involved in the school. Our meetings for the rest of this school year are set for April 28 and May 26. There is nothing more gratifying than the feeling of knowing that you have made a difference in your son's learning and school community. Come join us and be that difference. Everyone is welcome. We'd love to see you there and value your support.

We are always keen to hear from other parents. We are here to represent your views to the school. To contact Parent Council please email ...  
[cspc.brebeuf@tcdsb.org](mailto:cspc.brebeuf@tcdsb.org)

We remain hopeful that soon we will be allowed in-person social gatherings. Until such time, please stay safe.



# ALUMNI



Michael Rowe, Brebeuf class of 1986, serves as president of The Home Depot Canada, where he oversees sales and operations of 182 stores and approximately 28,000 associates.

Mike joined The Home Depot in 2006. Most recently, he was vice president of online, marketing and contractor services for The Home Depot Canada. In that role, he was responsible for marketing, advertising, e-commerce, installation services, contractor services, and strategy. He also served as chief financial officer, vice president of finance and contractor services, procurement and strategic business development for The Home Depot Canada.

Prior to joining the company, Mike held positions of increasing responsibility at Maple Leaf Foods, Reckitt Benckiser and Procter & Gamble.

Mike has a bachelor's and a master's degree in business administration from the Schulich School of Business at York University. (From the Home Depot website)



**Brebeuf's first principal, Fr. Robert Meagher, with students in 1963 at the tomb of St. Jean de Brebeuf in Midland, Ontario.**

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## TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEES

**2021 - 2022**

### Wards

1. Joseph Martino 416-512-3401
  2. Markus de Domenico 416-512-3402
  3. Ida Li Preti 416-512-3403
  4. Teresa Lubinski 416-512-3404
  5. Maria Rizzo 416-512-3405
  6. Frank D'Amico, Vice-Chair 416-512-3406
  7. Michael Del Grande 416-512-3407
  8. Garry Tanuan 416-512-3408
  9. Norm Di Pasquale 416-512-3409
  10. Daniel Di Giorgio 416-512-3410
  11. Angela Kennedy, Chair 416-512-3411
  12. Nancy Crawford 416-512-3412
- Keith Andre Baybayon, Student Trustee 416-512-3413  
Stephanie De Castro, Student Trustee 416-512-3417
- 

*The Relations* is the official newsletter of

### **BREBEUF COLLEGE SCHOOL**

It is named for the letters that St. Jean de Brebeuf and his Jesuit colleagues sent home to France in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. Its aim is to share much of our good news.

Michael Da Costa '92, Editor