

Message from the Chair of the Central Committee for Catholic School Councils

Greetings! My name is Dominique Darmanin-Sturgeon and I am honoured to serve as the Chair for the Central Committee for Catholic School Councils this school year. I would personally like to welcome you back as we continue to create opportunities for our children to learn and grow in our Catholic faith. I would remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank my predecessor, Genevieve Rodney for her leadership and her many contributions as the previous CCCSC chair: a position she has held for several years. As I assume this role for the first time, I look forward to supporting CCCSC initiatives with the help of the newly appointed Vice Chair, Roxanne Smith.

My desire to be active and present in my children's school is what initially prompted me to participate in school activities including volunteering for school council. 12 years later, I remain steadfast in promoting and advocating on behalf of Catholic Education and endorsing the importance of volunteerism. Being a part of CCCSC has been a humbling experience: seeing the commitment of parents, just like yourselves, dedicate their time and energy for the betterment of our children's experience despite already having busy schedules, personal commitments and family responsibilities. I would encourage you to continue to seek out opportunities to become involved and support your school in any capacity as it will reinforce the foundation of your school community and the relationship your children have with their school community.

One of the mandates of CCCSC is to support, encourage, and enhance meaningful parent engagement at the board level to improve student achievement and well-being within the context of the Catholic faith. Since CCCSC was established over 20 years ago, we see evidence of this through many initiatives in collaboration with our schools, church, home, the Board and the Ministry. CCCSC will continue to foster a faith-based relationship and ensure that our Catholic School Councils are supported in this endeavour. This, in turn will work towards enhancing student achievement and their well being within our schools.

As we continue to navigate our changing world and its impact on our students, it is more important than ever to strengthen our connection with our faith and guide our children towards meeting the Ontario Catholic Graduate expectations. For over 50 years the DPCDSB has been doing this: teaching our students to be responsible citizens, discerning believers and caring family members. We too must reflect on our shared responsibilities as parents, guardians and volunteers to ensure their success in Catholic Education.

I would like to thank you for this opportunity and look forward to working with CCCSC and Catholic School Councils in both our elementary and secondary schools.

Warmest Regards,

Dominique Darmanin-Sturgeon

CCCSC Chair