



*Trustee, Luz del Rosario,
Mississauga Wards 6 & 11, Chair of the Board*



*Trustee, Stefano Pascucci
Mississauga Ward 4*

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 2023

The virtue of fairness this month compels us to treat others with compassion, mercy and to act justly. Our Catholic social teachings call us with a moral obligation to contribute to the greater good.

2021-2022 DPCDSB Secondary Student Census – Ontario’s Anti-Racism Act (ARA) seeks to eliminate systemic racism and advance racial equity. The ARA’s Data Standards for the Identification and Monitoring of Systemic Racism govern the collection, use, deidentification, reporting, retention, security, and disposal of personal information by public sector organizations (PSOs) “...to identify and monitor systemic racism and racial disparities for the purpose of eliminating systemic racism and advancing racial equity. DPCDSB’s Student Census fulfills the requirement under the ARA to collect these data.

With respect to identity-based data, students were asked several attitudinal items and their census responses were linked to achievement, programming, and discipline outcomes data from the student information system. Analyses of these outcomes data by student identity were conducted by staff in the Equity, Policy, Strategy, Research Department to identify disparities in outcomes for various student groups. Systemic racism and discrimination is evident in the disparities experienced by identity groups.

Analyses of attitudes and outcomes data linked to student identities highlights disparities experienced by students who are Black, Indigenous, have another gender identity, have a 2SLGBTQ+ identity, or have no religious affiliation. These students have a lower sense of peer and school inclusion, as well as a greater experience of exclusion and less positive representation of their identities in school. In addition, Black and Indigenous students have experienced lower average marks, less access to university-coded courses, and more barriers to university studies after secondary school.

In response, staff plan to begin consulting with the DPCDSB advisory councils (Black Community Advisory Council, Central Committee for Catholic School Councils, Indigenous Education Council, Special Education Advisory Council, and Student Senate) this June and into the early fall. Feedback from the councils is anticipated to help DPCDSB staff plan ways to address barriers to inclusion, program access, and achievement.

Long-Term Facilities Master Plan (LTFMP) The Long-Term Facilities Master Plan Facilities Update provides an overview of the current and projected state of Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB)

school facilities that will be incorporated into the final LTFMP document. An update was provided to our Board of Trustees at the May 2, 2023 Administration and Finance Committee Meeting. It includes strategies to support DPCDSB's long-term accommodation plan through ongoing capital planning and investments to ensure that DPCDSB school facilities are well-positioned to support student achievement and well-being for the coming years. It includes information on:

- Keeping Our Schools in a State of Good Repair
- Investments in Infrastructure During the 2022–2023 School Year
- Ventilation Optimization
- Stewardship and Sustainability of Facilities

STOPR Eligibility Reassessments – On an annual basis, Student Transportation of Peel Region (STOPR) staff reviews and, if necessary, adjusts transportation eligibility for selected schools in the Peel Region to maintain equitable implementation of transportation policies for all schools within Peel Region. An *update was provided to our Board of Trustees at the May 2, 2023 - Administration and Finance Committee Meeting. These eligibility reassessments may be conducted because of the following circumstances:

- Completion of pedestrian accesses (sidewalks or walkways) not previously in place;
- Revisions to school attendance boundaries or program boundaries;
- Implementation of a new Crossing Guard location by the local municipality;
- Construction of new roadways or implementation of new traffic control devices;
- Altered speed limits;
- Existing eligibility circumstances identified by STOPR staff as no longer accurate and requiring review.

Autistic Community Strategy – On May 1, Peel Regional Police (PRP) in collaboration with DPCDSB and other community partners, launched an Autism Strategy in policing. This is believed to be the first in Canada to strengthen how to best serve our communities. According to PRP Chief Nishan Duraipappah, *“This is a living document that will continue to evolve based on engagement with the autistic community, learnings from implementation and ongoing feedback from our partners.”*

The strategy is expected to build on the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan that was adopted in June 2022, supporting a collaborative and innovative approach to respond to current and emerging needs. Specifically, it outlines four pillars with a focus on enhanced training and education, community engagement, collaboration with service providers and opportunities to improve how officers respond to vulnerable persons. More information is available on the [PRP website](#)

National Anthem at DPCDSB Board Meetings- Our DPCDSB Board of Trustees recently requested that our schools be invited to submit a video recording of their school choir/band's rendition of “O’ Canada”, to play as part of the agenda at the Regular Board meetings. Our intention is to begin playing school-created versions of the anthem with the August 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board. With 151 schools and 11 Regular Board Meetings throughout the year (August-June), we will strive to ensure that a school represented by each trustee is highlighted throughout the school year.

Trillium List – Textbooks approved by the Ontario Ministry of Education can be found online using the [Trillium List](#). The Trillium List is a list of all textbooks that the Minister of Education has approved for teachers to use for students in kindergarten to Grade 12.

Textbooks on the Trillium List go through rigorous evaluation by a team of Ontario-based education experts. Each textbook aligns with the Ministry of Education’s criteria, such as the current curriculum. Eligibility requirements, criteria and evaluation process are explained in the Guidelines for Approval of Textbooks, Section 4. School boards and school authorities are responsible for selecting textbooks for use in schools. They use the Trillium List to identify which textbooks are formally approved, with the assurance that every title on the list meets the ministry’s standards.

Guidelines for Approval of Textbooks and the Ministry’s definitions of textbook and supplementary material include:

- Textbook is defined as a comprehensive learning resource that is in print or electronic form, or that consists of any combination of print, electronic, and non-print materials collectively designed to support a substantial portion of the Ontario curriculum expectations for a specific grade and subject in elementary school or for a course in secondary school, or a substantial portion of the expectations for a learning area in the Ontario Kindergarten program. Resources are intended for use by an entire class or group of students.
- Supplementary resource is defined as a resource that supports only a limited number of curriculum expectations, or the curriculum expectations in a single strand, outlined in the curriculum policy document for a specific subject or course, or a limited number of expectations for a Kindergarten learning area. Such a resource may be intended for use by an entire class or group of students. Examples are readers, novels, spelling programs, dictionaries, atlases, and computer software and instructional guides.
- Classroom teachers use their professional judgment in choosing and using supplementary resources for the classroom. The Ministry does not list approval on supplementary resources.

2023 Graduating Class – Congratulations to our DPCDSB graduates. You’ve achieved this important milestone in your life through hard work, determination, and resilience. May you continue to deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ as you journey in faith. Wishing you every success in your future career goals and post-secondary plans.

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

2023-2024 School Year Calendar – The first day of classes for Elementary and Secondary schools is Tuesday September 5, 2023. More information is available on the [DPCDSB website](#).

In Our Unity, We Celebrate Our Diversity - As we reflect on the celebrations of Catholic Education Week last month and the success of the 2022-2023 school year, our school communities of students, parents and staff actively work together to support one another in Catholic education.

In our unity, we celebrate our diversity, each one of us uniquely created by God. May the events of this year bring us together as we are called to serve God and each other. May we continue to walk alongside one another in faith, to listen and to teach, and in doing so, to transform.

As our 2022-2023 school year draws to a close, we share in the joy of partnering with you, as our children grow in their Catholic faith and education. As your Catholic School Board Trustees, we express our gratitude to you for choosing a Dufferin-Peel Catholic education for your family and for sharing the gift of your children with us.

We encourage our DPCDSB parents/guardians to stay updated and informed on any communications sent from the board over the summer months. Wishing you and your family a happy and healthy summer break.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Take care and God bless.

Your Trustees,

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