

Our DPCDSB Mission: Disciples of Christ, nurturing mind, body and soul to the fullness of life.
Our DPCDSB Vision: Changing the world through Catholic education.

June 2024

June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The virtue of fairness this month and Catholic social teachings of human dignity and the common good, compel us to model Jesus' love by treating others with compassion, mercy, and by acting justly.

2024 Graduates – Congratulations to our Class of 2024 graduates! Our DPCDSB students have achieved this important milestone through hard work, determination, and resilience. May they continue to deepen their personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and journey in learning and faith. Wishing our graduates every success in their future educational pursuits and career goals.

Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) – The DPCDSB has released its [Multi-Year Strategic Plan \(MYSP\) for 2023-2027](#). As per the Ontario Ministry of Education's requirements, our board is seeking feedback on the goals, action steps, and strategies associated with each of the MYSP values - Believe, Excel, Respect, Thrive, and Trust. This survey closes on Friday, June 14. [Link to Survey](#).

Policy/Program Memorandum 128 – In response to the rise of youth vaping in schools and the persistent use of cellphones which distract from learning in class, the provincial government is introducing an anti-vaping policy and a cell phone policy in publicly funded schools in September 2024. The updated Provincial Code of Conduct outlines these changes in [Policy/Program Memorandum 128](#) which is available online.

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) – The Ministry of Education is supporting Grade 11 apprenticeship training so that students can enter the trades faster. Starting in the fall of 2024, students will have the opportunity to take advantage of a new accelerated stream of OYAP while pursuing their secondary diploma.

Core Education Funding – The Ministry of Education announced Core Education Funding (Core Ed) on April 26, 2024. Core Ed Funding replaces what has previously been called Grants for Student Needs (GSN). The Ministry has made this change to streamline the funding formula, make it easier for parents and families to understand and to improve school board accountability. The Core Ed funding for 2024-2025 is not expected to have major changes relative to current GSN funding for 2023-2024. The only changes to the funding include targeted investments for negotiated collective agreements and adjustments for using updated Statistics Canada census data. However, on an overall basis, DPCDSB will be impacted by the funding it receives due to a projected decline in enrolment.



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“ At the
command of the
Lord, they
would set out.

- Numbers 9:23 ”

AGENDAS AND MINUTES

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB)

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Responsive Education Programs – On April 26, the Ministry of Education announced Responsive Education Programs (REPs). REPs replace what was formerly known as Priorities and Partnership Funding (PPF) grants. The change is intended to enhance transparency in type and purpose of funding. REPs focus on learning and well-being initiatives of the Ministry that support students for success now and in the future. The most significant change for 2024-2025 is the elimination of the *Staffing to Support De-Streaming and Transition to High School* grant. This amounted to \$4.1 million for DPCDSB and supported over 30 teacher staffing positions.

Ontario's Language Curriculum – In February 2022, the *Ontario Human Rights Commission* released the *Right to Read* report stating that learning to read is a human right and issued 156 recommendations to the *Ontario Ministry of Education (the Ministry)*, school boards, and educators to change systematic issues that are impacting some children's right to learn to read. *The Ministry* responded in April 2022 with the *Effective Early Reading: A Teacher's Guide* that was a glimpse into changes that would be made to the current language curriculum.

In June 2023, the new language curriculum was released for implementation in September 2023. In addition to changes in the new language curriculum, *the Ministry* released *PPM 168* in August 2023, with two mandates:

- that all Year 2 Kindergarten to Grade 2 students are to be screened at the beginning of each year for the risk of future reading difficulties.
- that all Grade 1 to 3 teachers are to provide 30 minutes a day of explicit systematic instruction in foundational reading skills.

The mandate for screening will begin in September 2024. More information is available in the May 14, 2024 - Faith and Program Committee Agenda on the DPCDSB website.

Mathematics Achievement Plan – On the DPCDSB website, a page has been added to the Program and Services section about the [DPCDSB Mathematics Achievement Plan](#). This page provides information about the following:

- Priority Actions to Support Mathematics Achievement
- Digital Tools for Math Learning
- Information for Parents and Families

As well, this page uplifts our Catholic faith by sharing the story of Blessed Carlos Acutis, a millennial Holy Person who was “a programmer and build a website cataloging and promoting Eucharistic miracles” (Catholic News Agency).

CCCSC Annual Report – The Central Committee for Catholic School Councils (CCCSC) has worked in partnership with our DPCDSB school communities with a primary focus of promoting effective parent involvement opportunities and enabling parents to play a stronger role in supporting student achievement in Catholic education. Members have united around a collective call to create communities that inspire and nurture a faithful response to discipleship within all learners. CCCSC is comprised of parent representatives representing each family of schools, parish representatives, community representatives, and two trustees.

The CCCSC Annual Report provides an overview of the many ways CCCSC and our local Catholic School Councils (CSC) are served as they support all children along their journey of faith and learning. It is our purpose, mission, and goal to ensure that face-to-face and virtual engagement with parents/guardians are enriched, where appropriate, with supports that are grounded within our Catholic faith. More information is available in the May 14, 2024 – Faith and Program Committee Agenda on the DPCDSB website.

Skills Ontario – *Skills Ontario* is a province-wide organization committed to preparing Ontario’s youth for the highly skilled workforce of tomorrow. Active for over 30 years, *Skills Ontario* partners with school boards, colleges, businesses, labour groups, and governments to provide a wide range of experiential opportunities for youth to explore and develop their skills for future careers in technology and the skilled trades. DPCDSB has had a long-standing association with many of the rich programs and experiential opportunities offered by *Skills Ontario*.

In the competitive arena, *Skills Ontario* brings together hundreds of elementary, secondary, and postsecondary students to Canada’s largest skilled trades and technology competition. Participating students were able to showcase their talents and compete for the title of the best in their sector with the province’s most skilled youth. Prior to the provincial competition, school boards and post-secondary institutions hosted their own regional events to determine the students who will represent their organization at provincials.

Sixty-five gold and silver medal winners moved on to the Provincial Elementary contest at the Toronto Congress Centre on May 6, 2024. Over fifty-five gold and silver medal winners moved onto the Provincial Secondary contest at the Toronto Congress Centre on May 7, 2024. More information is available in the May 14, 2024 - Faith and Program Committee Agenda on the DPCDSB website.

School Board Financial Transparency Tool – The Ministry of Education is introducing a new *School Board Financial Transparency Tool* to expand accountability. This tool will include a financial dashboard that displays financial and non-financial information related to each school board. Some examples of the information displayed will include how much funding boards receive, budget and year end expenditure details and class size reporting. This tool will be posted on the Ontario.ca website and users will be able to compare information between school boards, as well as the information pertaining to regional and provincial averages. School boards will be required to post a link to the tool on their own websites. More details are expected over the next few months.

School Board Social Media Lawsuit – On May 29, it was announced that DPCDSB is one of five school boards and two private schools that have joined a lawsuit launched earlier this year against social media giants Meta, Snapchat and TikTok for disrupting student learning and the education system. A Community Information Bulletin has been shared with DPCDSB parents/guardians with more information.

Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) – Aligned with Ontario’s Education Act, the DPCDSB is required to support student achievement and well-being. Our school board has again secured permission from the University of British Columbia (UBC) to use the MDI. Findings from the MDI represent one of the data sources that our schools and the board use to monitor progress of one of our core values - ‘*Thrive*’. Student participation in the survey is voluntary and all responses are confidential. Online access is available for students from May 14, 2024, through June 4, 2024. These survey results will help to inform and improve DPCDSB’s policies and practices. For any questions or concerns, parents/guardians can contact their child(ren)’s school(s).

DPCDSB Summer Literacy Camp (SLC) – The SLC for students in Senior Kindergarten through Grade 5 will not be offered this summer. This program was a fully funded day program for students. Changes are being undertaken to support targeted reading intervention for students in the primary grades. The decision to change course has been made with a view to supporting students accessing the curriculum – reading proficiency is essential for this purpose. Other GTA boards do not offer this programming. The Grades 6-8 programs are funded by the Ministry and will continue. Our Grade 6, 7, 8 Summer School is still accepting registrations.

2024 – 2025 Elementary Remote School – DPCDSB will continue to offer the elementary remote only learning option for the 2024-2025 school year. Unfortunately, there was not enough interest to support opening any FDK, Grade 1, 2 or 3

classes. Individual families who expressed interest are being informed that the primary program will not be running. The remote only learning program will run for Grades 4 to 8 only and will be housed at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Elementary School.

Secondary International and Indigenous Languages (IIL) Fall 2024 – The DPCDSB International and Indigenous Languages Program delivers language instruction in over 18 Languages. As part of the regular operational strategy at Adult and Continuing Education, various sites are rotated for Night School, Summer School and IIL programs within the Dufferin-Peel community. Due to declining enrollment and in an effort to consolidate resources, our Secondary International Language classes will move to two new centralized locations, beginning September 2024.

Changes for the 2024-2025 school year include offering language classes at St. Joseph Catholic Secondary School (CSS) and St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School (CSS). A number of languages traditionally offered at John Cabot Catholic Secondary School (CSS) in Mississauga will now be offered at St. Joseph CSS, e.g., Vietnamese, Polish, Ukrainian, etc. We now have an IIL site in both Central Mississauga and Central Brampton, rather than at two sites in Mississauga East. This provides our families with a more equitable and centralized location which is accessible to students from all language groups. Parents were informed of this change on April 20, 2024, when registration for the 2024-2025 school year was opened.

Secondary School Cafeteria Services – On September 1, 2023, DPCDSB entered into contract agreements for a five-year period with three cafeteria services providers including Pina Foods, Just Catering and Aramark. As part of the contract terms, our cafeteria providers will conduct a school survey to measure feedback from customers on service operations, including menu selections, food quality, pricing, service levels, etc. The customer base includes our students and staff; however, the survey is also available to Catholic School Councils (CSC).

The survey was designed to ensure the feedback collected provides relevant data that can be used centrally by the board, as well as by each school site to make improvements and/or to introduce new ideas. Distribution of the survey link and QR code was shared with schools in May.

School Volunteers – Thank you to all DPCDSB parents/guardians who have helped support our local school programming and volunteered with the gifts of your time and talents to enrich the experiences for our students and school communities. All parents/guardians who wish to participate in school events and attend excursions for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year are required to have an updated current Annual Declaration of Offence and a current Vulnerable Sector Check - Level 3, which can be completed online: <https://rec-check.peelpolice.ca/>

Electronic Secondary Timetables - This fall, secondary students will receive electronic timetables to their student email addresses for the 2024-2025 school year. Watch for this important change coming in September.

Are You Moving? If your family is planning to move over the summer months, please let your school administrators know if your child(ren) will not be attending school for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year, as soon as possible. This information assists our school staff with planning, class organization, ordering of materials, etc.

Also, when you move, your English Separate (Catholic) School Support defaults to English Public School Support. Parents/guardians can help protect and preserve our Catholic Education System by ensuring registration as an English Separate School Supporter. Check the assessment section on your Tax Bill or Property Assessment Notice. You can also review [DPCDSB's Are You Ticked?](#) brochure to learn more.



UPCOMING DATES

- June 10** – PA Day for DPCDSB Elementary Schools
- June 18** – DPCDSB Board Meeting
- June 18, 19, 20, 21, 24** – Secondary Examinations
- June 26, 27, 28** – PA Days for DPCDSB Secondary Schools
- June 28** – Last day of school!
- September 3** – First day of classes for 2024-2025 school year

Community Connection - The Lisgar Residents' Association (LRA) is hosting its 33rd Annual Community Day on Saturday June 12 from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm at Lisgar Fields Community Park - 6755 Lisgar Drive in Ward 10, Mississauga. Email: lisgar.residents@gmail.com for more information.

NEW 2024-2025 School Year Calendar – The first day of classes for Elementary and Secondary schools is Tuesday September 3, 2024. More information is available on the DPCDSB website.

Message From Your Catholic School Trustee – As our 2023-2024 school year draws to a close, I share in the joy of partnering with you, as our children grow in their Catholic faith and education. Upon reflection of our theme of Catholic Education Week last month, “*We are Called to Love*” and the achievements over the past school year, it’s evident that our school communities are filled with students, parents/guardians and staff dedicated to working together to support one another in Catholic education. In our unity, we celebrate that each one of us is uniquely created by God.

As your Catholic School Board Trustee, as a parent, and an active member in our communities, I express gratitude to our parents/guardians and families for sharing the gift of your children with us. May we continue to walk alongside one another in faith, as we are called to love and serve God and one another.

Wishing you and your family a happy and healthy summer break! Parents/guardians are always welcome to contact me with any questions or concerns. I invite you to follow me on my social media platforms. I also encourage our DPCDSB parents/guardians to stay updated and informed of any communications sent from the school board over the summer months. We look forward to welcoming our students, families, and staff back to school on Tuesday September 3.

Thank you for choosing a Catholic education for your child(ren). May God bless you.

Yours in learning, growing, and leading with Christ,



Trustee Brea Corbet

Mississauga, Wards 9 and 10

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