

Catholic School Improvement Learning Cycle 2018 – 2019

St. Martin Secondary School

MISSION STATEMENT

We believe that St. Martin Secondary School fosters personal academic excellence in a socially supportive environment. We strive to instill in our students the love of God and neighbour and the desire to acquire skills, knowledge, attitudes and values which will allow them to become independent, responsible, productive and contributing members of a rapidly changing multi-cultural society. We, the staff, promote a commitment to life-long learning, family and social responsibility, environmental awareness, social, cultural and gender equality.

MOTTO

Teach us Knowledge, Goodness and Discipline

CATHOLIC FOCUS

In support of the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board's Catholic Board Improvement Learning Cycle, St. Martin Secondary School is further committed to:

- Deepening the understanding, appreciation and practice of the Catholic Christian lifestyle, with Jesus as role model;
- Aligning a school-wide approach to Catholicity, whereby all educational practices are implemented through a Catholic lens;
- Developing students who are fully alive in Christ, not only in terms of knowledge and skills, but in terms of values, attitudes and actions.
- As a diverse educational community responding to God's call, St. Martin Secondary School fosters and nourishes an inclusive atmosphere rooted in tradition and scripture while:
 - Being authentic witnesses to our Catholic Faith;
 - Being responsible stewards of God's grace in the world;
 - Respecting human dignity;

Modelling all learners after Jesus, as ministers of compassion

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DUFFERIN PEEL'S STRATEGIC SYSTEM PLAN CORE PRIORITIES

CATHOLICITY

How does the school community model, celebrate and nourish gospel values in the teaching and learning of our Christ-centered programs and services?

The school community being comprised of a faith-centered Eucharistic people who strive to form communities of learning that are Christ-centered, inclusive and reflective of a culture that respects and cherishes life. We celebrate all abilities and seek to provide students with opportunities to realize their potential through nurturing their spiritual, intellectual, emotional, psychological, and social growth of each student. We are a learning community that lives and teaches the Gospel message in all our daily activities, including morning prayer, stewardship of the environment, and daily interactions. Our Virtues Education program provides students with concrete experiences that empower students to become more fully alive in Christ. Our social justice and outreach activities develop attitudes and values founded on Catholic social teaching and acts to promote social responsibility, human solidarity and common good that foster a sense of care and belonging for all as related to the local, national and global community.

Our school community demonstrates our Catholic Faith following the liturgical calendar celebrating Mass and Liturgies; grade level retreats; school-wide Christmas baskets and food drive; regular support of various community agencies.

CATHOLIC LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Summary of the school's most recent (2017-2018) EQAO Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics

- Grade 9 Academic 83% of students at or above Provincial Standard
- Grade 9 Applied 52% of students at or above Provincial Standard

Summary of the school's most recent (2017-2018) Grade 10 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

- Grade 10 Literacy 77% of students at or above Provincial Standard

Describe how the school fosters the achievement, well-being and continuous development of all through a caring, safe and inclusive environment.

St. Martin CSS fosters the continuous development of all in the following ways:

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- diverse programming to meet the needs of all learners (co-op, alt-ed, workplace, college, university, apprenticeship, Planning for Independence, Communication Program) and providing an extensive variety of co-curricular activities
- fostering a positive and safe environment in a Catholic setting
- honoring student voice
- supporting student support through Link Crew and Leadership Classes
- focusing daily activity on enhancing student knowledge of scripture and Catholic social teachings such as the beatitudes

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

How does the school demonstrate that it values the involvement of community through partnerships and collaboration?

At St. Martin CSS, we value and actively foster our extensive community partnerships. Together with our Catholic School Trustees, our Catholic School Council is informed and active in our school's daily events and programs including: Academic Awards Ceremony, parent teacher conferences, gr. 8 info night, literacy & numeracy info, Pasta Night. A wide variety of groups within the school participate in: social justice programs, Co-op, St. Martin of Tours Parish, STAO, DECA, Huron Park Community Centre, MiWay Mississauga, and MADD. The Regional Sports Program and our Sports SHSM facilitates a connection to many Sport Sector partners, including: MLSE, TFC, and the Mississauga Steelheads. We dialogue extensively with our feeder schools and provide public information to our open access students and parents through our transition practices. Our school extends into many facets of the larger community through our school teams and yearbook initiatives. We very proudly partner with our Neighbour Policing Unit to support our students and their families.

PARISH – HOME – SCHOOL RELATIONSHIPS

Describe how the school demonstrates strong partnerships and collaboration among Parish, Home and School that are based on mutual respect rooted in our lived Catholic Faith.

Our Parish-Home-School connection is founded by our Catholic faith formation and religious education. This relationship is strengthened through active participation in daily prayer throughout the day. All students participate in a retreat that is selective to grade and focus, supported by Catholic Church organizations. Students have regular access to Sacraments including the Eucharist and Reconciliation. We communicate regularly with and through St. Martin of Tours Parish and pastors.

We participate in annual events with Sharelife, Terry Fox Foundation, Joe Sax track and field and the Inside Ride. Our staff participate in Family of Schools and in-house faith formation retreats and activities. We are also ambassadors of the When Faith Meets Pedagogy conference.

STEWARDSHIP OF THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Describe how the school is committed to healthy and safe learning and working environments that enhance well-being, engagement and achievement.

St. Martin CSS is fully committed to a safe, welcoming, inclusive learning environment. We promote safety for all through our anti-bullying initiatives and incorporate extensive involvement of community supports with our school, including our Neighbourhood Policing Officers, Child and Youth Workers, Social Workers, MAHN nurse, SERTs, Guidance Counsellors, Student Success Teachers and special programs. Our approach to student conflict resolution is founded on a mediation and reconciliation approach, and utilized in a progressive manner. All

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students are invited to participate in an extensive variety of co-curricular teams, clubs and activities that engage students in a caring, inclusive manner; including our breakfast program.

Intensive support is extended to our grade 9 population to facilitate a seamless transition from elementary school, including activities that are organized through our Link Crew and Leadership class.

St. Martin CSS supports our community through outreach programs and social justice programs, including Christmas baskets and local needs.

We offer Literacy and Numeracy workshops for students and parents. Tutoring, both by teachers and peers, is available on an ongoing basis, while our Student Success initiatives and In School Team evaluate and operate on a continuous intake, offering safe alternatives such as: Alt Ed, Coop, OYAP.

We are very proud of our students' accomplishments and celebrate God's gifts during our Academic Awards ceremony, our Athletic Banquet, our Virtues Recognition Program, along with a variety of contests and challenges that take place through the school year. We are able to share these accomplishments with our community through our Parish, newsletters, website, electronic board and Twitter feed.

TECHNOLOGY

How is the school committed to a responsible approach in addressing the technology needs of our learners in a global context?

St. Martin CSS is committed to developing Catholic Digital Citizens. All students are encouraged to utilize their personal electronic devices for instructional purposes, accessing many educational applications. All students develop their Individual Personal Education Plans on My BluePrint. Many of our classrooms are equipped with computer technology, supported by 2 mobile labs. We regularly engage students by incorporating Brightspace, blended learning, Office 365 and Google Apps into the curriculum. Our students are supported by technology programs including: Read and Write, Dragon, and Inspiration.

Our school communication is transmitted by Instagram, our school YouTube channel and our website.

SACREDNESS OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

How does the school encourage the respectful and sustainable environmental practices of reducing, reusing and recycling?

St. Martin CSS participates in an extensive knowledge of the sacredness of the environment through all curricula and our Gold Eco Certification Award which we are aiming for again in the 2018-2019 school year.

Students participate in an Eco Club and Eco Mustangs projects. The students in the PIP and Communication classes are actively engaged in the school recycling program. Our Outdoor Ed class participates in a heightened awareness/leadership program at Cedar Glen Camp.

We are continuously providing educational reminders of ecologically savvy practises on our public communication forum, including: energy conservation, water station use, "goos" bin paper reuse, computer monitor use. We proudly recycle our school uniforms when appropriate and promote Earth Day activities. Annual Student Innovation Grant application are also focused on Eco initiatives, such as the edible garden to support our hospitality classes.

St. Martin CSS regularly participates in the Development and Peace project as well as many social justice initiatives.

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