



**DURHAM CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
Learning and Living in Faith

Regular Board Meeting

Agenda

Tuesday, May 25, 2021
7:30 p.m.

For livestreaming of this Regular Board Meeting, click here:
<https://dcdsb.ca/BoardMeeting>

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Education Centre
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Board Web Site: www.dcdsb.ca



If you require accessibility related accommodations for attendance at this meeting, please notify the meeting organizer in advance of the meeting date so that arrangements can be made.

Regular Board Meeting - Open Agenda

May 25, 2021 7:30 PM EDT

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Opening Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you for all your creations; for the trees and the grass, for the fish in the sea, for the birds in the sky, and for all our fellow people whom through you, we are all brothers and sisters. Help us to always remember this, and help us to always embody your love in the words we say, actions we make, and thoughts we think.

Amen



**DURHAM CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
Learning and Living in Faith

Regular Board Meeting – Open Session Minutes

Durham Catholic District School Board

April 26, 2021 at 7:30 PM EST

Virtual Meeting

Trustees Present

M. Ste. Marie (Chair), J. Oldman (Vice Chair)

Trustees R. Damianopoulos, M. Forster, J. McCafferty, J. Rinella, M. Yurkoski

Regrets

Trustee R. DeSouza

Student Trustees Present

D. Amaral

A. Dela Torre

Director of Education Present

T. Barill

Senior Administration Present

S. Grieve, S. Lee-Fernandes, M. O'Neill, M. O'Reilly, R. Putnam, R. Rodriguez,
J. Wilson, G. Winn

Senior Managers Present

D. Carlin, J. McVeigh, C. Oldman, A. Roffey

1. Call to Order

Chair Ste. Marie called the Open session to order at 7:01 p.m.

1.1. Motion to Move in Camera

Motion:

B2021-04-26-01 - Motion to Move In Camera

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board meeting move into In Camera session."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.

CARRIED

Resumption of Open Session (7:33 p.m.)

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1.2. National Anthem

The meeting opened with O Canada

1.3. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

Chair Ste. Marie acknowledged Traditional Lands and Territory

1.4. Memorials and Prayer

Student Trustee Amaral offered the opening prayer

1.5. Roll Call and Apologies

Trustee DeSouza sent regrets.

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1. Changes to Printed Agenda

- Chair Ste. Marie noted the following addition to the agenda:
 - Item 12.2.4 Revised 2020/2021 Schedule for Board and Committee Meetings
- A copy of the report was forwarded to trustees electronically.

2.2. Approval of Agenda

Motion:

B2021-04-26-02 - Approval of Agenda

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the agenda of the Monday, April 26, 2021 Regular Board Meeting as amended."

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by M. Forster.
CARRIED

3. Announcements

3.1. Announcements from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting

Vice Chair Oldman read the following announcements:

Retirements

Anna Maria Muller-Chen, Durham Catholic Virtual Elementary School,
Effective June 30, 2021

Bernice MacEachern, St. Thomas Aquinas C.S., Effective June 30, 2021

Patricia Hennig, Fr. Leo J. Austin C.S.S., Effective June 30, 2021

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Robert Melosso, Durham Catholic Virtual Elementary School, Effective June 30, 2021

Robin Marie Van Der Vleuten, St. Joseph CS, Uxbridge, Effective June 30, 2021

Tracey Leroux, St. James C.S., Effective June 30, 2021

3.2. Appointments and Transfers

Vice Chair Oldman read the following:

Kathleen Frederick - Vice Principal, St. Isaac Jogues CS
New Placement Effective April 19, 2021 - Acting Principal, St. André Bessette CS

4. Notices of Motions

None

5. Declaration of Interest

5.1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

6. Actions to be Taken

6.1. Approval and Signing of Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting of March 22, 2021

Motion:

B2021-04-26-03 - Approval and Signing of Minutes

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Open Session of the March 22, 2021 Regular Board Meeting."

Motion moved by J. Rinella and motion seconded by J. Oldman. CARRIED

6.2. Business Arising from the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting of March 22, 2021

None

7. Presentations

7.1. Catholic Education and Children's Mental Health Week - Nurturing Hope; Cultivating Gratitude (May 3-7, 2021)

- Tracy Barill, Director of Education, introduced Katherine Mustachi, Senior Manager of Faith Formation and Diane Mullane, Senior Manager of Mental Health Initiatives who presented an overview of the combined Catholic Education Week and Children's Mental Health Week celebration that will be held from May 3 to 7, 2021. The combined theme for this important week is Nurturing Hope; Cultivating Gratitude.
- Katherine Mustachi noted the five sub-themes for this year's Catholic Education and Children's Mental Health Week:
 - Monday, May 3 - Preparing the Earth
 - Tuesday, May 4 - Sowing Seeds of Gratitude
 - Wednesday, May 5 - Cultivating Relationships
 - Thursday, May 6 - Harvesting New Fruit
 - Friday, May 7 - Marveling in Wonder
- Diane Mullane noted that the week is marked by a number of special activities for the Catholic education community. These events include:
 - Tuesday, May 4– Distinguished Catholic Educator and Leader Award. A link to a YouTube Premiere Event will be available at dcdsb.ca on Monday, May 3.
 - Wednesday, May 5– Province wide Catholic Education Week Mass with his Eminence Cardinal Thomas Collins at 11 a.m. EST (Live Event)
 - Thursday, May 6– Wear Green Day to be grateful for the earth and focus on opportunities to be stewards of the environment. The colour green also symbolizes mental health awareness. Also on May 6, the Board will also announce the 2021 recipients of the Distinguished Catholic Alumni Awards.

Motion:

B2021-04-26-04 - Catholic Education and Children's Mental Health Week

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the Catholic Education and Children's Mental Health Week report dated April 26, 2021.”

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by J. McCafferty. CARRIED

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8. Delegation

None

9. Consideration of Motion

9.1. Motions to be read in Open Session from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of April 26, 2021

Motion:

B2021-04-26-05 - Motions Deemed Read

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Motions as deemed read from the In Camera session of April 26, 2021 Regular Board Meeting."

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by M. Forester.

CARRIED

10. Unfinished Business from Previous Meeting

10.1. Notice of Motion: Student Trustee Two Year Term Proposal (as per Appendix 1 of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 22, 2021)

Chair Ste. Marie reviewed General Working By-Law Section 11.4 Time Limit on Speakers. Trustees were provided an opportunity to ask questions.

Motion:

B2021-04-26-06 - Student Trustee Two Year Term Proposal

Whereas the current Student Trustee Policy (PO215) requires the election of two student trustees each year to represent the interests of the students of the DCDSB.

Whereas the student trustee one-year term does not promote proper transition.

Whereas the student trustee one-year term does not support and may hamper new initiatives and cause them to be lost between years.

Whereas the current one-year term limits the student trustees' opportunities for peer-mentoring and learning.

Whereas there is unanimous support from the Student Senate Committee, which represents the students of the DCDSB, for a proposed two-year term of service for student trustees.

Whereas the DCDSB believes that students are the future of Catholic Education, and student interest are best represented by students.

Whereas trustees have the responsibility to mentor and guide student trustees.

Whereas the student views at the Board table inform the decisions made by members of the Board of Trustees.

Whereas, although a 'shadowing' period exists to provide incoming student trustees with the opportunities for leadership-skills acquisition from the departing student trustees, trustees who have served for a second consecutive year affirm their increased confidence and ability to inhabit the role more fully after completing their first year.

Whereas while student trustees serving their first term report the many and significant benefits of serving alongside an experienced student trustee, student trustees serving their second consecutive term affirm their increased capacity to provide peer-mentorship and guidance to incoming student trustees during their first year of service.

Whereas this initiative, which originates from the DCDSB student representatives, it also fulfills the DCDSB's strategic priority to empower students, by enabling them to access and learn from the life experience and expertise of adults, while also providing opportunities to develop quality leadership skills.

Therefore, be it resolved that, the DCDSB will amend the Student Trustee Policy (PO215) to a two-year term for student trustees, thus allowing for quality leadership and mentoring for DCDSB student leaders.

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.
CARRIED

11. Committees

11.1. Committee Reports

11.1.1. I.P.R.C. Report for March 2021

Motion:

B2021-04-26-07 - I.P.R.C. Report for March 2021

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the I.P.R.C. report for March 2021."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

11.1.2. General Working By-Law Committee Meeting - March 23, 2021

Motion:

B2021-04-26-08 - General Working By-Law Committee Meeting -
March 23, 2021

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the report
of the March 23, 2021 General Working By-Law Committee
meeting.”

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by M. Forster.
CARRIED

11.1.3. Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting - April 6, 2021

Motion:

B2021-04-26-09 - SEAC Committee Meeting - April 6, 2021

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the report
of the April 6, 2021 Special Education Advisory Committee
Meeting.”

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

11.1.4. Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting - April 8,
2021

Motion:

B2021-04-26-10 - DCPIC Committee Meeting - April 8, 2021

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the written
report from the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
Meeting of Thursday, April 8, 2021.”

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

11.1.5. Finance Committee Minutes - April 19, 2021

Motion:

B2021-04-26-11 - Finance Committee Minutes - April 19, 2021

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as
information the minutes of the April 19, 2021 Finance Committee
meeting.”

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

11.2. Matters Referred from Committee

None

12. Staff Reports

12.1. Chair's Report

12.1.1. Chair's Verbal Report

Chair Ste. Marie provided the following verbal report:

- Congratulations to all the Distinguished Catholic Volunteers who were honoured and recognized for their contributions to their school communities last week during National Volunteer Week. Despite the year of restrictions, these volunteers and many others continue to build on the connection between families and their school communities. Parent volunteers are achieving this by hosting virtual events for families and students to participate in, from organizing Mental Health speakers to selling school spirit wear to raise funds. Thank you for all your support.
- Earlier this month, we accepted the Government of Canada's Climate Action Incentive for the \$471,000 investment in making our schools more energy efficient. The announcement will help lower the board's carbon footprint and strengthen its commitment to environmental stewardship. The money will be used to:
 - replace boiler systems at two Whitby schools - St. Matthew the Evangelist and St. Mark the Evangelist;
 - install new windows at St. Wilfrid Catholic School in Pickering;
 - make energy efficient upgrades such as LED lighting in our schools; and
 - install new roofs, and roof top mechanical systems to help reduce pollution, lower energy costs and improve the air quality in schools for our students and staff.
- Students, families, staff and leaders, continue to persevere, learn and grow while adjusting to another lockdown and move to online learning. We are being asked to isolate ourselves, yet at the same time we know the importance of keeping connected with those around us. If you need help, there are resources available.
- The Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee is hosting a presentation entitled Battling Loneliness and

Isolation: Before, During and After COVID-19 on Wednesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. with guest speaker Aubrey Noronha. The workshop will provide strategies to help anyone experiencing stress and anxiety due to the pandemic; explain the scientific connection between social media, empathy and face-to-face interactions; and offer practical tips on how to create stronger family, friends and community bonds. Though free, registration ahead of time is required. Visit dcpic.ca to register.

- As the Board enters the Month of Mary, Catholic Education Week and Children's Mental Health Week with the combined theme of Nurturing Hope; Cultivating Gratitude – we look forward to ongoing board wide activities. It is a time to be thankful for all those around us and to acknowledge their contributions this past year. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the renewal and affirmation of our Catholic values with Masses, virtual family events, staff recognition and more. Families, trustees, staff and leaders are invited to watch the provincial Mass for Catholic Education Week on May 5 at 11:00 a.m. with His Eminence Cardinal Collins. The live Mass will be celebrated at St. Michael's Cathedral for Catholic communities across Ontario.
- At our May Board Meeting, we look forward to recognizing staff who have provided 25 years of service with the board; and honour schools and individuals with other awards of distinction.
- Let's continue to celebrate our milestones and accomplishments, and express gratitude for those who help us. There is hope popping up everywhere. With a little nourishment it will grow and blossom.

12.1.2. Student Trustees' Verbal Report

The Student Trustees provided the following verbal report:

- This past month the Student Senate was quite active on our Instagram, where we created posts in celebration of Easter, Earth Day, and provided information to students on the return to virtual learning that has taken place in the last few weeks.
- In the most recent edition of the Senate Star, we were happy to see our secondary schools running events like St. Patrick's Day celebrations, recognizing international women's day, and supporting world down syndrome day to name a few. We recognize how difficult it can be for staff and students to feel school spirit when we are virtual, which is why we also want to thank teacher moderators and school groups for their work in making the best out of this year online.

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- We had the pleasure of meeting virtually with several of our secondary school's equity groups and GSA's (gay straight alliance groups) to discuss how schools/the board can further support the LGBTQ2S+ community, and racialized students. We hope to work with the board of trustees and staff to continue creating a safe and inclusive school environment for all students.
- In late March we were fortunate to have successfully run the elections for the student trustees of the 2021-2022 academic year. We are extremely proud of all candidates who put their names forward for consideration, and it is a testament to the resilience and passion of students in Durham Catholic even in these times. The two successful candidates for the role are Sophie Nwaoha from Fr. Leo J Austin Catholic Secondary School, and current student trustee Declan Amaral from All Saints Catholic Secondary School. We are excited to see the work that they will be able to do in the next school year.
- We would like to once again thank staff and students for their strength and patience as we navigate through the pandemic. We look forward to seeing our peers and teachers in person again when it is safe for us to do so, and have faith in our Durham Catholic community to find the best in our virtual learning environment. We wish you all an advance happy Catholic Education Week and look forward to recognizing Children's Mental Health Week!

12.2. Director's Report

12.2.1. COVID-19 Operational and Academic Update

Director Barill and Superintendent Grieve responded to questions from trustees.

Motion:

B2021-04-26-12 - COVID-19 Operational and Academic Update
 "THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information, the COVID-19 Operational and Academic Update dated April 26, 2021."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.
 CARRIED

12.2.2. Update on Virtual Learning for September 2021

- Chair Ste. Marie inquired about the French Immersion section of the report and asked if there has been a change in the virtual learning numbers in the English program since publication of the report.

- Director Barill noted our strong commitment to the French Immersion program. She said due to significant operational and financial pressures we are not in a position to offer a virtual French Immersion program for the 2021/2022 school year. She indicated that at this point and time the Ministry has not given us direction that any virtual program is required for September.
- The Director reported that over 800 students have indicated they are interested in the English virtual learning program. As things evolve, staff will inform community and trustees.

Motion:

B2021-04-26-13 - Update on Virtual Learning for September 2021
“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information, the Update on Virtual Learning for September 2021 report dated April 26, 2021.”

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by J. Oldman. CARRIED

12.2.3. Director's Verbal Report

The Director provided the following verbal report:

- Thank you to students, families, staff, leaders and administrators who pivoted to remote learning last week. We acknowledge the impact that the changes have been on you. Thank you to staff for navigating a year's worth of constant changes to support students' learning.
- As vaccines start to roll out, staff working closely with Special Education students were given letters of eligibility prior to the Spring Break. Vaccinations are also available to adults 40 years of age and older at local pharmacies. The Durham Region Health Department is setting up pop-up clinics for residents age 18-49 who live in the hot spot postal code areas L1S, L1T, L1V, L1X and L1Z.
- As part of the board's commitment to Equity, staff are being offered an Invitational Learning Series called the Business of Belonging in May. The series focuses on anti-Black racism, and Black Excellence in relation to belonging within educational spaces. Speakers will address Missing Black and Racialized Narratives in Catholic Education; Service and Expression; Black and Education – The Right to Just BE; Intersectional Black Identities and the Spirit Injury of Classification and Anti-Black Racism and Black Excellence Work. We are grateful to provide staff with more opportunities

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to learn as we embark on our journey of making a better school system for our students.

- Although we have all been working and learning remotely, there has been no shortage of good news, special days, announcements, and milestones to celebrate. Some recent good news includes:
 - A student-led girls/women's empowerment group from All Saints Catholic Secondary School called The Riveters were interviewed on CTV. The Riveters currently has 65 members, and the group aims to break down barriers surrounding women's issues. The Riveters held their first event which was a menstrual product drive to help end Period Poverty.
 - Thank you to students and staff for demonstrating our Catholic values by helping others. All DCDSB schools raised funds for ShareLife.
 - Students and staff at the Durham Catholic Virtual Elementary School raised over \$26,000 for ShareLife to help all those in need.
 - DCDSB's Indigenous Education Manager, Karli Robertson and member of the Board's Indigenous Education Advisory Circle were recently featured in a local article entitled Meet the People Keeping Indigenous Languages Alive. The article highlights the work that advocates are doing to preserve Indigenous languages. "Learning the words means learning about Indigenous identity, traditions and beliefs."
 - Congratulations to the students and staff for their ongoing efforts to raise funds for the Terry Fox Foundation. This year, the board has raised an incredible \$46,649.05 for cancer research.
 - Every year, the board participates in Skills Canada events to promote the skilled trades. In March, the CWB Welding Foundation provided a two-day "Train the Trainer" professional development workshop at Father Leo J. Austin Catholic Secondary School for six of our Trades and Technology teachers. The workshops were designed to enhance teacher's welding instruction skills and is part of a partnership between DCDSB, CWB Welding Foundation, Ontario Power Generation, UA Canada and Black & McDonald.
 - Ford Canada recently donated a new Lincoln Navigator to the Automotive Technology program at All Saints Catholic Secondary School. The SUV will

provide students with an opportunity to learn both the mechanical and electronic components of cars. The SUV is a welcomed addition to the school's program and will greatly benefit students' skills.

- Thank you to the caring school volunteers for their contributions during National Volunteer Week. Although, parents haven't been volunteering in our schools, they have been contributing by organizing virtual school-based events, to lift school spirit. On behalf of our staff, we are grateful for all your support and thank you for being a part of our Durham Catholic family.
- This week, the board will recognize dedicated staff who keep our offices running smoothly on Administrative Professionals Day.
- Next week the board will celebrate Catholic Education Week and Children's Mental Health Week. During this special time dedicated people from across the school system will be acknowledged during the Durham Catholic Distinguished Educator, Alumni and Leader awards. Recipients will be honoured during a YouTube Premier event on May 4, 2021. We are grateful for these opportunities to celebrate our dedicate staff.

12.2.4. Revised 2020/2021 Schedule for Board and Committee Meetings

Motion:

B2021-04-26-14 - Revised 2020/2021 Schedule for Board and Committee Meetings

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Revised Schedule of Board and Committee Meetings for the 2020/2021 school year."

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by M. Forster. CARRIED

12.3. Academic Services

12.3.1. Catholic Student Trustees 2021-2022

Motion:

B2021-04-26-15 - Catholic Student Trustees 2021-2022

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file the Catholic Student Trustees 2021-2022 report dated April 26, 2021."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. McCafferty. CARRIED

12.4. Facilities Services

12.4.1. Brooklin French Immersion Transition Report

Motion:

B2021-04-26-16 - Brooklin French Immersion Transition Report
“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file the Brooklin French Immersion Transition Report for April 26, 2021”

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.
CARRIED

12.4.2. Replacement of Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School - Progress Update

Director Barill and Superintendent Grieve responded to questions from trustees on partnerships.

Motion:

B2021-04-26-17 - Replacement of Monsignor Paul Dwyer CHS - Progress Update
“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file, for information the Replacement of Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School – Progress Update Report dated April 26, 2021.”

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

12.4.3. Annual Facility Partnership Opportunities

Motion:

B2021-04-26-18 - Annual Facility Partnership Opportunities
“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file the Annual Facility Partnership Opportunities Report dated April 26, 2021.”

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. Rinella.
CARRIED

12.4.4. Education Development Charges Report

Motion:

B2021-04-26-19 - Education Development Charges Report

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“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file, for information the Education Development Charges Report dated April 26, 2021.”

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by J. Rinella. CARRIED

13. Correspondence

- 13.1. Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Email dated March 23, 2021

Motion:

B2021-04-26-20 - Correspondence from Minister of Infrastructure and Communities

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the following correspondence:

Email from Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, dated March 23, 2021.”

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by J. Oldman. CARRIED

14. Inquiries and Miscellaneous

None

15. Pending Items

None

Motion to Resume In Camera (8:35 p.m.)

Motion:

B2021-04-26-21 - Motion to Resume In Camera

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board resume the In Camera session of the April 26, 2021 Board Meeting."

Motion moved by R. Damianopoulos and motion seconded by M. Forster. CARRIED

Resumption of the Open Session (8:51 p.m.)

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Motions to be read in Open Session from the resumed In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of April 26, 2021

Motion:

B2021-04-26-22 - Motion Deemed Read

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Motions as deemed read from the resumed In Camera session of the April 26, 2021 Regular Board Meeting."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by M. Forster. CARRIED

16. Adjournment

Motion:

B2021-04-26-23 - Adjournment

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of Monday, April 26, 2021."

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by J. Oldman. CARRIED

17. Closing Prayer - Student Trustees

Student Trustee Dela Torre offered the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Morgan Ste. Marie Chair of the Board
Durham Catholic District School Board

Tracy Barill, Director of Education
Durham Catholic District School Board

Recording Secretary: L. Beckstead



Policy Board Meeting - Open Minutes

Durham Catholic District School Board

May 10, 2021 at 7:30 PM EST

Virtual Meeting

Trustees and Student Trustees Present

M. Ste. Marie (Chair), J. Oldman (Vice-Chair)

Trustees R. Damianopoulos, M. Forster, J. McCafferty, R. De Souza, M. Yurkoski, J. Rinella

Student Trustees D. Amaral, A. Dela Torre

Director of Education Present

T. Barill

Senior Administration Present

S. Grieve, S. Lee-Fernandes, M. O'Neill, M. O'Reilly, R. Putnam, R. Rodriguez, J. Wilson, G. Winn

1. Call to Order

Chair Ste. Marie called the Policy Board Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1.1. National Anthem

The meeting opened with O Canada.

1.2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

Chair Ste. Marie acknowledged Traditional Lands and Territory.

1.3. Memorials and Prayer - Student Trustees

Student Trustee Amaral offered the opening prayer keeping in mind all special intentions.

1.4. Roll Call and Apologies

All Trustees, Student Trustees and Senior Staff were introduced.

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2. Approval of Agenda

2.1. Changes to Printed Agenda

Student Trustees Policy (PO215) was added to the 2021-2022 policy roster as identified.

2.2. Approval of Agenda

Motion:

B2021-05-10-01 - Approval of Agenda

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the agenda of the Monday, May 10, 2021 Policy Board Meeting as amended."

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.

Carried

3. Announcements

None

4. Notices of Motions

5. Declaration of Interest

5.1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

6. Actions to be Taken

None

7. Presentations

None

8. Delegation

None

9. Consideration of Motion

None

10. Unfinished Business from Previous Meeting

Motion:

B2021-05-10-02 - Unfinished Business from Previous Meeting

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as information the update with respect to Board directions from the March 8, 2021 Policy Board Meeting and the March 22, 2021 Regular Board Meeting."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.

CARRIED

11. Committees

11.1. Committee Reports

None

11.2. Matters Referred from Committee

None

12. Staff Reports - Policy

12.1. Policy Roster

12.1.1. Current Roster of Policies

Trustee Rinella inquired about identifying the policy with regards to school evacuations, specifically due to gas leaks. Director Barill noted that the Emergency Preparedness Policy (PO414) has been identified for review in the 2021-2022 school year as well as all corresponding Administrative Procedures, including but not limited to, the Natural Gas, Chemical or Hazardous Material Leak/Spill Administrative Procedure (AP414-9).

Motion:

B2021-05-10-03 - Current Roster of Policies

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as information the Current Roster of Policies dated May 10, 2021."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.

CARRIED

12.1.2. Draft 2021-2022 Roster of Policies

Motion:

B2021-05-10-04 - Draft 2021-2022 Roster of Policies

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as information the 2021-2022 Draft Roster of Policies as at May 10, 2021."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.
CARRIED

Motion:

B2021-05-10-05 - Draft 2021-2022 Roster of Policies

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the 2021-2022 Roster of Policies as at May 10, 2021."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by M. Yurkoski.
CARRIED

12.2. Stakeholder Input

Trustees were provided with a summary of the policies that had received stakeholder input and from whom since the last Policy Board Meeting.

Motion:

B2021-05-10-06 - Stakeholder Input

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as information the Stakeholder Input update as at May 10, 2021."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by R. Damianopoulos.
CARRIED

12.3. First Reading

Chair Ste. Marie stepped down as Chair of the Open meeting to participate in the discussion. Vice Chair Oldman assumed the position.

12.3.1. PO323 Principal/Vice Principal Performance Appraisal

Trustee Ste. Marie inquired about the location of the Catholic Leadership Framework. Director Barill advised that the Catholic Leadership Framework is a provincial document and is listed as a Source within the Policy. She advised that a hyperlink would be created for ease of reference.

Motion:

B2021-05-10-07

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the First Reading of the Principal/Vice Principal Performance Appraisal Policy (PO323)."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by R. De Souza.
CARRIED

12.3.2. PO431 Acceptable Use of Information and Communications Technology

Referring to sections 5.4-5.6, Trustee Ste. Marie inquired about the handling of personal information and to the degree of privacy that could be expected by staff/students regarding electronic files. Director Barill and Chief Information Officer Rodriguez responded that the Board was responsible for protection of personal information collected and that legally, staff were entitled to the expectation of a reasonable degree of privacy. They also indicated that PO431 would be reviewed by legal counsel prior to second reading.

Motion:

B2021-05-10-08

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the First Reading of the Acceptable Use of Information and Communications Technology Policy (PO431)."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by R. De Souza.
CARRIED

Chair Ste. Marie resumed the position of Chair for the remainder of the Open meeting.

12.4. Second Reading

12.4.1. PO200 Anti-Racism

Motion:

B2021-05-10-09

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Second Reading of the Anti-Racism Policy (PO200)."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. Rinella.
CARRIED

12.4.2. PO317 Employee Conflict of Interest

Motion:

B2021-05-10-10

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Second Reading of the Employee Conflict of Interest Policy (PO317)."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. Rinella.
CARRIED

12.4.3. PO328 Staffing

Motion:

B2021-05-10-11

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Second Reading of the Staffing Policy (PO328)."

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by J. Rinella.
CARRIED

12.5. Third and Final Reading

12.5.1. PO210 Policy Development and Implementation

Motion:

B2021-05-10-12

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Third and Final Reading of the Policy Development and Implementation Policy (PO210)."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

12.5.2. PO321 Employee Attendance Support

Motion:

B2021-05-10-13

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Third and Final Reading of the Employee Attendance Support Policy (PO321)."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

12.5.3. PO418 Ontario Student Record

Motion:

B2021-05-10-14

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Third and Final Reading of the Ontario Student Record Policy (PO418)."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

12.5.4. PO432 Video Surveillance Systems

Motion:

B2021-05-10-15

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Third and Final Reading of the Video Surveillance Systems Policy (PO432)."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

12.5.5. PO434 Accessibility

Motion:

B2021-05-10-16

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Third and Final Reading of the Accessibility Policy (PO434)."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

12.5.6. PO439 Copyright

Motion:

B2021-05-10-17

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Third and Final Reading of the Copyright Policy (PO439)."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

12.5.7. PO610 Code of Conduct

Motion:

B2021-05-10-18

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Third and Final Reading of the Code of Conduct Policy (PO610)."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

12.5.8. PO613 Student Attendance

Motion:

B2021-05-10-19

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the Third and Final Reading of the Student Attendance Policy (PO210)."

Motion moved by M. Forster and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.
CARRIED

12.6. Rescind

12.6.1. PO204 Prime Policy

Motion:

B2021-05-10-20

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board rescind the Prime Policy (PO204) as this policy is redundant."

Motion moved by R. De Souza and motion seconded by J. Oldman.
CARRIED

12.7. Review

None

13. Correspondence

None

14. Inquiries and Miscellaneous

None

15. Pending Items

None

16. Adjournment

Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting (Policy)

Monday, May 10, 2021

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Motion:

B2021-05-10-21

"THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board adjourn the Policy Board Meeting of Monday, May 10, 2021."

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by J. Rinella.

CARRIED

Closing Prayer - Student Trustees

Student Trustee Dela Torre offered the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Morgan Ste. Marie, Chair of the Board
Durham Catholic District School Board

Tracy Barill, Director of Education
Durham Catholic District School Board

Recording Secretary: C. Cavalier



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees
From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education
Date: May 25, 2021
Subject: **School Re-opening and Vaccinations**

Recommendation

Moved by , seconded by

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the School Re-opening and Vaccinations report dated May 25, 2021.”

Rationale

The Director of Education will provide the most current update on:

- Learning models for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.
- Plans for re-opening in September 2021.
- Student vaccination roll-out.

TB:eb



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees

From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education

Date: May 25, 2021

Subject: **I.P.R.C. Report for April 2021**

Origin: Susie Lee-Fernandes, Superintendent of Education – Student Services

Recommendation

Moved by _____, seconded by _____

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the I.P.R.C. report for April 2021.”

Rationale

IPRC Report for April 2021

Number of Pupils Referred to I.P.R.C.:	0
Number of Pupils Identified as Exceptional:	1
Number of Pupils Reviewed by I.P.R.C.:	3

From September 2020 to June 2021

Total Number of Pupils Referred to I.P.R.C.:	0
Total Number of Pupils Identified as Exceptional:	16
Total Number of Pupils Reviewed by I.P.R.C.:	21

TB/SLF/dp



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees
From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education
Date: May 25, 2021
Subject: **General Working By-Law Committee Meeting – April 27, 2021**

Recommendation

Moved by , seconded by

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the report of the April 27, 2021 General Working By-Law Committee meeting.”

Rationale

As attached.

TB:eb
Attachment: April 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes



**DURHAM CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
Learning and Living in Faith

General Working By-Law Committee – Open Session Minutes

Durham Catholic District School Board

April 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Committee Members Present

Trustee R. De Souza (Chair), Trustee J. McCafferty (Vice Chair), Trustee M. Ste. Marie

Staff Present

T. Barill, Director of Education

Guest Present

G. Tuck Kutarna, Miller Thomson LLP

1. Call to Order

Chair De Souza called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

Chair De Souza acknowledged Traditional Lands and Territory

1.2. Memorials and Prayer

Vice Chair McCafferty offered the opening prayer.

1.3. Roll Call and Apologies

All present.

2. Approval of Agenda

2.1. Changes to Printed Agenda

None

2.2. Approval of Agenda

Motion:

WBL2021-04-27-01 - Approval of Agenda

"THAT the General Working By-Law Committee approve the agenda for the April 27, 2021 Committee meeting."

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by M. Ste. Marie.

CARRIED

Minutes of the General Working By-Law Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

Page 2 of 4

3. Announcements

None

4. Notice of Motions

None

5. Declarations of Interest

5.1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

6. Actions to be Taken

6.1. Approval and Signing of Minutes of the General Working By-Law Committee Meeting of March 23, 2021

Motion:

WBL2021-04-27-02 - Approval and Signing of Minutes

"THAT the General Working By-Law Committee approve the Minutes of the General Working By-Law Committee Meeting of March 23, 2021."

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by M. Ste. Marie.
CARRIED

6.2. Business Arising from the General Working By-Law Committee Meeting of March 23, 2021

None

7. Business

7.1. General Working By-Law Review

The committee provided a list of proposed revisions and items for consideration.

Article 7 – Presiding Officer

Clarification was provided on the steps that should be taken when the presiding officer at a meeting wishes to debate or weight in on a motion that is on the floor, namely that the Chair should step down and turn the meeting over to the Vice Chair, or where that is not possible, to another Trustee, before weighing in on the debate.

Article 11 Voting

Section 11.2 Methods of Voting

- The Committee agreed that a show of hands is the preferred way of voting unless it is a recorded vote.
- For a recorded vote:
 - the Chair acknowledges that it is a recorded vote;
 - the Secretary-Treasurer to the Board records and announces the votes in alphabetical order.
- Gillian Tuck Kutarna will check Robert's Rules of Order to see if there is a threshold on recorded votes and report back to the committee. If there is nothing prohibited in Robert's Rules then the committee see's the value in a recorded vote being called at the request of not less than three trustees.

Code of Conduct

The Committee discussed and provided comments on the Code of Conduct document.

Enforcement of Code of Conduct

- It is the responsibility of the Chair to maintain order and enforce the Code of Conduct. If necessary, in order to do so, the Chair may recess the meeting.
- Include process and steps to be taken if there is an alleged breach (e.g., board authorizes the Chair, Vice Chair or alternate to do a preliminary inquiry to determine if the Code has been violated).

Perceived or Potential Conflict of Interest

- Add a section on communications and provide guidelines and examples of trustees communicating with a child's teacher, etc.

Our Mission

- Replace with current Mission Statement

Policy

- The following policies are to be added to the roster for review:
 - Electronic Meetings
 - Community Concern Protocol

Guidelines for Accepting Gifts

- Add guidelines for accepting gifts. Gillian Tuck Kutarna to provide.

Minutes of the General Working By-Law Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 27, 2021
Page 4 of 4

Trustee Code of Conduct

- It was suggested that the Code of Conduct could be:
 - a stand alone document housed on our board website;
 - a board policy; or
 - Appendix attached to the By-Laws.

8. Adjournment

Motion:

WBL2021-04-27-03 - Adjournment

"THAT the April 27, 2021 meeting of the General Working By-Law Committee be adjourned."

Motion moved by M. Ste. Marie and motion seconded by J. McCafferty.

CARRIED

9. Closing Prayer

Chair De Souza offered the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m,

Robert De Souza, Chair
Durham Catholic District School Board

Tracy Barill, Director of Education
Durham Catholic District School Board

Recording Secretary: L. Beckstead



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees

From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education

Date: May 25, 2021

Subject: **Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting – May 4, 2021**

Origin: Susie Lee- Fernandes, Superintendent of Education – Student Services

Recommendation

Moved by , seconded by

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the report of the May 4, 2021 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting.”

Rationale

As per attached minutes

TB:SLF:dp



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Durham Catholic District School Board

May 4, 2021 at 7:30 PM EST

Virtual Meeting

Present:

V. Adamo (Chair, VOICE for the Hearing Impaired), K. Burke (Vice Chair, Learning Disabilities Ontario), J. McCafferty (Trustee), J. Oldman (Trustee), W. Heeney (Durham Down Syndrome Association), S. Casola (Autism Ontario), Alex Massis (Community Representative)

Staff Present:

S. Lee-Fernandes (Superintendent of Education), D. Mullane (Mental Health Leader), J. Abrams (Chief Psychologist), Teresa Ezquerro (Student Services Consultant), A. Roffey (Communications)

SEAC Representatives:

L. Wardle (Principal/Vice Principal Representative), Brooke Larson (APSSP Representative), M. Cope (CUPE Representative)

1. Call to Order

- 1.1. Land Acknowledgement
- 1.2. Memorials and Prayer

Chair Adamo called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Trustee McCafferty offered the opening prayer.

- 1.3. Roll Call and Apologies

2. Approval of Agenda

- 2.1. Changes to the printed Agenda
 - None
- 2.2. Approval of Agenda

Motion:

SS-2021-05-04-01

Approval of Agenda

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2021

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Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by A. Massis.

"That the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the agenda of the Tuesday, May 4, 2021 meeting, as printed."

CARRIED

3. Announcements

None

4. Considerations of Motion

None

5. Declarations of Interest

5.1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None

6. Actions to be Taken

6.1. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 2, 2021

Motion:

SS-2021-05-04-02

Approval of Minutes

Motion moved by J. Oldman and motion seconded by K. Burke.

"That the special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the March 2, 2021 meeting as submitted"

CARRIED

6.2. Business arising from the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 2, 2021

None

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2021

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- 6.3. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of April 6, 2021

Motion:

SS-2021-05-04-03

Approval of Minutes

Motion moved by J. McCafferty and motion seconded by S. Casola.

“That the special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the April 6, 2021 meeting as submitted”

CARRIED

- 6.4. Business arising from the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of April 6, 2021

None

7. Presentations

- 7.1. Review of Special Education Plan – T. Ezquerra

Student Services Consultant, Teresa Ezquerra provided a brief overview of the process that Student Services Executive Committee engaged in to review the Special Education Plan for the 2021-2022 school year. She communicated that the plan will be an interactive document to be housed at the DCDSB website. It will include direct links to referenced documents, websites and reference materials that meet the Ministry guidelines.

Teresa provided a broad summary of the Special Education Plan and informed the Committee that a draft pdf version of the plan would be sent out to the SEAC Members. Teresa invited all members to review the plan and provide feedback at the June 8th SEAC meeting. She further added the Special Education Plan would be revised to include any feedback and the finalized plan will be submitted to the Ministry of Education by the end of the July deadline for final approval.

- 7.2. Lexia -Pre/Post Data – T. Ezquerra

Teresa provided in-depth details about the Lexia® Core5® and Power Up® reading intervention programs that were piloted in some schools last year with great success and expanded to more schools this year. She also presented videos that demonstrated the personalized learning model as well as the blended learning program.

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2021

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Teresa displayed a breakdown of the number of Lexia licenses that the DCDSB purchased for the current school year and provided data displaying the progress since September.

Teresa also reported that the response to the Lexia program from educators, students, and parents had been overwhelmingly positive despite the challenges with pivoting from in-person to remote learning.

Teresa responded to questions as they arose.

8. Discussions Items**8.1. Review of Special Education Budget – S. Lee-Fernandes**

Superintendent Susie Lee-Fernandes shared a brief overview of the Special Education Budget and how it is allocated.

Superintendent Lee-Fernandes invited the SEAC Committee to provide input and suggestions around funding and spending. She stated that this feedback would be reviewed and reported at the next SEAC Meeting. Superintendent Ryan Putnam would also be invited to the June 8th SEAC meeting to provide a final report.

9. Delegations

None

10. Notices of Motions

None

11. Unfinished Business from Previous Meeting

None

12. Staff Reports**12.1. Coordinator's Report – T. Ezquerra****Is it Ever too Early to Start Planning**

April 20, 2021 Student Services hosted a virtual event for 319 students and their families on transitions and pathway planning. Students and families were shown how to navigate the DCDSB's Transition and Pathways webpage and encouraged to explore the various resources available to help determine their pathway.

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2021

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Assistive Technology (AT) Update

SWATTT (Students With Assistive Technology Transition Trip)

Grade 6 and 8 students at Msgr. John Pereyma CSS who have SEA assigned AT, were invited to attend a virtual SWATTT within the last 2 weeks of April.

Each SWATTT trip included the following:

- Program Support Introduction/Welcome
- Virtual/Video Tour of Secondary School
- Map of Secondary School
- Student Voice (senior student with AT)
- Self-Advocacy Scenarios led by IGTs
- Assistive Technology at Secondary School
- Kahoot- gamification to reinforce learning
- How do you feel about entering grade 9? (Emoji)

AT Year in Review

By end of the school year, over 260 AT packages will be completed (submitted, processed, delivered, trained). Individual, small group or whole class training is provided to the recipients. The Read & Write program will be available for all students next year and 314 Chromebooks are assigned for PST use with more to come.

The recipient of the LDADR Power to Achieve Scholarship was awarded to McCaley Campbell, Grade 12 student at All Saints CSS. Congratulations to McCaley!

12.2. Mental Health Leader's Report - D. Mullane

Two successful parent events were held in April:

On April 21, DCDSB partnered with Durham District School Board, Kawartha Pineridge District School Board and the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction for a Virtual Expert Panel on Drug Use. This event was well attended by parents and staff from three school boards.

On April 28, Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (DCPIC) hosted a virtual parent conference featuring keynote speaker Aubrey Noronha, on the topic of "Battling Loneliness and Isolation Before and After COVID". This event was well-attended by over 80 parents.

Mental Health Poster Contest update: the final count was 295 submissions from students in grades 1 through 11. Two overall winning posters were selected, as well as first and second place winners in each division. Board-wide posters have been created from the two winning posters. The posters advertise our new Social Work Access button, which will allow students or parents/guardians to reach the access line by completing an online form, as an alternative to the existing phone line.

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

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This week is Children's Mental Health Week. As mentioned, Student Services worked closely with the Faith department to create an integrated package of resources for administrators and educators focused on the theme of Nurturing Hope; Cultivating Gratitude. A webpage has also been developed for families with some at-home activities and a postcard activity that called "With Gratitude." Parents/guardians and staff members are invited to download the postcard and either print it or send it digitally to praise or thank a friend, colleague or community member for something they've done or something they appreciate about them. Some schools have also taken on the challenge of sending postcards to frontline essential workers, such as long-term care home staff, Region of Durham transit operators, hospital staff and more. We hope to spread joy, love and happiness by sharing these uplifting messages of hope and gratitude with one another.

There are many great things happening in the schools; for example, on May 3, St. Mary Catholic Secondary School hosted a Mental Wellness Café with keynote speaker Jennifer Kolari, and a panel discussion including school and board level support staff. This was well-attended by about 79 parents and students.

In terms of staff professional development, myself and my colleagues in the Psychological Services department are once again offering the Supporting Minds 3-part Mental Health Literacy series during the month of May, focusing on anxiety, mood and attention problems – noticing the signs and providing support. Additionally, Durham Catholic Behaviour Resource Team (DCBRT) will be offering a four-part series, as part of the larger spring workshop series for Program Support Teachers and Administrators, with a focus on understanding behaviour through the self-regulation lens, best practices and resources, and two Q and A panel discussions.

12.3. Superintendent's Report - S. Lee-Fernandes

Superintendent Susie Lee-Fernandes announced that Delfina Pinto, Acting Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent was honoured with this year's Distinguished Catholic Educator award for the Student Services department.

Superintendent Lee-Fernandes recognized the Speech and Language Pathologists and the Hearing Services team on the exceptional work that is done in supporting students.

Superintendent Lee-Fernandes provide an update in respect to pivoting to remote learning. At this time there is no confirmed date of return to in-person learning. Accommodations for students with high level of need are being provided across the Board. There are currently 17 students in EIC classrooms at the 3 locations, 50 elementary students and 47 secondary students. These students are also being supported by the Student Services staff.

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2021

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Funding for summer learning is available and preparation and planning are currently in process. It is available for the areas of Autism, Mental Health, Summer Learning/Transitions and reading supports. More details will be shared at next month's SEAC meeting.

Superintendent Lee-Fernandes also provided the following Equity updates:

- An Anti-Black racism course; Deconstructing Anti-Black Racism, will be piloted next year in 3 secondary schools as a grade 11 academic stream.
- Continued engagement in on-going professional development and training for staff. Four invitational learning sessions will be offered this month, which include speakers; Dr. Andrew Campbell, Katherine Mustachi (Senior Manager of Faith and Formation), Dr. Kofi Belfon and Carrington Christmas.

Motion No.

SS-2021-05-04

Approval of May 4, 2021 Verbal Coordinator, Mental Health Leader and Superintendent Reports

Motion was not addressed and will be returned to the June 8, 2021 Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

13. Association Reports

Learning Disabilities Association – Durham Chapter – K. Burke

Congratulations to the scholarship winner!

"Right to Read" report will be delayed till the Fall as per announcement this past week from Human Rights Ontario.

Grandview Kids – C. Nossier

New Programs or Services:

Grandview Kids **Ability Awareness Program** is still being offered virtually.

- It is a free service available to schools, daycares and community groups in Durham Region to enhance awareness about differences, while advocating acceptance and inclusion.
- Our Ability Awareness presenter, Marshall Hohmann, provides group presentations tailored to various age groups to raise awareness of a variety of disabilities.
- He is available to work with parents/guardians to develop a customized, positive presentation that focuses on valuing differences.

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

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- To set up a presentation, please email communications@grandviewkids.ca or visit <https://grandviewkids.ca/resources/ability-awareness-program/>.
- Through the **Family Engagement Program**, parents/caregivers have the opportunity to connect with other parents/caregivers who share similar experiences of parenting a child who has special needs.
- Our passionate Family Engagement Team – comprised of Grandview Kids parents and grads – is here to support you from day one!
- Services include paperwork support, Online Parent Support (OPS) Facebook page (required to have child currently/formerly receiving Grandview Kids services); OAP info page on Facebook (open to anyone with OAP number)
- Family Leader Program (ambassadors, advisors, advocates); networking and events for parents and caregivers; 1:1 support and mentoring; coffee chats.
- The team also helps families create “all about me” document to share with peers, teachers, teams etc. (good for school transitions) to help understand a child’s needs and preferences.

Other Information:

- School-Based Rehab (SBR): We continue to be flexible to provide service in a place that makes sense and within the COVID – 19 parameters for schools and working closely with the SERT and principals (as appropriate).
- We continue to follow up quickly with referrals determined to be priorities by the school.

We appreciate getting the heads up when students will not be attending school before the clinician heads out to the school

- In response to growing number of cases in our community (especially variants of concern), Grandview Kids will be converting the majority of in-person services to virtual until the week of May 25.
- Clinicians will follow up with clients directly if rescheduling is required; this applies to SBR appointments.
- Some clients will continue to receive in-person case if they have urgent or high-priority needs.

Website: www.grandviewkids.ca

14. Correspondence

None

15. Inquiries and Miscellaneous

None

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 4, 2021

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16. Pending Items

None

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

18. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was offered by J. McCafferty

Valerie Adamo

Chair, Special Education Advisory Committee

Susie Lee-Fernandes

Superintendent of Education

Recording Secretary: Delfina Pinto



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees

From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education

Date: May 25, 2021

Subject: Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (DCPIC)
Meeting Minutes – May 6, 2021

Origin: Jim Wilson, Superintendent of Education

Recommendation

Moved by , seconded by

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board accept the written report from the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of Thursday, May 6, 2021.”

Rationale

As per the attached minutes.

TB/jw/lj



Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Minutes

Durham Catholic District School Board

May 6, 2021 at 7:30 PM

Virtual Meeting

Committee Members Present (Virtual):

Melissa Bevan (Chair), Rose LoPresti (Vice Chair), Mikhail Yurkoski (Trustee), Jay Ashwin, Candice Belmontes, Karina Jill Doyle, Vanessa Dreckmann, Laka Ford-Williams, Andrea Gagliardi, Michelle Gillis, Angela Kielbowski, Marie Marilla, Erica Morra, Cynthia Scott, Heather McFadden, Josie Mullin, Lara Spiers, Christopher Szent-Ivany

Staff Present (Virtual):

Superintendent Jim Wilson, Superintendent Ryan Putnam, Carol Caputo (Academic Services Consultant), Faeron Pileggi, Lori Jones

1. Call to Order

Chair Bevan called the virtual meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. and welcomed all committee members to the May 6, 2021 meeting.

1.1. Acknowledgment of Traditional Territory

1.2. Opening Prayer - Christopher Szent-Ivany

Chris Szent-Ivany lead the meeting in prayer.

1.3. Welcome and Courtesies

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion:

DCPIC2021-05-06-01 - Approval of Agenda

"THAT the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the Agenda of Thursday, May 6, 2021 Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meeting, as provided".

Motion moved by Josie Mullin and motion seconded by Angela Kielbowski.

Carried

2.1. Changes to the Printed Agenda

There were no changes report to the Agenda.

3. Announcements

3.1. Next Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Virtual Meeting:
Thursday, June 10, 2021

4. Actions to be Taken

4.1. Approval and Signing of the Minutes of the Open Session of the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of April 8, 2021.

Motion:

DCPIC2021-05-06-02 - Approval of the Minutes

"THAT the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the minutes of the April 8, 2021 Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting".

Motion moved by Marie Marilla and motion seconded by Michelle Gillis.
Carried

5. Discussion/Activity

5.1. Presentation on "Helping to support next steps in building a stronger connection to parents of children in our FI program" - Carol Caputo, Academic Services Consultant

Carol Caputo guided the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee through the "Helping to support next steps in building a stronger connection to parents of children in our FI program" presentation. Some of the key components of the presentation were the following:

- Goals for FSL Programs
- A Focus for French Language Programs
- FSL Programs in DCDSB
- DELF Proficiency Exam
- Parents as Partners in FSL Programs
- How can I support my child when I don't speak French?

Carol Caputo addressed the Durham Catholic District Parent Involvement Committee seeking assistance in the following areas:

- Support of 3 Year Action Plan – committee members to sit on FSL Advisory Committee (1 elementary/1 secondary)
- Funding to support potential for a Parent/Guardian Learning Series for 2021-22 focused on FSL Programs (French Immersion/ Core French) to build understanding, interest and engagement in French language learning
- Funding to create a digital French Immersion handbook to serve as a collaborative space for parents/guardians to engage in learning French with their child(ren)

5.2. Presentation on "The 2021/2022 Calendar and 2021/2022 Budget Update" - Ryan Putnam, Superintendent of Business and Chief Financial Officer

Superintendent Putnam provided a presentation on the following:

- Policy Board Meeting being held on Monday, May 10, 2021.
- 2021/2022 DCDSB School Calendar
- 2021/2022 Budget Priorities and Investments

6. Reports/Information/Discussion Items

6.1. Standing Items

6.1.1. Chair's Report

Chair Bevan acknowledged what a great success the Distinguished Catholic Volunteer Awards were on April 20th and how important it is to recognize those individuals that contributed to our children's success. Chair Bevan also acknowledged how grateful she is for the work Lori Jones, Faeron Pileggi, and Jim Wilson contributed to make this event a success. Chair Bevan spoke to the workshop, "Battling Loneliness and Isolation: Before, During and After COVID-19" and how Aubrey Noronha, guest speaker, was very informative and gave practical tips on how to create stronger family, friends, and community bonds. Thank you to Erin Groat on overseeing another impactful event.

6.1.2. Trustee's Report

Trustee Yurkoski updated the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee on the April 26, 2021 Virtual Board Meeting. Trustee Yurkoski highlighted items from the Board Meeting:

- Katherine Mustachi, Senior Manager of Faith Formation, and Diane Mullane, Senior Manager of Mental Health Initiatives presented an overview of the combined Catholic Education Week and Children's Mental Health Week with the theme "Nurturing Hope; Cultivating Gratitude".
- Chair Ste. Marie congratulated all of the Distinguished Catholic Volunteers. Many thanks to Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee for hosting this celebration that recognized the many contributions our Catholic School Volunteers make to our Catholic School Communities.
- Chair Ste. Marie also noted the Board received \$471,000 from the Government of Canada's Climate Action Incentive. As a result, you will see various projects at our schools to make them more energy efficient. This will allow the Board to reduce our carbon footprint and strengthen its commitment to environmental stewardship.

Trustee Yurkoski encouraged students in Grades 9 – 12 and their families to attend the Build a Dream's Trades Week event on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 and Thursday, May 20, 2021 from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. This free two-day event will give parents/guardians and students the opportunity to explore a wide range of career paths in the trades.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be on May 25th at 7:30. This Board Meeting will be broadcasted live. The next Finance Committee Meeting is on May 17th at 7 p.m.

6.1.3. Resource Report

Superintendent Wilson thanked the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee on the successful events that were held during the month of April:

- The Distinguished Catholic Volunteer Awards was an excellent way to celebrate the contributions parents make to our Catholic learning communities.
- The "Battling Loneliness and Isolation: Before, During and After COVID-19" workshop helping families deal with Covid-19. Superintendent Wilson stated how engaged parents were during this workshop on the "chat" feature.

Superintendent Wilson offered his gratitude to the Durham Region Health Department as they turn their focus from case management to vaccinations. Durham Catholic District School Board will be assisting them with their pop-up vaccination clinics in hot spots during the month of May. The first one will be on May 5th, 6th, and 7th at St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School. Superintendent Wilson encourages parents to take advantage of this and other opportunities that will be offered at our schools.

6.1.4. PRO Grant Subcommittee Report

Lori Jones reported that 11 schools have submitted receipts for their PRO Grant reimbursement. Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee was strongly urged to work with their School Council to encourage submission of their receipts for reimbursement by June 30, 2021.

6.1.5. Communications Subcommittee Report

Faeron Pileggi updated the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee that the annual Parent Council Survey will be sent out to all parents of the Board.

6.1.6. School Council Outreach Subcommittee Report

Deferred

6.1.7. Faith Formation Subcommittee Report

Deferred

6.1.8. Policy & By-Law Subcommittee Report

Michelle Gillis updated the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee that all policy changes have been submitted for this year. The next Policy Sub-Committee meeting will be held next year.

6.1.9. Budget Subcommittee Report

Deferred

7. Adjournment

Motion:

DCPIC2021-05-06-03

"THAT the Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of Thursday, May 6, 2021, adjourn at 9:35 p.m.

Motion moved by Josie Mullin and motion seconded by Andrea Gagliardi. Carried

8. Closing Prayer - Christopher Szent-Ivany

Christopher Szent-Ivany lead the committee in closing prayer.

Melissa Bevan
Chair, Durham Catholic Parent Involvement Committee

Jim Wilson
Superintendent of Education

Recording Secretary: L. Jones



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees

From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education

Date: May 25, 2021

Subject: **COVID-19 Operational and Academic Update**

Origin: Administrative Council

Recommendation

Moved by _____, seconded by _____

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information, the COVID-19 Operational and Academic Update dated May 25, 2021.”

Rationale

As the provincial landscape in respect of the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, ongoing communications, guidance and directives from the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Labour and Durham Public Health continue to be received. To keep the Board of Trustees advised of our current situation and recent developments, staff are providing the following Operational and Academic and Student Services Updates.

Operational Updates

COVID-19 Positive Case Management

Due to the provincial government's remote learning directive for most DCDSB students, the last confirmed COVID-19 case that attended during period of communicability was on April 24, 2021. DCDSB will continue to report COVID-19 cases for students and staff that are on-site during remote learning.

The Durham Region Health Department had a successful vaccination pop-up clinic at St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School on May 5, 6, and 7, 2021. The DCDSB Health, Safety and Wellness Coordinator is currently working with the Durham Region Health Department concerning more locations.

Memorandum | Page 2 of 3

Re: COVID-19 Operational and Academic Update

In partnership with Life Labs and the Durham District School Board, DCDSB is continuing with asymptomatic testing for staff and students. As of May 14, 2021, 1,658 tests have been conducted with 14 cases identified.

On May 18, 2021, an asymptomatic and symptomatic COVID-19 testing clinic was held at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School. This testing was a drive thru testing site.

Facilities Services

The Board has continued to receive orders of personal protective equipment (PPE) each month that an order has been placed. An order for June has been submitted in preparation for a return this school year.

Provincially supplied disinfectant was distributed to custodial staff, who have been completing additional cleaning tasks and disinfecting all spaces in preparation for a return to normal operations.

All of the additional custodial staff had been hired to assist with the increased disinfecting and cleaning, and we are at our full complement of staff.

Provincial funding for improved heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) changes was provided in September, and a second round of funding was issued at the start of 2021. Measures that have been completed as part of the funding, and some planned measures with the additional funding include:

- upgrading filters to a higher efficiency (MERV13). The first delivery of the filters have been received and installed. Supply of MERV13 filters was delayed due to global demand for the materials used in the manufacturer. Subsequent orders of filters are scheduled;
- the mechanical systems have been programmed to increase the amount of fresh air, and additional HEPA filter air purifiers have been distributed to all elementary classrooms. Extra units are available to be dispatched to secondary schools should there be a mechanical system issue;
- Retro-commissioning of a limited number of schools has been scheduled.

The Federal government under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) announced up to \$700 million in the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) funding. The board received approximately \$7.4M, and projects are in various stages of implementation. Projects include:

- Outdoor space improvements to some kindergarten yards and outdoor teaching spaces;
- Improving facility conditions with new heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment; bottle filling stations in childcare centres; and window replacements;

Memorandum | Page 3 of 3

Re: COVID-19 Operational and Academic Update

- Enhancing physical distancing with gym dividers and childcare touchless auto operators;
- Facilitating distance learning with updated wifi/network.

The funding had some restrictive timelines that required all projects to have been started by September 30, 2021, and be substantially complete by December 31, 2021.

Information Technology

Under the supervision of the Chief Information Officer – Freedom of Information and Privacy, Ronald Rodriguez, the Information Technology team continues to provide timely and effective technical support to our students, parents and staff.

We have acquired a Zoom business license for all active teachers to facilitate virtual learning with features such as co-host, integration with D2L and Single Sign-On with Azure AD to name a few. Also, we have renewed a six-month lease for 240 iPads with LTE for students.

Academic Services

Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting during Remote Learning

All areas of the curriculum continue to be assessed and reported on with adaptations made as necessary within the context of remote learning and guided by Policy/Program Memorandum No. 164 (PPM 164). As well, staff from Academic Services continue to collate and provide supplemental resources in support of educators during the current period of remote learning.



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees

From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education

Date: May 25, 2021

Subject: **Supporting 2SLGBTQ+ Students in our Catholic Schools**

Origin: Administrative Council

Recommendation

Moved by _____, seconded by _____

“THAT the Rainbow Flag be flown at the Catholic Education Center in recognition of Pride month from June 1 – June 30 each year beginning in June 2021.

THAT every school in DCDSB raise the Rainbow Flag from June 1 – June 30 annually.

THAT a multi-disciplinary working group be established by the Director to act as an advisory body to ensure staff have resources and training to provide for the ongoing support of 2SLGBTQ+ students and staff in our Catholic Schools.”

Rationale

Durham Catholic District School Board has identified Equity as one of the three core commitments of our multi-year strategic plan. Specifically, we have indicated that we are committed to cultivating a positive sense of self and belonging for each individual by respecting and responding to diverse identities and strengths. Further, under Strategic Priority 2 – Celebrating Inclusion and Well-Being we indicate that our Catholic learning communities will cultivate the principles of equity and inclusion with a specific goal of creating a positive school climate that supports students’ feelings of belonging and safety.

Recently, the matter of Pride month in June and specifically the flying of the Rainbow flags in Catholic School Boards has gained a lot of public and media attention. For many years now, Catholic School Boards across the province, including Durham Catholic have been under scrutiny on this issue as a result of a perceived conflict

between our faith and the full inclusion of students, staff and members of the broader community who identify as 2SLGBTQ+.

Equity and Inclusion in Catholic Schools

From both a legal and a moral perspective, all schools in DCDSB must make every effort to create safe and welcoming environments for staff and students that are free from any form of bullying, harassment and/or discrimination. The Congregation for Catholic Education (for Educational Institutions) rightfully notes that we “need to educate children and young people *to respect every person* in their particularity and difference so that no one should suffer bullying, violence, insults or unjust discrimination based on their specific characteristics (such as special needs, race, religion, sexual tendencies etc.)”. (p. 10 *Male and Female He Created Them: Towards a Path of Dialogue on the Question of Gender Theory in Education*, Vatican City, 2019.)

Referring to people who are homosexual, the Catechism of the Catholic Church (2358) asserts that they “must be accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided”. This Catholic anthropology is consistent with Ministry of Education policy requirements for Equity and Inclusive Education in Ontario Schools and the principles and tenets of the Ontario Human Rights Commission which apply to the Durham Catholic District School Board by virtue of being a publicly funded education provider.

Legislation

The denominational rights of Catholic Schools to teach and operate in accordance with the tenets of our Catholic faith is enshrined in s. 93(1) of the Canadian Constitution, recognized in section 29 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, referenced in section 19 of the Human Rights Code and included in s 1(4) of the Education Act. It is understood that parents/guardians who choose Catholic schools expect that Catholic faith and traditions will be woven into all aspects of their child’s education.

Publicly funded Catholic School Systems in Ontario must also follow provincial legislation, Ministry of Education policy and the legal requirements of the Human Rights Code.

Failure to address circumstances in which an individual suffers bullying, isolation or harassment as a result of their gender identity or sexual orientation and therefore does not have access to education free from discrimination would constitute a violation of the Canadian Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Discrimination is most easily identified in specific acts, however, the adoption of policies or procedures that do not adequately consider the lived experiences of individuals protected under the code is also discriminatory.

Practice

The Catholic Education community has always been able to effectively manage these various accountabilities while continuing to provide an authentically Catholic Education to our students. In fact, work in Catholic schools has in many cases provided examples of best practices that have later been utilized as a model to enhance education in all of the publicly funded systems. An example of this would be the provincial mandate regarding Character Education which mirrors our tradition of articulating our Catholic virtues and identifying Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations.

With the dramatic rise of civil rights movements during this past year has come a growing social awareness of the insufficiency of blanket universal statements of inclusion. Durham Catholic District School Board has recognized and actively responded to the call to provide specific and targeted support to equity seeking groups. This has taken many forms, including, but not limited to:

- the establishment of an active Indigenous Education Circle;
- the recognition of Louis Riel Day and the raising of the Métis flag;
- the development of an anti-racism policy;
- a clearly articulated Anti-Black Racism Strategy which includes student and community focus groups and training at all levels of the organization;
- the establishment of board level student advisory groups for French Programming and Indigenous Education;
- intentional hiring practices to support increased diversity;
- the completion of a workforce census;
- raising the flag for World Autism Day;
- adoption of practices to support accessibility for all Ontarians; and
- increased attention to days/weeks/months of recognition such as: Orange Shirt Day to commemorate Residential School Survivors; Franco-Ontarien Flag Day; World Down's Syndrome Day; Black History Month; Asian Heritage Month; Indigenous History Month; Dress Loud Day (Speech and Hearing Awareness Month); Pink Shirt Day (Anti-bullying); Treaties Recognition Week – to name just a few.

In 2021, an increased number of communications have come forward from our community related to the recognition of Pride Month by DCDSB in June and specifically the flying of the rainbow flags at schools and the Catholic Education Center. Formal correspondence received by the Chair and Director have been included in this report.

Our Faith and the Dignity of the Human Person

Above all, it is important to acknowledge and affirm that Catholicism holds a central belief in the inherent dignity of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God, and loved without condition. “In the eyes of the Church, every human person is a unique and irreplaceable gift created by our loving God and called to be his son or

daughter. Created in the image and likeness of God and redeemed by the blood of Christ, every person possesses an intrinsic dignity which must always be respected” (*Pastoral Ministry to Young People with Same-Sex Attraction*, CCCB 2011).

In demonstrating respect for human dignity, it must be clearly stated that no one can or should be reduced to a single dimension:

“The human person... can hardly be described by a reductionist reference to his or her sexual orientation... Today, the Church provides a badly needed context for the care of the human person when she refuses to consider the person as “heterosexual” or “homosexual” and insists that every person has a fundamental identity: the creature of God, and by grace God’s child and heir to eternal life.” (*Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons: Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church*, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, 1986).

Any reference to a person’s 2SLGBTQ+ identity in this report is in no way intended to reduce an individual’s personhood to the single dimension of their gender identity or sexual orientation.

School Climate Survey

Every two years the Board conducts a school climate survey in accordance with Ministry of Education requirements. Within this survey students are asked to respond to questions regarding how frequently they learn about the experiences and/or achievements of people who may be different from them (ex. women/girls, Indigenous people, people with disabilities, people of diverse faiths, people from various racial backgrounds). Staff are asked to rate how frequently students have resources and opportunities to learn about the experiences and/or achievements of the same groups of people. In both cases, learning related to people who identify as part of the 2SLGBTQ+ community were rated significantly lower than all other groups.

The results of the DCDSB 2020 survey indicated the following:

59% of students from Grades 7-12 report *never* having learned about the experiences and/or achievements of people from the 2SLGBTQ+ community (next closest – people with disabilities – 30% indicating never)

37% of staff report that in their school students *never* have resources and opportunities to learn about the experiences and/or achievements of people from the 2SLGBTQ+ community (Next closest – Diverse religious/faith communities with 12% indicating never)

Data and Research

The Canadian Mental Health Association (<https://ontario.cmha.ca/documents/lesbian-gay-bisexual-trans-queer-identified-people-and-mental-health/>) reports that LGBTQ

people experience stigma and discrimination across their life spans, and are targets of sexual and physical assault, harassment and hate crimesⁱⁱⁱ.

Further, with respect to suicide they indicate that:

LGBTQ youth and trans people face increased risk. For example:

- *LGBTQ youth face approximately 14 times the risk of suicide and substance abuse than heterosexual peers^{xii}*
- *77% of trans respondents in an Ontario-based survey had seriously considered suicide and 45% had attempted suicide*
 - *Trans youth and those who had experienced physical or sexual assault were found to be at greatest risk^{xiii}*

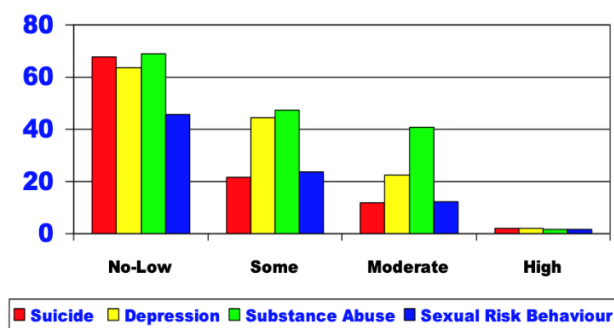
The Family Acceptance Project (<http://familyproject.sfsu.edu>)

The Family Acceptance Project is a San Francisco State University research study that began in 2002, under the Direction of Dr. Caitlin Ryan. This comprehensive study has specifically examined how family and caregiver reactions contribute to health, mental health and development for young people who identify as 2SLGBTQ+.

Dr. Ryan's research has demonstrated that the response of family, school and religious communities to learning about a young person's identity as 2SLGBTQ+ is critical to the individual's long-term health and well-being. Children and adolescents who experience little to no support from their family and schools regarding their 2SLGBTQ+ identity are at significantly greater risk for suicide, depression, substance abuse and sexually risky behaviour than non-2SLGBTQ+ youth. Alternatively, where young people experience a high degree of support from their family and community the gap in those areas of risk is almost eliminated.



Acceptance Continuum



(Representation of Family Acceptance Project Outcomes - Credit: York Catholic District School Board)

Rainbow Flag and Pride Month

The rainbow flag, designed by Gilbert Baker, was first introduced as a symbol of support for 2SLGBTQ+ in 1978, replacing the pink triangle flag that had its origins in World War II when the Nazi's used the pink triangle to identify and stigmatize homosexuals. Since that time, a number of variations have emerged.

The colours of the widely used six-stripe flag represent the following: red means life, orange means healing, yellow means sunlight, green represents nature, blue represents harmony, and violet means spirit. A newer version of the flag includes the colours black and brown to include racialized people.

"The Rainbow Flag's meaning rests not in its individual colors but in the symbolism of the entire spectrum. Baker described the rainbow's universal, all-embracing resonance best: 'The rainbow came from earliest recorded history as a symbol of hope. In the Book of Genesis, it appeared as proof of a covenant between God and all living creatures.'" (p. 7 *To Listen, To Reason and to Propose*)

In 2021 the rainbow flag is recognized world-wide as representing Pride, however in recent years it has also been generally accepted as a symbol of inclusion, hope and peace. A number of rainbow installations have been adopted throughout the Durham Region including but not limited to: rainbow crosswalks at the Regional Headquarters, Oshawa City Hall and Pickering Civic Center, a rainbow gazebo in Ajax, and a rainbow park bench in Port Perry.

June is officially recognized in Durham Region, Ontario and Canada as Pride Month in celebration of people who identify as 2SLGBTQ+.

As of the writing of this report the following Catholic School Boards in Ontario have made a public commitment to recognizing Pride Month by flying the flag:

- Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
- The Northwestern Catholic District School Board
- Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board
- Toronto Catholic District School Board
- Waterloo Catholic District School Board
- Wellington Catholic District School Board

On April 26, 2021 the Board of Trustees in Halton Catholic District School Board voted to formally recognize Pride Month at all of its schools but not to fly the flag.

Our Catholic Schools

"The Catholic school community, like all school communities, has an obligation to ensure a safe environment for all students by vigilant and steadfast efforts to eradicate all forms of bullying as well as to provide personal and pastoral care for every individual

whose worth as a child of God has been attacked by acts of bullying. The Catholic school must continue to be a safe, inclusive community for all young people entrusted to our care.” (p.2 Respecting Difference: A Resource for Catholic Schools in the Province of Ontario, OSCTA, 2012)

The Directory of Catechesis states “The Church is well aware of the complexity of the personal situations that are lived out, at times, in a conflicted way. She does not judge persons but asks that they be accompanied always and in whatever situation.”

The Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church states that “Christians owe all persons respect and love, however, regardless of their sexual orientation, because all people are respected and loved by God.” [2358-2359]

In 2018 the Assembly of the Catholic Bishops of Ontario released, *Renewing the Promise – A Pastoral Letter for Catholic Education*. In writing this document, the Catholic Bishops joined with members of the Catholic Community “in reflection and discernment on the past, present and future of Catholic education.” (p. 3). The Gospel story of the Road to Emmaus provides the framework for the letter which calls upon the partners in Catholic Education to be a community that accompanies. The art of spiritual accompaniment requires that we walk alongside one another “to listen, to teach and in so doing, to transform” (p. 6).

Many students and staff in our Catholic Schools either personally identify as 2SLGBTQ+ or have immediate family members who do. Catholic education is rooted in the fundamental value of inclusion based upon Jesus’ exhortation “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” (John 13:34). This is a gospel value which we endeavour to live out in all that we do.

Recognizing Pride Month through the visible symbol of the Rainbow flag, clearly communicates that all are welcome and that our Catholic Schools are specifically committed to creating safe spaces for those who identify as 2SLGBTQ+.

Ongoing Support

It is recognized that while flying the Rainbow flag during the month of June is an important symbol of acceptance and identification of Durham Catholic as a safe haven, it is not a substitute for the fulsome pastoral care owed to our students.

In “The Human Person, Love and Sexuality: A Resource for Catholic Educators” (2016) the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario outline, and elaborate upon the four following principles for authentic Christian pastoral care of students:

- All authentic pastoral care begins with and is continually guided by the vision of the human person, love and sexuality
- The pastoral care of the Church must reach out to all with unconditional love

- Pastoral care must meet a person wherever they are along the path of their spiritual and moral life
- For pastoral care to be effective, Jesus Christ, the true shepherd, must be known, and his voice heard

To effectively teach, support and accompany our students in a manner that is consistent with our faith, Catholic Educators, Administrators and Chaplains need resources and ongoing opportunities for training and faith formation. For this reason, a multi-disciplinary working group should be established and maintained to act as a system level advisory body to the Director.

Correspondence

- Appendix 1:** May 3, 2021
PRIDE Recommendations from GSA and Equity Group Consultations
Submitted by Student Trustees Declan Amaral and Annika Del Torre
- Appendix 2:** May 4, 2021
Request
Submitted by OECTA Presidents Paul Collicutt and Melissa Cowen
- Appendix 3:** May 4, 2021
Reflection from Archdiocese of Toronto
Sent by Barry White, Liaison for Catholic Education, Catholic Pastoral Center
- Appendix 4:** May 8, 2021
Letter for 2SLGBTQ+ Community
Kelly Stephen, Chaplain Monsignor John Pereyma Catholic Secondary School
- Appendix 5:** May 9, 2021
Email from S. Laforet, Principal of Monsignor John Pereyma Catholic Secondary School
- Appendix 6:** May 10, 2021
Email to Chair – Submitted by Tomy Valookaran, Chaplain, St. Mary Catholic Secondary School
- Appendix 7:** May 10, 2021
Letter of Support for 2SLGBTQ+ Students
Submitted by Rae Paul – St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, Class of 2015

- Appendix 8:** May 10, 2021
Letter of Support – Submitted by Amy Mather – St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, Class of 2015
- Appendix 9:** May 11, 2021
Letter re: Flying Pride Flags - Submitted by DCDSB Secondary School Principals
- Appendix 10:** May 11, 2021
Email – Alliance for Compassion Letter for DCDSB Board
Submitted by Charlene Rocha and the Alliance for Compassion Team, St. Mary CSS
- Appendix 11:** May 14, 2021
Email – Pride Flag Possibilities
Submitted by Katie Walker – Father Leo Austin Catholic Secondary School
- Appendix 12:** May 14, 2021
Letter – Submitted by Katherine Mustachi, Senior Manager of Faith Formation and Chaplains, David Dubowitz, Kelly Stephen and Tomy Valookaran
- Appendix 13:** May 17, 2021
Email from Antonio Morra - Equity, Inclusivity and Acceptance of our LGBTQ+ Community Members
- Appendix 14:** May 17, 2021
Letter – Submitted by Beatrice Povolo, Chair, Catholic School Council, St. Mary CSS
- Appendix 15:** May 18, 2021
Letter of Support – Submitted by Holly Foord – St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, Class of 2011

Reference Documents:

1. Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario, 2016: [The Human Person, Love, and Sexuality A Resource for Catholic Educators](#)
2. The Canadian Mental Health Association
(<https://ontario.cmha.ca/documents/lesbian-gay-bisexual-trans-queer-identified-people-and-mental-health/>)
3. Congregation of the Doctrine of Faith, 1986: [Pastoral Care of Homosexual Persons: Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church](#)

Memorandum | Page 10 of 10

Re: Supporting 2SLGBTQ+Students in our Catholic Schools

4. Episcopal Commission for Doctrine, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, June 2011: [Pastoral Ministry to Young People with Same-Sex Attraction](#)
5. Institute for Catholic Education, Contemporary Issues Series, Monograph #2 Fall 2019: [Supporting Students who Identify as Transgender in our Catholic Schools](#)
6. Ontario Catholic Trustees Association, 2012: [Respecting Difference – A Resource for Catholic Schools in the Province of Ontario](#)
7. Nugent, Tamara and Runstedler, Yvonne; [To Listen, To Reason and To Propose: The Rainbow Flag and Catholic Schools](#)
8. Vatican City, Congregation for Catholic Education, 2019: [Male and Female He Created Them: Towards a Path of Dialogue on the Question of Gender Theory in Education](#)
9. [Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church](#)

Legislative Policy Framework

The Education Act <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/S12005>

Ontario Human Rights Code <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90h19>

Prohibitive Grounds for Discrimination

http://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/code_grounds/gender_identity

PPM 119, Equity and Inclusive Education, April 22, 2013 Developing and Implementing Equity and Inclusive Education in Ontario Schools

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/119.pdf>

PPM 145, Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour, December 5, 2012 <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/145.pdf>

PPM 144, Bullying Prevention and Intervention, December 5, 2012

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/144.pdf>

Equity and Inclusive Education in Ontario Schools (2014 Edition)

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/inclusiveguide.pdf>

Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy, Realizing the Promise of Diversity (2009 Edition) <http://edu.gov.on.ca/eng/policyfunding/equity.pdf>

TB:ml

Attachments: Appendixes 1-15

Supporting 2SLGBTQ+Students in our Catholic Schools - **Appendix 1****PRIDE Recommendations from GSA & Equity Group Consultations****Rationale:**

The Durham Catholic District School Board's commitment to Excellence, Equity, and Engagement has always been at the forefront of the Student Trustees' and Student Senate Committee's initiatives. In this unprecedented year, we have witnessed a renewed passion in students and other community members to nurture an inclusive and diverse educational environment. As such, we have been hearing from students and staff that now is the time to address the need for a more safe and loving space for our LGBTQ2S+ community members.

In early March we began reaching out to Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) and Equity groups within our secondary schools to meet with students and staff to determine how the LGBTQ2S+ community can be supported at the board level. This report outlines the key takeaways from our meetings with five GSA and Equity groups, as well as recommendations that stem from student and staff suggestions.

Definitions:

Acceptance – an affirmation and recognition of people whose Race, Ancestry, Place of Origin, Colour, Ethnic Origin, citizenship, Creed, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Age, Gender Identity and expression, Marital Status, Family Status, abilities, or other, similar characteristics or attributes are different from one's own. Acceptance goes beyond tolerance; in that it implies a positive and welcoming attitude.

Biphobia – The intense hatred, fear or aversion towards bisexuals or bisexuality, which may include negative stereotyping or denial of the existence of bisexuals.

Diversity – the presence of a wide range of human qualities and attributes within an individual, group or organization. Diversity includes such factors as age, sex, race, ethnicity, physical and intellectual ability, religion, sexual orientation, educational background and expertise.

Equity – fairness, impartiality, even-handedness. A distinct process of recognizing differences within groups of individuals, and using this understanding to achieve substantive equality in all aspects of a person's life.

GSA – An acronym that means Gay-Straight Alliance. A group comprised of staff and/or students who form a safe and inclusive space. They may be members of the LGBTQ2S+ community or allies.

Homophobia – Intense hatred or fear of homosexual people or homosexuality.

IDAHOT – The International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia is observed internationally as a day to raise awareness for LGBTQ2S+ rights violations and discrimination.

Inclusion – appreciating and using our unique differences – strengths, talents, weaknesses and frailties – in a way that shows respect for the individual and ultimately creates a dynamic multi-dimensional organization.

LGBTQ2S+ – An acronym to describe a group made up of people who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, two-spirited and more.

PRIDE – The acronym PRIDE, stands for Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Diversity and Excellence. This term was originally used to commemorate the Stonewall Riots.

PRIDE flag – A multicoloured flag used as a symbol of peace; often used to represent gay and lesbian pride. Also referred to as the rainbow flag.

PRIDE month – The month of June is internationally recognized as a month of awareness and celebration for the LGBTQ2S+ community.

Transphobia – The irrational fear of, aversion to, or discrimination against transgender people.

Summary Report:

Prior to and throughout the pandemic, our schools' GSA and Equity groups have upheld their commitment to advocating for their school community through meaningful discussions, projects, or campaigns. Notably, a Day of Silence to stand in solidarity with the LGBTQ2S+ community, writing letters with accompanying petitions to government officials, and fundraisers like bake sales and colour runs have been successfully implemented and/or are current projects that are in the planning stages. Despite having limited written or public support from the board level, students and staff have been able to run their activities and promote their GSA and Equity groups to students who want to become involved or show their support of the community.

Students and staff expressed in the meetings that support from the board and administrative level would make it easier for these groups and different schools to run bigger initiatives to engage more students and staff, without fear of being condemned or refused outright. Group members also expressed that their vision for the future of the LGBTQ2S+ community in Durham Catholic was not just to be tolerated, but to be loved, accepted, and valued.

This vision could be accomplished through representation in the curriculum (history, sexual education, religion, science, arts), recognition and celebration of LGBTQ2S+ related days of observance (PRIDE month, International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia [IDAHOT]), and displaying symbols of LGBTQ2S+ inclusion (flying the PRIDE flag, LGBTQ2S+ visuals in classrooms). Through Catholic education, we need look no further than Jesus Christ's own teachings of inclusivity and love for all God's children to aid us in supporting these projects. This can come in the form of assemblies, webinars, videos, professional development, posters, or any other form of community engagement to continue educating our Durham Catholic families around this topic.

Recommendations:

Based on the feedback from meetings with GSA and Equity groups, the Student Trustees and Student Senate Committee recommends that the Durham Catholic District School Board:

- 1. Fly PRIDE flags at all board facilities from June 1st to June 30th, as well as on any other board-approved days of observance.**

This recommendation comes from our Church's mandate that we treat all children of God with love and respect. As a Catholic institution, we must ensure that these teachings and values are at the centre of all decisions made; this includes flying the PRIDE flag, a symbol of love and acceptance for our LGBTQ2S+ students and staff.

- 2. Recognize important days of observance in the LGBTQ2S+ community at a board level.**

In our meetings with the GSA and Equity groups, they expressed that the community wasn't being properly celebrated and recognized at our board. As Catholics, we are called to love and celebrate everyone's uniqueness and God-given gifts. In recognizing important dates such as the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia (IDAHOT) and Pride month, we are creating a more inclusive and welcoming learning environment.

- 3. Develop and provide educational material about the LGBTQ2S+ community to staff, students, and the community through assemblies, webinars, professional development, or any other form of community engagement.**

As a Catholic educational institution, the school board has a responsibility to inform staff, students, and the community about how we are called to love one another regardless of our differences. It is important for educational material to accompany any initiative to ensure its longevity and success.



OECTA Durham Secondary
29-2020 Wentworth St. West
Whitby, ON, L1N 9A8
905-728-9164

OECTA Durham Elementary
105-1450 Hopkins Street
Whitby, ON, L1N 2C3
905-430-0707

Tuesday, May 4, 2021

Morgan Ste. Marie
Chair of the DCDSB and Trustee, City of Oshawa
morgan.ste.marie@dcdsb.ca

Dear Morgan,

The 2000 plus Catholic Teachers who work for the DCDSB strive every day to create safe and welcoming environments for all students, colleagues, and education workers. Our Association is proud of the role we have played in changing attitudes and advancing rights at the local level and throughout the province. However, just like in the wider community, some students and staff in our schools who identify as LGBTQ2S1+ continue to face bullying and discrimination.

The Pride flag is a symbol of the dignity of all people including those in the LGBTQ2SI+ community. Flying the flag is a crucial action for the School Board to take not only on behalf of the students and staff who identify as LGBTQ2SI+, but also for their parents and families, along with others in the broader community. It is a way of recognizing the struggles endured by people who identify as LGBTQ2SI+, while tangibly demonstrating our Catholic school community's support for the human rights of all. It is a meaningful gesture showing our belief in the unconditional love of God for us all, as well as a rebuke of those who continue to hold prejudice. And it is a small step toward creating a culture that respects the health and well-being of LGBTQ2SI+ people.

Throughout Pride month, our Association will be displaying our OECTA rainbow Pride flag and other materials as signs of support for our members, students, and others in the community. We strongly urge the Durham Catholic District School Board to join us by flying the **traditional Pride flag** at the Board Office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Collicutt".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Cowen".

Paul Collicutt - Unit President OECTA Durham Secondary
Melissa Cowen - Unit President OECTA Durham Elementary

CC:

Tracy Barill - Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer, DCDSB - tracy.barill@dcdsb.ca



May 4, 2021

In response to numerous inquiries from trustees, teachers, students and parents, the Archdiocese of Toronto offers the following reflection regarding inclusivity and acceptance.

Reflection on Inclusivity & Acceptance from the Archdiocese of Toronto

Earlier this year, Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto, met with Directors of Education and Chairs of Catholic School Boards in the Archdiocese of Toronto. Among the items discussed were issues of inclusion, and specifically the request made in some boards to have Catholic schools fly the Pride flag during the month of June. We are well aware of the passionate feelings on both sides of this issue, and we pray that dialogue regarding these matters can be conducted respectfully and thoughtfully. It is painful that the public discussion around how to best promote inclusivity has, in itself, often caused division in the community.

As Catholics, we are taught that we must love our neighbour and treat every individual as a child of God, accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity.

Parents make a clear choice when they decide that their children will attend a Catholic school. They rightly expect that trustees, principals, teachers – all partners in education – will ensure that Catholic teaching is presented, lived and infused in all that we do.

In that regard, the appropriate symbol that represents our faith, and the inclusion and acceptance of others, is the cross, which is visible at the entrance of every Catholic school. It is the primary symbol of our Christian faith: it draws us to contemplate the generous and sacrificial love of Jesus, as he lays down his life for all of us. In a world that would crucify an innocent man, Jesus returns love for hatred and says: “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” (Luke 23:34) The love represented by the cross is that sacrificial love, centered not on self, but on others. The cross outside of Catholic schools and any Catholic church, hospital or institution, signals our commitment that all who enter the building are welcomed and loved in their beauty and uniqueness as children of God.

Practically, we also know that there are any number of groups working to advocate for many diverse causes. For this reason, many school boards wisely fly only the Canadian flag out of a sense of equity for all.

There is a belief among some that unless one embraces secular symbols, one cannot be inclusive or accepting. This is simply not true. Where there are cases of injustice and mistreatment of any student, whether they are bullied or rejected due to their sexual orientation, appearance, race, sex or any other reason, we must seize the moment, address the situation and ensure that we lead by example, as we foster a culture of care and love for every individual. That truth is perfectly represented in our most fundamental Catholic symbol: the cross.



Archdiocese
of Toronto

Catholic Pastoral Centre
1155 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario M4T 1W2
T 416.934.0606
www.archtoronto.org

We also recognize that there are times when the presentation of Catholic teaching will clash with the views held by many in society, whether these relate to human sexuality, the sanctity of life, issues of social justice or other deeply held beliefs. Those who are faithful to these teachings are often ridiculed, mocked and excluded. Frequently, since the time of Jesus, Christian teaching has not aligned with currently prevailing opinions.

To be clear, locally elected Catholic school trustees will ultimately determine the path forward, but we trust that these insights will be helpful. We pray that we may all reflect on these challenging conversations and do so in a spirit of collaboration, mutual respect and care for one another.

Supporting 2SLGBTQ+Students in our Catholic Schools - **Appendix 4**

Morgan Ste. Marie
Chair of the Board and Trustee, City of Oshawa

Tracy Barill
Director of Education DCDSB

In so much of our church history people of faith have been called upon to act in moments of moral uncertainty but instead of acting they became victims of hesitation founded in confusion and fear. Time after time opportunities passed when members of our church waited to make their voices heard until the tide of public opinion elevated enough to lessened the risk. So much of our credibility as a church has been lost as we look back to moments when, at best our response was lukewarm and at worst, it was absent all together. These are not moments that make us proud but rather moments that eat away at the very integrity of our faith community.

There have been, however, other times, times when we, the church, responded to the call of the gospel with courage and clarity. There were those times when we worked to fight against fascism and the appalling ideologies found in Nazism. There were times when members of our faith community marched in the civil rights movement and called for peace at the risk of being declared traitors. There are those who sided with the poor against the rich and paid dearly for their solidarity. These moments are what, for many, typifies a follower of Jesus. Sadly, as much as we prefer to remember these heroic moments in our past we must also face the times when we were not heroic and instead of speaking out, remained silent, instead of acting we remained immobile.

At this point in our history the church is divided on how it should respond to the 2SLGBTQ+ community. There are those who rejoice at statements like “who am I to Judge”, and there are others who will dismiss such statements as misinterpretations. There is no doubt that a certain portion of the faithful will never believe that the church has gone far enough and another portion that will believes that the church has gone too far.

There are those in our church who would argue that the 2SLGBTQ+ community represents a direct opposition to Holy Scripture. There are many who would equate the 2SLGBTQ+ community with being diabolical in nature and an instrument of evil. These are reminiscent of a time when the overall atmosphere in Canada resulted in 2SLGBTQ+ members risking imprisonment, unemployment, homelessness, forced psychiatric hospitalization and social ostracization. This harkens to a time when one risked one’s life, family and freedom to come out as a member of a sexual minority. Many wish these days were behind us but sadly they are not, at least not entirely. It is true that over the past 50 years much sacrifice has been made by the 2SLGBTQ+ community and their allies to address these abuses but much of that progress has been only tentatively won. Even as nations such as Canada expand the rights and privileges of the 2SLGBTQ+ community there are other nations where being 2SLGBTQ+ results in imprisonment and even death.

In all this there has arisen one predominant symbol to represent this struggle, that symbol being the Rainbow Flag. Like so many symbols this one was born from a simple desire to have one symbol for a community to rally behind. The colours were more about decoration than dogma,

more about inspiration than ideology. Harvey Milk, a gay member of the San Francisco city council, requested that a friend design a symbol that has now grown to represent the global 2SLGBTQ+ community. That symbol, and that symbol alone, is what speaks to them of acceptance and safety. That flag represents hope to a marginalized community that remains stigmatized and fearful.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ calls us to LOVE OUR NEIGHBOUR not to CONDITIONALLY LOVE THEM. It is tragic when the raw Gospel becomes clouded with exceptions so much so that the original message of Christ becomes edited to the point where we love only those who look like us, believe like us or in this case love like us.

The story of Noah is a poignant example of how the rainbow can be interoperated by Christians as an undeniable symbol of peace and the cessation of hostilities. God chose to reflect this known symbol, one where one places their bow with the string to the ground to represent the end of war and the advent of peace. To this day it is a beloved symbol, one that represents the end of the storm.

This Rainbow flag is central to the identity of the LGBTQ+ community and although there is not always a consensus about its origins and some have redacted much of its legend, it does have a universally accepted provenance. Its placement anywhere signals to all who identify with this community that welcome may be found within.

I compel the DCDSB to consider flying this flag for the Month of June, a month dedicated to 2SLGBTQ+ pride and I entreat them to fly it at all their schools and at their board office.

In Christ

Kelly Stephen
Chaplain
Monsignor John Pereyma CSS

Subject: 2SLGBTQ+ Pride Flag

Date: Sunday, May 9, 2021 at 10:29:32 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Suzanne Laforet

To: Tracy Barill

CC: Kelly Stephen

Good morning Tracy,

Kelly shared with me the wonderful letter that he sent to you regarding the flying of the Pride Flag in June. I am writing this to share my absolute agreement with him and his request that the DCDSB fly the Pride Flag for the month of June. At this time, we are in a position to stand up and publicly declare our commitment to support everyone within our schools and the greater community who are so frequently marginalized and, even worse, persecuted, because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity. I believe that this a moral imperative, as we work to truly become a Board rooted in equity and inclusion for all. It is an opportunity for us to invite conversation, to provide education, and to demonstrate solidarity with the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

I look forward to working with you, the Board, and any others who are ready to make the next steps on the journey.

Thank you for your time,

Sue

Sue Laforet

Principal, Msgr. John Pereyma C.S.S

905-432-8470

Be the reason someone smiles today!



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[DCDSB-20111209]

From: Tomy Valookaran <Tomy.Valookaran@dcdsb.ca>
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021, 9:12 p.m.
To: Morgan Ste.Marie
Subject: Request for input on Rainbow flag

Dear Morgan,

I am not sure if we met personally but I worked with your Dad as Chaplain at Paul Dwyer from 1988 to 1999. Since then I have been at St.Mary CSS. I wanted to reach out at this important moment of discernment regarding the need to support our 2SLGBTQ+ community about flying the rainbow flag to publicly proclaim what we already proclaim in our local school communities that they are most welcome in our schools.

About eight years ago I had a profound encounter with a grade ten student. She came to talk with me as she was going through a difficult time. One of her teachers suggested that I am a good listener. She was nervous at first but as she started talking, she relaxed more and more. She revealed that she discovered in grade eight that she was gay. She was active in her parish serving as an altar girl. Her parents were active in the church choir. She could not live with it because she thought God did not like her according the teachings of the church as presented to her by the adults in her life and she tried taking her own life and was hospitalised. As she poured her heart out, I asked her why she was reluctant to come and talk to me in grade nine. She said “sir you are the chaplain and I was sure you would condemn me”. My heart was lit on fire of compassion and set out on a journey to change that perception of the Catholic Church in my School community.

Drawing upon the deeper teachings of the church, papal statements, Vatican two documents and the pastoral letter by the Ontario Bishops I put together a presentation explaining what the Catholic Church really teaches about inclusion, acceptance and celebration of our 2SLGBTQ+ students. I took every student and teacher through the Chapel, class by class by educating all, why any discrimination against those students is against what Jesus taught. Out of that, with help from the above student and her friends, we gathered a large group of students to start our 2SLGBTQ+ safe student group and they

called it Alliance for Compassion. This group is still going strong as an outreach of our retreat leader student leadership group.

One of the consistent requests I have received from them is to fly the rainbow flag as they feel it represents to the larger community that they are safe in our school communities. I brought it up to Chair meeting last week and I got unanimous consent to request the School Board to consider it. Vatican two document on 'church in the modern world', asks us to always read the signs of the times. I believe strongly that the St. Mary community is ready to embrace this move. The time is now for us to step up and make a bold statement that our 2SLGBTQ+children are loved, accepted and celebrated in our Catholic learning communities. This is a right to life issue for me as a Chaplain serving this school board for the last 33 years. By the way I have no knowledge of any other group wanting their particular flags flown at our buildings as consistent as this student group.

Since June is around the corner I want to request you to call an emergency meeting of the Board to make a decision. I am willing to put this on public record.



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[DCDSB-20111209]

May 10, 2021

Supporting 2SLGBTQ+Students in our Catholic Schools - **Appendix 7**

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter to pledge my support for DCDSB students who endeavour to fly the rainbow flag proudly at their schools during the month of June for Pride. As an alumnus of the graduating class of 2015, I am dismayed, though unsurprised, at the lack of support, care and dignity granted to 2SLGBTQIA+ students in this school board. The indifferent attitudes of senior leadership in the DCDSB, underscores a complete disregard for marginalized students; they have yet to see themselves represented in a positive light in curricula, and are met with obstacle after obstacle when they seek to celebrate their identities. **The flying of a rainbow flag would be a clear indication of the board's willingness to change the pervasive, unquestioned culture of fear and shame in Catholic schools.**

As an alumnus, I want to add a personal story about the effect of inaction and indifference. I would be remiss to ignore that this is just one account, though I believe there are many more stories of 2SLGBTQIA+ young people who have struggled to reconcile their faith with their personhood. As a queer kid in high school, I had internalized many horrific meanings of what it meant to be queer, and gender non-conforming. I truly believed that the reason I did not see people like me represented in my school was because I was not welcome. **I believe that representation and celebration of my personhood as a queer kid would have saved me from years of internalized shame, hatred and suffering.** A belief that persists to this day, I was never given the opportunity to see myself as one of God's children.

Additionally, I want to highlight the many teachers and chaplains who threw their support behind me through various programs. Specifically, the Retreat Leadership Program at St. Mary CSS, that equipped me with the courage and opportunity to perform activism in my school. Perhaps, thinking back on it now, the opportunity to grow my skills in community with others saved my life.

Flying the rainbow flag is a significant step toward reconciling the board's historically homophobic and transphobic past. It is vital that senior leadership make space for young people to lead us towards a culture of inclusivity and compassion by lending their personal and monetary support towards student led initiatives such as this.

I look forward to seeing the celebration of our 2SLGBTQIA+ students in June with the flying of the flag and a comprehensive and intentional mandate for senior leadership to support them, now and in the future.

Sincerely,



Rae Paul (they/them/theirs)

St. Mary CSS Class of 2015

May 10, 2021

Supporting 2SLGBTQ+Students in our Catholic Schools - **Appendix 8**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my unconditional support for DCDSB students, **who are asking for their identities, existences, and experiences to be represented through the flying of the rainbow Pride Flag.** I graduated St. Mary CSS in 2015 as an out queer person. While it is sad that the rainbow Pride Flag has yet to be flown during the month of June at DCDSB head office and schools, I am far from surprised. The apathy, indifference, and outright ignorance toward 2SLGBTQIA representation in this board is outdated, careless and unlike the teachings of Jesus Christ. If it is true that this board has all students' best interests in mind, I implore DCDSB to raise the Pride Flag during the month of June. Doing so communicates the board's support for 2SLGBTQIA students' experiences and well-being. I cannot understate the role of meaningful representation for all young people.

My own experience as a queer femme at St. Mary, some of my experiences were good, but most were not. The culture of homophobia and transphobia was the unquestioned norm amongst my peers. **The pervasive erasure and condemnation of 2SLGBTQIA from the Catholic Church and the subsequent apathetic silence from DCDSB created an unsafe and outright hostile learning environment for me, and other 2SLGBTQIA students.** I refused to come out because I was afraid; of being rejected, attacked, silenced, or publicly ridiculed. I was outed and bullied by a fellow classmate in the last semester of Grade 12 via social media. In these situations, you would encourage a young person to reach out to a trusted adult; how can these youth trust in a system that perpetually condemns and erases their identities? I truly believe, that if the rainbow Pride flag had been flown during my time at St. Mary, that it could have changed the course of my Grade 12 year. **Flying the rainbow Pride Flag does not only provide representation for 2SLGBTQIA folks, but it also tells cisgender and heterosexual students that bigotry, harassment, and intolerance of 2SLGBTQIA folks will not be tolerated.**

In my time now as a Child and Youth Counsellor, I realize I was one of the lucky ones. I had many supportive teachers, an amazing chaplain, a close community of Retreat Leaders, and mental health support; even with all those things, I still struggled to make it out of that school. **I ask you, how are the unsupported, closeted and terrified 2SLGBTQIA students doing? Who is supporting them? How can they reach out when every representation of their identity is routinely suppressed and erased in the name of "Catholicism"?**

Flying the rainbow Pride Flag is a massive step toward exhibiting highly visible support, nurturance, and inclusion of 2SLGBTQIA students. It is imperative the DCDSB leadership team look beyond partisan issues, and focus solely on the wellbeing, inclusion, and success of all students, including 2SLGBTQIA students. Raise the Pride Flag.

Kindly,



Amy Mather (she/her), CYCP

St Mary C.S.S., Class of 2015

Supporting 2SLGBTQ+Students in our Catholic Schools - **Appendix 9**

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Dear Director Barill and Chair Ste. Marie,

We are writing to respectfully request that the DCDSB fly the Pride Flag for the month of June, at both the Catholic Education Centre and all Secondary schools. At this time, we are in a position to stand up and publicly declare our commitment to support everyone within our schools and the greater community who are so frequently marginalized and, even worse, persecuted, because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Across the Board, we as Principals are concerned about the data that links mental health issues, specifically the risk of death by suicide and self-harm among young people, to membership in the 2SLGBTQ+ community. We believe that to provide a truly inclusive environment for all our students, we must be a source of safety and Witness. True inclusivity means welcoming and embracing all people, as we are all created in the image of Christ.

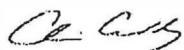
Thank you for considering this request which will allow us to further support the members of the 2SLGBTQ+ in our schools and the greater community.

Sincerely,

P. Sorhuty

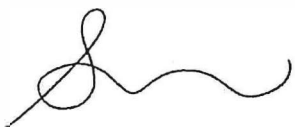
Stet





Stacey Ritchie

K. Demoré



Michelle O'Brien



J. Dr. Vizio

Subject: Flying the Pride flag at DCDSB Schools
Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 10:26:52 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Charlene Rocha (201084634)
To: Morgan Ste.Marie, Tracy Barill
CC: Barbara A Tyler, Michelle Zeenaeme, Tomy Valookaran
Attachments: Alliance for Compassion Letter for the DCDSB Board.pdf

Good morning Mr. Ste. Marie and Ms. Barill,

My name is Charlene Rocha and I'm a Grade 12 student at St. Mary C.S.S.. I also lead our school's Alliance for Compassion team. On behalf of our group, we would like to present you with the attached letter.

As a Catholic school board that promotes the Catholic Social Teachings of Promotion of Peace, Solidarity, Stewardship of Creation, Rights and Responsibilities, and Community and Common good, we recommend the DCDSB fly the rainbow flag during the month of June in support of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. This particular symbol, the rainbow flag, has been identified to represent the diverse 2SLGBTQ+ community and out of respect for their right to select representations of themselves, we recommend that this flag be displayed.

We hope that, as a school board, we are able to support the students in our school by flying the flag.

Best,

Charlene Rocha and the Alliance for Compassion team



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[DCDSB-20111209]

May 7, 2021

To the Durham Catholic District School Board,

“Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.” - John 4:7-8

God knows and has crafted every crucial part of our identity. He loves us all unconditionally for all that we are. Every student from our school board should be able to feel and understand this all-encompassing love—regardless of their identity. However, over 10% of all Canadian youth are part of the 2SLGBTQ+ community yet 86% of them have faced harassment at school. We believe it is imperative to help all students to feel safe and welcomed in their own school.

As a Catholic school board that promotes the Catholic Social Teachings of Promotion of Peace, Solidarity, Stewardship of Creation, Rights and Responsibilities, and Community and Common good, we recommend the DCDSB fly the rainbow flag during the month of June in support of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. This particular symbol, the rainbow flag, has been identified to represent the diverse 2SLGBTQ+ community and out of respect for their right to select representations of themselves, we recommend that this flag be displayed. The flag represents the progression of 2SLGBTQ+ rights and God’s promise to us as Catholics. By flying it, we are supporting the students in our board while upholding God’s proclamation of loving all his children equally.

In keeping with our commitment to support marginalized communities within our school board, we feel this action will create a greater sense of belonging and acceptance for those who self-identify as being part of a sexual or gender minority.

As Catholics, it is our duty to maintain a loving, inclusive community for all. Flying the flag will be a visual representation of our support as well as God’s love for everyone. We hope that, as a school board, we are able to support the students in our school through flying the flag.

Sincerely,

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School’s Alliance for Compassion Team

Subject: Fwd: Pride Flag Possibilities

Date: Friday, May 14, 2021 at 1:13:54 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Katherine Walker

To: Morgan Ste.Marie

CC: Tracy Barill

CAUTION - EXTERNAL EMAIL - This email comes from an external organization. Do **NOT** reply, click links (embedded links) or open attachment(s) unless you recognize the **sender email address**. Also, do **NOT** provide your username and password.

Hello Mr. Ste. Marie,

I recently sent this letter to Director Barill and in response she suggested I forward it to you so that it may be included in the report being considered on May 25th.

Thank you for your consideration,
Katie Walker

Begin forwarded message:

From: Katherine Walker <katherine.m.walker@icloud.com>

Subject: Pride Flag Possibilities

Date: May 14, 2021 at 12:30:44 PM EDT

To: tracy.barill@dcdsb.ca

Good afternoon Director Barill,

With Pride Month approaching, I have noticed that DCDSB has yet to make a public decision as to whether or not the schools within the board will fly the Pride flag. With other Catholic school boards already having announced their plans, I am writing this letter to appeal to the DCDSB to follow TCDSB's lead.

My name is Katie Walker and I am a senior student at Father Leo J. Austin CSS. As part of the student body, I believe that it is important for the school board to demonstrate their support of staff members and students who are part of the LGBTQ+ community. Students can have a particularly difficult time finding allies within their peers, teachers, and families, and a symbol as strong as this flag would help to communicate that they are truly accepted and valued.

As a member of my school's Mental Health Club, I know how vital peer and staff support can be. During the Elementary and Secondary School period of a student's life, they start to learn more about themselves; this can be scary if they are not sure where or if they are accepted. Familial support systems can be rare for queer people so it is important that their school offer them a safe space in which they know they are loved and accepted. Flying the Pride flag would be a very impactful show of this support.

In section 5.1.1 of DCDSB's Flying and Displaying Flags policy, it states that "flags are symbolic of our values as a society". Durham Catholic students have always been taught to love everyone, no matter our differences. A person's sexuality is a key part of their identity and should be no particular exception. Flying the Pride flag during the month of June would be a great way to demonstrate this fundamental teaching.

Last June, DCDSB released a statement in support of Pride Month and the importance of valuing and respecting every member of our community. If that sentiment was sincere, then this year it is critical to fly the Pride flag as a strong visual representation of that support.

Thank you for your consideration, I know it would mean a great deal to many LGBTQ+ members and their allies within DCDSB.

Katie

Supporting 2SLGBTQ+Students in our Catholic Schools - **Appendix 12**

Durham Catholic District School Board
650 Rossland Rd. W
Oshawa, ON, L1J 7C4

May 14, 2021

Dear Chair Ste. Marie,

We wish to address you and the Board of Trustees at this time compelled by the Gospel of Jesus Christ who preaches compassion, love of neighbour and the imperative to minister to the marginalized.

The undersigned Chaplains recommend that the DCDSB fly the rainbow flag during the month of June in support of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. In keeping with our commitment to support marginalized communities within our school board, we feel this action will create a greater sense of belonging and acceptance for those who self-identify as being part of a sexual or gender minority.

This particular symbol, the rainbow flag, has been identified to represent the diverse 2SLGBTQ+ community and out of respect for their right to select representations of themselves, we recommend that this image, and this image alone, be displayed.

In addition, we recommend the DCDSB provide an intentional statement and resources to inform and equip staff and students with the appropriate knowledge that would educate our communities about the decision to fly the rainbow flag.

Lastly, in the spirit of equity, we hope that every effort will be made to ensure that all other groups will be given similar consideration.

In Christ,

DAVID DUBOWITS, Chaplain of Monsignor Paul Dwyer CHS
KATHERINE MUSTACHI, Senior Manager of Faith Formation DCDSB
KELLY STEPHEN, Chaplain of Monsignor John Pereyma CSS
TOMY VALOOKARAN, Chaplain of St. Mary CSS

Subject: Equity, inclusivity and acceptance of our LGBTQ+ community members
Date: Monday, May 17, 2021 at 10:48:13 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Antonio Morra
To: Tracy Barill, Morgan Ste.Marie

Dear Durham Catholic District School Board Executive,

I am writing this letter to pledge my support for DCDSB to proudly fly the rainbow flag at their schools over the month of June for Pride. Due to the lockdown and remote learning, I would I also recommend changing the colors of the school logos and DCDSB logo into rainbow colors on our websites for the month of June.

Personally, I believe that publicly supporting our LGBTQ+ youth by flying the flag is just one small thing we can do to let them know that they are loved, valued and accepted. I think that it is important that we overtly show this support. Many LGBTQ+ youth have struggled with feelings of shame, self-hatred and guilt that has effected their overall mental health and has impacted their relationship with others. These feelings are due to external factors that have continuously been thrustured onto them that imply, both directly and indirectly, that they are not normal, they don't belong, and that they are not valued. This is damaging and does not reflect the teaching of Christ in that we should love others as ourselves. The time is now to make the changes we wish to see in our community. I pray that you will do the right thing and publicly announce your support of our LGBTQ+ youth, staff and community members.

respectfully,

Antonio Morra



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[DCDSB-20111209]

Morgan Ste. Marie
Chair, Board of Trustees
Durham Catholic District School Board

Dear Mr. Ste. Marie,

On behalf of St. Mary's Catholic School Council, we are writing to lend our support to the current petition, led by our students from our Alliance for Compassion Team, to allow the Pride Flag to be displayed at schools within our board during the month of June.

As a parent council we believe that **ALL** students within our schools deserve respect and to be supported, included and accepted, as defined by our Catholic school values. Our 2SLGBTQ+ students deserve to have symbols of representation that they identify with and make them feel recognized and included. The Pride Flag is a symbol that will show our community support for our 2SLGBTQ+ students, allies and their families.

Our students have also been writing letters in support of this petition. We would like to share a quote from their letter that we feel is very powerful and that calls on all of us as Catholics to come together and put the well-being, health and safety of our students before all else.

"As Catholics, it is our duty to maintain a loving, inclusive community for all. Flying the flag will be a visual representation of our support as well as God's love for everyone.... By flying it, we are supporting the students in our board while upholding God's proclamation of loving all his children equally."

As parents and educators, we need to set a positive example for our children and show them that we are all equal and deserving of support, love and acceptance.

We urge the Board to recognize the needs of our 2SLGBTQ+ students and acknowledge their voices, which deserve to be heard. Help ensure they feel welcomed within our schools and have a strong sense of belonging within our community. As we all are managing through the pandemic and trying to ensure all our students are feeling safe and supported, it is more important now than ever, to recognize the needs of the 2SLGBTQ+ students and do everything we can to show them they are a valued part of our community.

Thank you in advance for your support of this request, which will have a positive long-lasting impact on our 2SLGBTQ+ student community. We look forward to seeing the Pride Flag flying proudly at our schools this June!



Yours truly,

Beatrice Povolito
Chair, Catholic School Council
St. Mary CSS

Supporting 2SLGBTQ+Students in our Catholic Schools - **Appendix 15**

To Whom It May Concern,

The argument being considered here today by the Durham Catholic District School Board of raising a rainbow flag for Pride Month can be summarized in a single question, and it's not a difficult one or one requiring education or study of anything other than one's own heart and beliefs – and it is this: Is the biggest problem facing society today a surplus of love, or a lack of it?

It's a common concept in psychological theory that the opposite of love isn't hate, it's apathy. It's the indifference to human suffering that does the most damage, and in the most insidious of ways, because 'doing nothing' is the crime and therefore unpunishable. There is no such thing as a neutral position in a child's eyes. If you were to tell a first grader that you didn't stop someone from hurting them because you didn't engage in political or religious matters, you would quickly realize there was no explaining away your actions, or inactions as they might be. Indeed, inaction is a form of action and should therefore be assigned just as much blame.

Doing nothing or not taking a stance tells these children they don't belong, can't belong, are tainted, inherently bad or sinful and are a lesser class of people than anyone else. Similarly, doing nothing tells cisgender students the same thing. Both groups are harmed by this inaction.

The Bible does actually list which people Jesus thought were worth dying for, and even without looking it up, I believe I can quote exactly "For God so loved the World that He gave His only begotten Son." Not, "For God so loved the heterosexual, cisgender..." If He loved the World, including minorities and stigmatized groups and the LGBTQIA+, enough to give His Son, should we not show them the respect befitting that sacrifice? What would or could ever make us think otherwise unless we've stopped listening to God and His teachings?

The DCDSB website states that they are "Guided by the teachings of Jesus and committed to Excellence, Equity and New Evangelization".

The universally accepted foremost teaching of Jesus is to 'love one another as thyself', and there is little to suggest there is 'excellence' in teaching this, if THIS, this letter, this issue is even an issue in the first place. If the mission is to evangelize, then behaviour and words that infer God is NOT for everyone is a pretty poor method of evangelization. And I don't mention 'equity' because there is little to mention without affirmative action. Flying a rainbow flag does not mean a month long LGBTQIA+ recruiting campaign, as many fear will be the case. It signals that this (the school) is a safe place and a welcoming one. There aren't flags for heterosexual, cisgender students because they aren't necessary – all spaces are safe for them, and they don't have to fear entering them. Making any child, or person, feel as though they are not welcome in a school, especially a Catholic one who places precedence on morality, or God forbid, (literally) a Church is perhaps the least Christian act there is and instead promotes a hypocritical dichotomy of beliefs and an atmosphere of anti-evangelization.

Show these kids and this community they are loved by the same God the Catholic Church claims to love and serve. As a St. Mary's alumni, I spent four years being told my mission and purpose was '**Amare et Servire**' (To Love and to Serve). Let's practice what we preach and engrave on the walls meant to protect all students. Jesus lived to set an example. His example was love, and ours should follow.

Yours Sincerely, Holly Foord (St. Mary, 2011)



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees

From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education

Date: May 25, 2021

Subject: **2021/2022 Budget Update**

Origin: Ryan Putnam, Superintendent of Business & CFO

Recommendation

Moved by , seconded by

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as information the 2021/2022 Budget Update report dated May 25, 2021.”

Rationale

The following is an update since the last Finance Committee meeting in April 2021:

- The Ministry has provided Boards with the necessary funding information for 2021-22
- A September planning memo has been provided by the Ministry of Education outlining possible scenarios;
- Boards have been instructed to plan for either full or partial return, with further instructions to be provided by the Ministry of Education during the summer closer to reopening;
- Staffing processes continue in relation to collective agreement timelines;
- Finance staff are in the midst of completing the Ministry funding package;
- Stakeholder input has been sought by way of ThoughtExchange (to date over 100 staff and 500 parents have participated and provided input);
- Administrative Council continues to refine the budget based on Ministry direction, the Board's Multi-year Strategic planning priorities and stakeholder input;
- Staff is in the process of drafting the budget booklet for approval in June;
- Topics for the May 31st Finance Committee meeting to include an overview of the Ministry Funding announcements, updated overall financial position, planned expenditures and a review of stakeholder input received for consideration.

TB/RP:dm



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees

From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education

Date: May 25, 2021

Subject: **2021/2022 School Year Calendars**

Origin: Ryan Putnam, Superintendent of Business & CFO

Recommendation

Moved by , seconded by

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive as information the proposed 2021/2022 School Year Calendars.”

Moved by , seconded by

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board approve the 2021/2022 School Year Calendars for elementary and secondary schools, subject to final approval by the Ministry of Education.”

Rationale

Staff is recommending the attached calendars for elementary and secondary schools for the upcoming 2021/2022 school year. The proposed calendars are based on input received from Administrative Council and system stakeholders. The calendars are compliant with legislative requirements as outlined by the Ministry of Education.

Of note two PA days have been assigned prior to the start of school in preparation for staff and student return. In addition, exam days have not yet been assigned in the Secondary calendar due to the possibility of quadesters as well as the evolution of assessment and evaluation practices (such as culminating tasks versus formal exams) which requires further discussion and consideration.

TB/RP:dm
Attachments

DURHAM CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS - 2021/2022 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Legend

H	Statutory Holiday Schedule	P	Professional Activity Day	B	Board Designated Holiday
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Month	Number of Instructional Days	Number of Professional Days	1st Week					2nd Week					3rd Week					4th Week					5th Week				
			M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
August	0	0	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31			
September	18	2			1 P	2 P	3 B	6 H	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	
October	19	1					1	4	5	6	7	8 P	11 H	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
November	21	1	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12 P	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30			
December	13	0			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20 B	21 B	22 B	23 B	24 B	27 B	28 B	29 B	30 B	31 B
January	20	1	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13	14	17	18	19	20	21 P	24	25	26	27	28	31				
February	19	0		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18	21 H	22	23	24	25	28				
March	17	0		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11 B	14 B	15 B	16 B	17 B	18 B	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31	
April	19	0					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15 H	18 H	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
May	21	0	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23 H	24	25	26	27	30	31			
June	20	2			1	2	3 P	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30 P	
TOTAL	187	7																									

DURHAM CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SECONDARY SCHOOLS - 2021/2022 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Legend

H	Statutory Holiday Schedule	P	Professional Activity Day	B	Board Designated Holiday
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Month	Number of Instructional Days	Number of Professional Days	1st Week					2nd Week					3rd Week					4th Week					5th Week				
			M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
August	0	0	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23	24	25	26	27	30	31			
September	18	2			1 P	2 P	3 B	6 H	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29	30	
October	19	1					1	4	5	6	7	8 P	11 H	12	13	14	15	18	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
November	21	1	1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	11	12 P	15	16	17	18	19	22	23	24	25	26	29	30			
December	13	0			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20 B	21 B	22 B	23 B	24 B	27 B	28 B	29 B	30 B	31 B
January	21	0	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13		17	18	19	20	21	24	25	26	27	28	31				
February	18	1		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11	14	15	16	17	18 P	21 H	22	23	24	25	28				
March	17	0		1	2	3	4	7	8	9	10	11 B	14 B	15 B	16 B	17 B	18 B	21	22	23	24	25	28	29	30	31	
April	19	0					1	4	5	6	7	8	11	12	13	14	15 H	18 H	19	20	21	22	25	26	27	28	29
May	21	0	2	3	4	5	6	9	10	11	12	13	16	17	18	19	20	23 H	24	25	26	27	30	31			
June	20	2			1	2	3	6	7	8	9	10	13	14	15	16	17	20	21	22	23	24	27	28	29 P	30 P	
TOTAL	187	7																									



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees

From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education

Date: May 25, 2021

Subject: **Brooklin French Immersion Transition Report for May 25, 2021**

Origin: Gerard Winn, Superintendent of Education, Whitby Family of Schools
Mariah O'Reilly, Superintendent of Education, Academic Services
Mike O'Neill, Superintendent of Human Resources
Scott Grieve, Superintendent of Facilities Services
Ryan Putnam, Superintendent of Business

Recommendation

Moved by _____, seconded by _____

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file the Brooklin French Immersion Transition Report for May 25, 2021”

Rationale

As a follow up to the motions approved by the Durham Catholic District School Board of Trustees on Monday, December 14, 2020, regarding the consolidation of the French Immersion program in Brooklin, updates will be provided to the Board of Trustees throughout the transition process.

Update – Transition Process

Parent/guardian representatives from St. John Paul II Catholic School have participated in two of the St. Leo Catholic School Council meetings to assist with the transition process. Additional invitations, updates and information will be shared with parent/guardians as the new school year approaches.

Students from St. Leo Catholic School have been involved in creating videos with the intent to welcome students transitioning from St. John Paul and share how excited they are to have them join their school community in September. Videos were grouped, organized by division and shared with primary and junior teachers at St. John Paul II. An additional welcome video will be distributed to the St. John Paul II school community

Memorandum | Page 2 of 2

Re: Brooklin French Immersion Transition Report for May 25, 2021

near the end of this month. As well, the May transition newsletter for students and parents/guardians of St. John Paul II will highlight classroom tours of St. Leo.

Looking ahead to June, the French Immersion (FI) consultant from Academic Services will be collaborating with administration and FI teachers at both schools to plan and implement additional shared activities to support the transition process. School communities will continue to receive monthly communication newsletters with updates and information throughout the transition process. As well, Human Resources will work with union affiliates and school administration in the coming weeks and months to finalize staffing.

TB:GW:MO:MO:SG:RP:II



Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees
From: Tracy Barill, Director of Education
Date: May 25, 2021
Subject: **Correspondence**

Recommendation

Moved by , seconded by

“THAT the Durham Catholic District School Board receive and file as information the following correspondence:

- Letter to His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins dated May 14, 2021 regarding June Devotion to the Sacred Heart.”

Rationale

As attached.

TB:eb

Attachment: Letter dated May 14, 2021



May 14, 2021

His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins
Archdiocese of Toronto
Catholic Pastoral Centre
1155 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario, M4T 1W2

Your Eminence:

Thank you for your letter of March 23, 2021 entreating the Catholic Community and most specifically the Catholic School Boards in the Archdiocese of Toronto to engage in a special Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus during the month of June.

The insights and knowledge you shared through your pastoral letter, Heart Speaks to Heart, provided thoughtful inspiration on “the sacrificial and compassionate love of Christ” revealed to us through His Sacred Heart.

In response to your invitation, our staff have been working to create a Board-wide plan to encourage all members of the Durham Catholic District School Board community to join in this spiritual devotion.

Hosted by the Faith Formation department, we will continue our system-wide weekly gathering of virtual ‘Together In Prayer’. For the month of June, we will inspire a greater devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as we pray the Sacred Heart Chaplet; offer live Adoration with the help of one of our local parishes (St. Isaac Jogues); Taizé prayer also with the support from a local parish (Holy Family) and Christian guided meditation on the Sacred Heart.

Our educators will also be provided with additional resources to celebrate this devotion at the classroom level through activities, prayers and reflections from our Religion and Family Life Academic Services consultant.

Throughout the month we will work with our Communications Department to share this prayerful message with our families and broader community.

We thank you for inspiring our community during these challenging times to join in dedication and reflection on the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Sincerely,

Morgan Ste. Marie
Chair of the Board

Tracy Barill
Director of Education

cc: His Excellency Bishop Vincent Nguyen

Closing Prayer

Dear Lord, students, staff, and our board's community will soon begin the final month of school for this academic year. As we enter this new chapter, may we continue to bring you along with us in our hearts. May we continue to honour you, praise you, look to you in times of trouble, and thank you in times of joy.

Amen