October 30, 2018

Dear WE Schools and Educational Partners,

It is my pleasure to express my personal support and gratitude to the WE Foundation on behalf of the TCDSB. Our district has approximately 93,000 students from a wide variety of backgrounds. The one piece of data we are happy and proud about is that almost 90% of our schools are involved with the We Foundation.

This partnership has brought so much to our scholars, teachers and parents that we simply could not do alone. WE has helped link global and local communities to each of our schools like never before! Through this partnership, all our schools have been provided free resources and lessons of the WE Schools program, which teaches our youth about local and global causes. WE has also had a great impact on our ability to have first-hand experience in Kenya and Tanzania, as we were able to travel and learn about education from a global perspective. This service-learning model has been operating through our Continuing Education department, in partnership with WE since 2004. One of our Directors, a number of our Superintendents, (including myself) and countless principals, teachers and students have travelled to developing countries as a result of the WE program. Experiencing first-hand the impact WE makes through collective action is a transformational life experience. What a gift! Through those experiences, we were able to realize the Catholic Graduate Expectations, which outline the overarching goals for our students and teachers and staff.

Throughout the year, schools immersed in the WE Schools curriculum engage in real-world learning and critical thinking. Each year schools engage in Leadership workshops, and utilize WE speakers at school and board events. The WE curriculum has provided a roadmap on how to empower our students to be caring, responsible citizens of the world. You and the WE team inspire and motivate us to be the change through our words and our actions. Thank you.

At the beginning of each year, the WE program in our schools begins with an inspiring event called, WE Day, where almost every one of our schools attend and feels motivated to keep doing good! The focus on student engagement continuously motivates us to “Get Doing” and put words into action. WE has been a gift to our board in many ways. I am grateful to the entire WE family for their passion and commitment to the students, teachers, and families of the Toronto Catholic District School Board. We thank you for being our partner in education and I hope to continue this partnership for years to come! WE really does make doing good...doable!

Sincerely,

Shawna Campbell
Superintendent of Education
TCDSB