



The Board of Directors of the Eastern Ontario Staff Development Network (EOSDN) is pleased to announce the 2024 recipient of the Eleanor Newman Award for Outstanding Service: Dr. Pino Buffone, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, Ottawa-Carleton District School Board. EOSDN Board Chair, Brent Bovaird, reflected upon the significant commitment that Pino has given to the mission of the Network. “His service to EOSDN has been valued and impactful to the success of the Network and to the professional growth and success of those he has encouraged to actively engage in EOSDN opportunities.”

Pino’s nominators state that he is a lifelong learner who has supported students, educators, and communities to engage in innovative and dynamic ways of learning that foster inclusion, development, and growth among all. Starting his career in education in 1994, Pino served in numerous roles: classroom teacher, Vice-Principal, Principal, Education Officer with the Ministry of Education, and Coordinator of English-language assessments. Further, he served as an Education Officer with the Education Quality and Accountability Office, a Superintendent of Schools, and the Superintendent of Curriculum. In 2017, he joined the Renfrew County District School Board as Director of Education, where he led the Strategic Plan of Inspire, Empower and Achieve. In 2023, he returned to the Ottawa-Carleton Board of Education as Director of Education and Secretary of the Board.

Pino has been an active contributor within EOSDN for many years. He served as chair and vice-chair from 2013 to 2017, co-facilitated a Supervisory Officer Qualification Program module for six years, and mentored many Supervisory Officer candidates. He continues facilitating the SOQP exit process, and participates as a guest speaker in the Leadership Academy. In partnership with EOSDN, he has hosted professional learning for senior leaders from school districts in the region. His contributions to educational learning and leadership through EOSDN makes him a worthy recipient of the Eleanor Newman Award for Outstanding Service.

The Board of Directors of EOSDN is planning to present Pino with the Eleanor Newman Award for Outstanding Service at the Annual Awards dinner May 16th, 2024. The Board extends its sincere congratulations to Pino and invites all Network colleagues to do the same.