

## **Board Meeting**

### **Director's Update - Pino Buffone**

**26 June 2017**

- 1. Acknowledgement of Students, Staff & School Communities:** Congratulations to Assistant Superintendent, Jodie Barrett, on her appointment to the Upper Canada District School Board as a supervisory officer (academic), effective 14 August 2017. I wish to take this opportunity to thank her for her commitment, dedication and professionalism in serving the district for the past 22 years as a teacher and administrator. Best of luck to you, Jodie, in your new role! I would like to acknowledge the official opening of Sherwood Public School/Madawaska Valley District High School on 12 June 2017...a terrific celebration of this new school opening on a beautiful day! I also wish to express my gratitude to students, staff and school communities for their time and effort in preparation for year-end activities, including: field trips, year-end excursions and other school-based activities, as well as leaving and/or graduation ceremonies. It is indeed a busy time of the school year, and these efforts, in large part, ensure a smooth wrap-up to the school year.
- 2. Ottawa Valley Entrepreneurship Hub – 07 June 2017:** As a key aspect of our partnership with Algonquin College, I took part in a strategic planning session with community-based leaders at Waterfront Campus earlier this month. The session was very fruitful in discussions related to creativity and innovation in the valley, including the importance of continuing and/or enhancing partnership opportunities, as well as dual-credits and/or the establishment of a specialist high skills major program related to innovation, for instance. Further dialogue will take place in the fall on this important community partnership.
- 3. Board Retirement Celebration – 13 June 2017:** On the evening of June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017, our district held its annual retirement celebration...a wonderful celebration of colleagues who have dedicated their time and effort so diligently in serving the district over many years...and a chance for colleagues – present and past – to share stories and memories of their time in our district.

Closing comment...On behalf of all members of Executive Council, I wish you all a relaxing, enjoyable summer!