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Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board



School Plan for Sustained and Continuous Improvement 2008 - 2010

St. Benedict School
345 Blind Line, Orangeville

<http://www.dpcdsb.org/ST.BENEDICT>

Faith, Family and Future

We, the teachers of St. Benedict Catholic Elementary School believe that each individual is a unique gift from God. We celebrate spirituality and diversity through achieving, believing and community living in an inclusive Catholic environment. Our mission is to ensure our students receive a Catholic education that is rich in both academic excellence and Christian values.

We, in partnership with the parents, our parish community, our trustee and our board officials, are dedicated to our children's spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social and physical development in a secure, warm and welcoming environment. Working together, we can be successful in developing the maximum potential of each child. It is our goal to encourage our children to acquire the values, beliefs, and knowledge to become valued contributors to our society.

Our School Profile

St. Benedict School is a Catholic Elementary School with a present enrolment of 453 students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8. Our school population draws from a geographic area that covers approximately 1400 square kilometres. The majority of our students travel to and from school by bus from both town and rural settings. The St. Benedict staff is a dedicated, enthusiastic, co-operative team who constantly strive to meet the physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual needs of our students.

Teachers provide balanced literacy programs designed to meet the expectations recommended by the Ministry of Education and the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board. The school's Mathematics program addresses the standards that are outlined in the Ontario Curriculum for Mathematics. Student interests and excellence are further enhanced by the use of technology based instruction.

The curriculum also includes opportunities for students to participate in liturgies, sports, drama, clubs, choirs, talent shows, concerts, dances, French Cafes and Charity events. A weekly award known as "The Raven of the Week" acknowledges students from each class for exceptional academic achievement and/or Christian behaviour.

Our students come to us with a variety of strengths and needs, with their Catholic *faith* as their common bond. Our prayer life, liturgical celebrations, the sacraments, and our *faith* and values system form the foundation of our school program. We offer students a well-rounded and value-centred education to help them make good choices for the future. The curriculum planned and provided in the school is broad, balanced and relevant to the needs and aspirations of all our students. A wide range of subjects and learning experiences are offered to develop the skills, abilities and talents of individual students. To ensure coherence and wholeness, subjects are taught against the background of *The Ontario Curriculum*, the Gospel values of Jesus Christ and sound educational practices

Measures of Student Achievement and Success

All students in the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board schools are provided with the same opportunities to learn, to grow and to achieve their potential. Assessment results ensure that schools, parents and other stakeholders in our communities have access to high-quality information needed to make informed judgments and effective educational decisions. Schools continuously collect assessment data on student learning to plan for student growth. Teachers assess knowledge, skills and strategies on an ongoing basis. Regular assessments, both classroom and large scale, allow teachers to determine the effectiveness of their instruction, assess student learning, and make informed decisions about how to organize and pace instruction.

Provincial Measures of Student Achievement

The Primary and Junior EQAO assessments of reading, writing and mathematics are conducted annually by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) in every publicly funded elementary school in Ontario. The assessments are based on *The Ontario Curriculum* and measure how well students know, understand and apply their skills and knowledge in reading, writing and mathematics. At the secondary level, the Grade 9 EQAO assessment of mathematics is administered at the close of each semester (or at the end of the year in non-semestered schools) each year to measure Grade 9 student achievement of mathematics expectations in *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9 and 10: Mathematics, 2005 (Revised)*. In addition, EQAO conducts the annual Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) each March. Successful completion of this test (or the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course) is one of the 32 graduation requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

The provincial assessments provide a ‘snapshot’ of how well students are learning what is expected of them in the curriculum at specific points in time. The assessments complement local school data and can help identify ways to influence instruction and other practices to help students learn more effectively and efficiently. Students’ work is assessed according to curriculum expectations and using a four-level assessment scale that reflects the four achievement levels in *The Ontario Curriculum*. Level 3 on the assessment scale represents the provincial standard and identifies a high level of achievement of the provincial expectations. The results from the assessments are used by boards and schools to improve learning and teaching and not for ranking schools. **Ranking of schools is inappropriate and could result in misleading comparisons, which may ignore the unique conditions that affect student achievement and prevent schools and the board from addressing the critical issue of improving learning for all students.**

School, Board and Provincial Achievement Results: 2007 - 2008

Our results for this year were lower than previous years. Teachers will be working in grade level learning teams to review all assessment information available and will be developing instructional pathways to address areas in need of improvement especially writing at the grade 3 level.

Percent of students, enrolled in the grade (Method 1), who scored at and above the provincial standard (Levels 3 & 4):

	Reading (All Students) Levels 3,4	Writing (All Students) Levels 3,4	Mathematics (All Students) Levels 3,4
Grade 3 ('07-'08)			
School	55%	47%	66%
Board	65%	71%	68%
Province	71%	66%	68%
Grade 6 ('07-'08)			
School	58%	65%	53%
Board	70%	72%	62%
Province	66%	67%	60%

School Plan for Sustained and Continuous Improvement 2008 - 2010
Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
Planning for Sustained and Continuous Improvement

System Goals	Actions for Implementation	Indicators of Success	Monitor and Review for Success	
			Evidence from Monitoring and Review Cycles	Completion Date / Next Steps
<p style="text-align: center;">Catholicity</p> <p><i>The goal of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic community is to enhance the faith formation of all community members (staff, student, trustees, parents) by strengthening the partnership of home, parish and school.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase opportunities for students and staff to learn more about and experience social justice, service, and stewardship of the earth. 	<p style="color: red;">Begin to offer students the opportunity to be involved in social justice and environmental projects through our “Build A Better World Club”</p> <p style="color: red;">Continue to offer students the opportunity to live out their faith on a daily basis through prayer, liturgies, masses, works of charity etc</p> <p style="color: red;">Support Faith Ambassadors in school faith related activities.</p> <p style="color: red;">Support Virtues Program with monthly liturgies and daily announcements</p>	<p>Student involvement in social justice projects in the school such as food drives, Dare greeting Cards, International Peace Posters etc</p>	<p>Monitor number of students involved</p>	<p>June 2009</p> <p>Next year attempt new and expanded projects</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Community Development</p> <p><i>The goal of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic community is to strengthen community relationships in an effort to sustain confidence in our commitment to improving support for student learning.</i></p> <p style="background-color: yellow;">• Increase awareness and build system-wide capacity towards the development of a comprehensive</p>	<p style="color: red;">Establish Bullying Prevention Committee</p>	<p>Reduced number of conflicts</p> <p>Increased student sense of safety</p>	<p>Informal feedback</p> <p>suspension data / incident tracking data</p>	<p>Ongoing 08 – 09</p> <p>Review Survey results in Spring of 09</p>

School Plan for Sustained and Continuous Improvement 2008 - 2010

<p>whole-school approach to violence and bullying prevention, and progressive discipline within our Catholic faith perspective.</p>	<p>Support Peer Mediator Program Support Family Transition Place presentations and workshops for Junior and Intermediate divisions</p>		<p>Safe Schools Survey</p>	
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Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
Planning for Sustained and Continuous Improvement

System Goals	Actions for Implementation	Indicators of Success	Monitor and Review for Success	
			Evidence from Monitoring and Review Cycles	Completion Date / Next Steps
<p>Excellence in Student Achievement</p> <p><i>The goal of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic community, within the context of the Catholic Graduate Expectations, is to continue to establish and nurture the conditions needed to advance high levels of student achievement, and narrow the gap in student achievement so that all students can grow in their journey to know God and ultimately transform the world around them.</i></p> <p>• Expand and deepen the implementation of high quality literacy and numeracy practices and achievement in all schools in order to contribute to the development of the whole child.</p>	<p>Continue to support and improve efficiency of grade level learning teams through implementation of our school instructional pathway Continue to support work of ELSAT in the school</p>	<p>High level of collaboration between grade level teachers in goal setting</p> <p>Continuous improvement in areas identified in SMART Goals</p>	<p>Improvement in CASI/PM scores Improvement in Report card outcomes Improved EQAO scores</p>	<p><i>On going 4-6 week blocks Continuous review, refine replan</i></p>

<p>Financial Accountability and Transparency</p> <p><i>The goal of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic community is to continue to comply with board policies and best practices in the areas of fiscal responsibility, accountability, and transparency.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a balanced and sustainable budget to balance student achievement with fiscal prudence within the Catholic stewardship context. 	<p>Ensure that the school budget is aligned to system/school goals vis-à-vis improved student achievement</p>	<p>Budget allocation will align with school priorities for student achievement Appropriate resources will be available to staff</p>	<p>Use i-Ren reports to monitor and track school budgets</p>	<p>September 2008 May 2009</p>
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<p>Student Enrolment Impact</p> <p><i>The goal of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic community is to develop proactive strategies to address the impact of changes in student enrolment and its impact on staff, students, and our Catholic community through all practices of the Board including Human Resources, Employee Relations, Budget, Planning, Etc., in a manner that will ensure sustainable balanced budgets in the future.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closely monitor historical enrolment trends and use up-to-date assumptions in the development of enrolment projections. 	<p>Ensure accurate reporting of student enrolments through the electronic register (e.g. following Ministry guidelines)</p>	<p>Electronic registers reflect accurate classroom enrolments</p> <p><i>“Each one called by name.”</i> Isaiah 43:1</p>	<p>Enrolment registers align with Ministry guidelines</p>	<p>Monthly</p>
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This sheet may be used by schools that choose to develop additional goals.

System Goal:	INSERT SYSTEM GOAL CHOICE HERE			
School Goal	Actions for Implementation	Indicators of Success	Data from Monitoring and Review Cycles	Completion Date / Next Steps

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School Goal	Actions for Implementation	Indicators of Success	Data from Monitoring and Review Cycles	Completion Date / Next Steps