

February 8, 2022

As we approach 24 exhaustive months of the COVID-19 global pandemic, we are acutely aware of the sense of collective COVID fatigue that has enveloped our society. This has manifested itself in many ways, including recent provincial, national, and local events in our DPCDSB communities.

As individuals, we are all subject to the health and safety protocols determined by our national, provincial, and local public health authorities. As a publicly funded school board, the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) is further subject to Ministry of Education COVID-related directives and guidelines.

It is important to note that, even in pre-COVID times, DPCDSB took direction from our public health and Ministry partners on matters of public health. As such, we are subject to enacting the public health measures and protocols that the experts in the health field request of us to help protect our students and staff alike in our classrooms and office facilities.

DPCDSB has worked and will continue to work with our public health authorities and the Ministry of Education to provide the best, most fulsome Catholic education experience that we possibly can within the parameters in which we must operate.

We continue to mitigate where we can, bringing parental concerns and questions forward to the appropriate authorities and advocating for measures that can allow students to participate more broadly in traditional activities while, at the same time, maintaining the Ministry and public health-prescribed health and safety protocols.

We know that some of the directives we must operationalize are not popular with some community members and that frustrations are sometimes expressed to our staff, including our principals, vice principals and support staff. Please know that staff are only enacting the direction given to them.

As we continue to progress towards more relaxed protocols, again on public health and Ministry direction, we will hopefully see a return to the more traditional practices of the past.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue our shared journey together.

May God continue to bless you and keep you and your loved ones safe and well.

Sincerely,

Marianne Mazzorato, Ed.D.
Director of Education