

News Release

St. Pius X High School to offer CTA Junior Basketball Academy for male student-athletes

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Ottawa – The Ottawa Catholic School Board will expand its partnership with Canada Topflight Academy (CTA) and offer the first high performance program for junior boys student basketball players in the region. St. Pius X on Fisher Avenue will be the host school for the program which will begin operating September 2018. This program is an extension of the men's program at Notre Dame and the women's program at Immaculata. The CTA men are coming off back to back National Preparatory Association (NPA) National Championships and definitely building an outstanding brand in the community.

Student-athletes from the St. Pius X CTA Academy will also participate in several showcase events in Ontario and the U.S.A. so that the athletes can go up against elite competition. The focus of the Junior Academy will be entirely on development and they will receive superior training, as well the critical guidance early in their educational path. Participation in the academy will also ensure each student athlete receives both the study and practice habits that are necessary to move on and be successful on the courts and in life.

CTA's Board of Directors include:

- Tony House: Founder and Executive Director
- Dave Smart: 13-time CIS Champion Head Coach of Carleton University
- Leo Rautins: former NBA 1st round draft pick
- Milt Palacio: former NBA player

The Ottawa Catholic School Board partners with sports academies in response to an increasing demand for sports-specific training in high schools.

"We are pleased to expand our partnership with CTA and provide students the opportunity to access the talents of Tony House and his basketball coaching staff. The student-athletes will have access to the wide array of resources at Immaculata High School to help foster success, such as our teaching and administrative staff, guidance counselors and tutoring programs."

- Denise Andre, Director of Education, OCSB

"We are excited to grow our partnership with the OCSB and create life-changing opportunities for more young men and women in this community. The CTA model is working, we are getting the results at the senior level and we're confident that we will also have a major impact at the Junior age group. We will continue to deliver on our mission and that's - to support and develop elite level basketball players to achieve their ultimate goals in basketball, academics and life."

- Tony House, CTA Executive Director

For more information, please contact St. Pius X High School Principal Alex Belloni at 613 225-8105.