

Dufferin-Peel director to receive OCSTA award

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has announced that Director of Education John Kostoff is this year's recipient of the 2014 OCSTA Special Award.

This award is presented annually by the Ontario Catholic Schools Trustees Association (OCSTA) to an individual, other than a trustee, who has made a significant contribution to the Catholic education community in Ontario. The official presentation will take place at the OCSTA annual general meeting April 25.

"I can't think of a more worthy recipient of this award," Board Chair Mario Pascucci commented. "This award is an honour, not just for Mr. Kostoff, but for the entire Dufferin-Peel community and I speak for the entire board when I say that we are blessed to be able to work closely with an individual who has so clearly and consistently been one of the best in the business."

"I am more than honoured to receive this award," Kostoff said. "To stand among the luminaries who have received this award in the past is very humbling indeed and my sincere appreciation goes to those who thought me worthy to be among them."

"It is a privilege to serve this board and this community," he added.

Past recipients of the OCSTA Special Award include Cardinal Thomas Collins, former premier Bill Davis, Msgr. Dennis Murphy, James Mulligan, and a host of other high-profile individuals dating back to the award's inception in 1987.

Kostoff was nominated by the Board in recognition to the 37 years he's devoted to Catholic education, demonstrating outstanding leadership as a teacher, administrator, ambassador and advocate.

The Board also praised his leadership through numerous high profile challenges. "He has intuitively insisted upon, and has incorporated Catholic faith values in seeking and developing solutions to issues," the nomination stated.