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**Regional Secondary
Schools**
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John Kostoff

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Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board



School Plan for Sustained and Continuous Improvement 2008 - 2010

Our Lady of Peace School
15 Fincham Avenue
Brampton, ON
L6X 3V2

<http://www.dpcdsb.org/OLPCE>



Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds

Mission Statement

Open Doors: We feel accepting warmth. We hear laughter. We see joy and awe. We recognize a secure Environment. We speak prayers of welcome.

Open Hearts: We feel a loving spirit. We hear equality in God's message. We see togetherness. We recognize unity in diversity. We speak prayers of compassion.

Open Minds: We feel challenge. We hear the voice of all. We see the benefits of life-long learning. We recognize creative independence. We speak prayers of community.

We are "Our Lady of Peace".

Our School Profile

Our Lady of Peace School is an elementary school of approximately 454 students, from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8. Most of the surrounding community consists of single-family dwelling homes situated on the west side of Brampton. Our school is equipped with a large playground area, a double gym, a stage and a library, which includes a computer lab. The YMCA Day-care is also in our building. Our students come to us with a variety of backgrounds, experiences, strengths and needs, with their Catholic *faith* as our common bond. Our prayer life, liturgical celebrations, the Sacraments, and our *faith* and values system form the foundation of our school program.

At Our Lady of Peace School, we are committed to Catholic education as outlined in the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and School Mission statements. In collaboration with the Parish and the parent community, the school strives to develop the spiritual, religious, moral, academic and physical needs of students, in accordance with the teachings of the Church. Our Lady of Peace School is a caring school and community environment that stresses tolerance and acceptance of others, commitment to our Catholic faith and high academic standards. It is a learning environment where models of Gospel values and Catholic doctrines, teachings and beliefs are an integral part of the daily life of the school. The school motto: "Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds" reflects a loving compassionate atmosphere of togetherness, diversity, challenge, creativity and life-long learning, where religion and daily life are intertwined.

All activities at Our Lady of Peace, academic and pastoral work, extracurricular and intra-curricular activities, prayer, worship, administration and management help to prepare our students for their lives as Catholics in the community. At Our Lady of Peace, we are proud of our balanced religion, academic, arts, technology and athletics program. We offer students a well-rounded and value-centered 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 of our students. A wide range of subjects and learning experiences are offered to develop the skills, abilities and talents of individual students. Accordingly, appropriate assessment procedures are employed regularly to motivate and encourage student success. 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.

We are proud of our dedicated staff members who consistently work hard to serve the best interests of our students. The continued support and co-operation received from our parents/guardians, School Council and Parish Team help to enhance the quality of Catholic Education provided at Our Lady of Peace School.

We are also proud of our students, who are encouraged to be Ambassadors for Christ through their active demonstration of the Virtues. They are also encouraged to succeed in school, co-operate with school rules and treat one another with respect and dignity.

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

SAMPLE: School results on the EQAO Grades 3 & 6 reading assessments indicate that the school-wide emphasis on reading has produced a marked improvement in our students’ reading and mathematical skills. Our Grades 3 and 6 results in reading and mathematics have exceeded the results from the previous year. Our writing results show some improvement from the previous year but suggest that there is room for improvement.

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	60%	74%	68%
Board	65%	71%	68%
Province	61%	66%	68%
Grade 6 ('07-'08)			
School	76%	58%	41%
Board	70%	72%	62%
Province	66%	67%	61%

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>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"> • Review board-wide and school expenditures in the area of Religious Education and faith formation during the 2008-2009 budget year, to determine the average budget commitment and make recommendations for future annual budget commitments commencing in 2009-2010. • Create and implement a Catholic Community Study Unit for elementary and secondary schools. • Increase opportunities for students and staff to learn more about and experience social justice, service, and stewardship of the earth. • Recognizing the Catholic call to be stewards of the earth, to be champions of social justice, to make ethical decisions and to care for one another, the Dufferin-Peel community will work to develop a sustainability committee that will review best practices for design of new schools, sustainability and recycling 	<p>Support and deepen each person’s capacity to witness their Catholic faith through participation in daily prayer and other faith-based activities.</p> <p>Identify and witness each person’s role in shaping a Safe, Caring, Inclusive and Healthy school and community.</p> <p>Encourage students to participate in social justice opportunities and to be more cognizant of the world around them.</p> <p>Ensure that virtues education continues to permeate our school community.</p> <p>Increase collection of books that support our Catholic faith as well as diversity.</p>	<p>Staff and students continue to participate fully in all aspects of the Mass (e.g. school Masses for Thanksgiving, the school’s 20th anniversary celebration, Advent, Easter and End of the Year).</p> <p>Continue the Youth Faith Ambassador program begun in the previous school year.</p> <p>Staff will continue to model Gospel values in all aspects of school life.</p> <p>Frequent circulation of faith-related books.</p> <p>Increased number of volunteers</p>	<p>Parish priest is supportive of our efforts to encourage adult attendance at Masses.</p> <p>School Council embraces opportunities for liturgy at regular monthly meetings.</p> <p>Students and parents are appreciative of the Student Recognition Program which is now in its 7th Year.</p> <p>Informal feedback from parents.</p> <p>More formal feedback from staff and students.</p>	<p>On-going.</p> <p>Monitor and increase allocation of funds yearly as necessary and when available.</p>

School Plan for Sustained and Continuous Improvement 2008 - 2010

<p>programs and targets and an integrated curriculum approach that will assist all in our community in working towards greener schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and integrate faith stories and teachings (all staff within their roles as Catholic educators), in order to provide a Catholic perspective across the system. • Expand work on equity and diversity by focusing on hiring and promotion practices, professional and staff development, and curriculum development and learning resources, so that all feel valued as part of the fabric of our diverse community. • Continue to nurture relationships between school and parish teams, and school and home. 	<p>Encourage volunteers of diverse backgrounds.</p>	<p>school-wide.</p>		
<p>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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to focus on Catholic professional learning communities. • Enhance opportunities for communication and collaboration with all community partners. • Increase awareness and build system-wide capacity towards the development of a comprehensive whole-school approach to violence and bullying prevention, and progressive discipline within our Catholic faith perspective. 	<p>Continue Youth Faith Ambassador program and Peacekeepers program.</p> <p>Facilitate community service hours for grade 8 students.</p> <p>Begin a Circle of Friends program to support two new special needs students.</p>	<p>Students at all grade levels more ready to utilize skills of the Peacekeepers.</p> <p>PALS and Circle of Friends up and running</p>	<p>Feedback from staff, CYW, Social worker and students.</p> <p>Enlist help of School Council in conducting a survey on bullying.</p> <p>Apply for a PRO Grant.</p>	<p>On-going throughout the school year.</p>

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<p>and specialized programs including Extended French, French Immersion, and International Baccalaureate programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop electronic resources to support teachers of combined grades that reflect curriculum expectations, differentiated instructional strategies, and planning for assessment and reporting. • Enhance effective transition plans for students entering Dufferin-Peel and moving from elementary to secondary, and for students leaving secondary to community work place and post secondary institutions, with a particular focus on helping students with At-Risk factors. • Enhance the continuous cycle of assessment for learning and intervention planning within a multi-disciplinary team process. • Implement Ministry initiatives relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ongoing curriculum review -Ministry Policies (e.g. ELL, - Aboriginal Policy Framework, Safe Schools) -Special Education -Literacy / Numeracy Secretariat -Student Success/Learning to 18 -Alternative Education / Continuing and Adult Education <p>ensuring the distinctiveness of Catholic education is explicitly</p>	<p>Meet with Spec Ed team from Secondary feeder school to share information regarding At-Risk students</p>	<p>Annual meetings take place at local school involving teams from both Our Lady of Peace and Secondary School</p>	<p>Feedback from Secondary School and Spec Ed Contact in June of current year and Sept of new year.</p>	<p>Review process at first team meeting of new school year</p>
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<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. • Develop a financial support tool (Finance Department), that will identify best practices to ensure financial accountability and transparency at the system and school level, including compliance with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Board Policy -Audit Recommendations -General Administrative Procedures • Provide in-service sessions related to the finance support tool for administrators and support staff. 	<p>Continue to closely monitor spending as it relates to literacy and numeracy.</p> <p>Administrators to attend in-service sessions related to the finance support tool.</p>	<p>Budget allocations aligned with school priorities i.e. literacy and numeracy.</p>	<p>Continued use of i-Ren to monitor school budget.</p>	<p>September 2008 – June 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"> • Develop labour relations and human resources strategies that will minimize the impact of fluctuations in enrolment. • Closely monitor historical enrolment trends and use up-to-date assumptions in the development of enrolment projections. 	<p>SAMPLE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure accurate reporting of student enrolments through the electronic register (e.g. following Ministry guidelines) <p>Continue to monitor and review purchasing of core resources so as not to over-purchase materials already in storage.</p>	<p>SAMPLE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Electronic registers reflect accurate classroom enrolments <p>Use registers to review classroom enrolments.</p> <p>Ensure that Litster form submitted monthly is also accurate.</p>	<p>SAMPLE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enrolment registers align with Ministry guidelines <p>Close review of projected enrolment as advised by Planning Department as applicable.</p>	<p>SAMPLE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly <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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