

*“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you. For the one who asks, always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened” Luke: 11. 9-11.*

Sept 1, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians;

The Multi-Year Strategic Plan (2019-2023) confirms Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board’s (DPCDSB’s) deep respect for the human dignity of each person, created in the image of God, as the foundation of equity and inclusive education. When the safety of a child or youth may be at risk, the DPCDSB collaborates with the *Peel Children’s Aid Society* in Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon, and *Dufferin Child and Family Services* in Dufferin County, including Orangeville. These organizations are mandated to help, support, and strengthen families, so children and youth are safe and well.

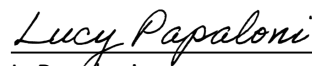
At times, school staff may become aware of students who might be experiencing difficulties. It is not the school’s responsibility to investigate, evaluate or assign blame. It is everyone’s responsibility to help keep all children safe.

Under Ontario’s [Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017](#) (which was amended in 2021), every person within our school board who has reason to believe that a child is or may be abused or neglected *must* report their suspicions directly to the appropriate Children’s Aid Society. This includes reporting suspected or confirmed cases of human/sex trafficking, as per [Bill 251](#).

Concerns must be shared with the appropriate Children’s Aid Society so that a support plan that ensures safety is developed with families, as appropriate. When a report to Children’s Aid is made, school and community-based resources may be offered to help resolve concerns or issues. The DPCDSB also continues to support students who are in the care of the Children’s Aid societies.

It is the DPCDSB’s sacred trust to ensure the safety and the well-being of all learners, so that every student can thrive.

Sincerely,



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L. Papaloni  
Superintendent, Special Education and Learning Services



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P. Grosso, MSW, RSW  
Chief Social Worker