

**Holy Spirit Catholic
School**

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Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board



School Plan for Sustained and Continuous Improvement 2008 - 2010

Holy Spirit Catholic School

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Brampton, Ontario L6P 1W9

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



Teaching for The Father Inspired by The Son Guided by The Holy Spirit

Mission Statement

We, the community of Holy Spirit Catholic School, in partnership with the students, parents and the Catholic Church, are dedicated to fostering the development of each child in the fullness and likeness of God.

We offer each student the opportunity to develop individual talents in a welcoming and safe environment. We will prepare our students to meet the challenges of the future and empower them to help others.

Teaching for The Father, Inspired by The Son, Guided by The Holy Spirit.

Our School Profile

On September 6, 2005, Holy Spirit Catholic Elementary School opened its doors for the first time to approximately 570 students. It was a wonderful school opening for the entire Holy Spirit community marked by a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The opening was celebrated by students, parents, staff and many guests with special words of best wishes from board officials and the school trustee. Since this first day of school, the Holy Spirit School Community has continued to come together in prayer and celebration-together we have done much during our first year, thanks to the support of our parent volunteers, the parent community, the students and the staff. This is our fourth year (the 2007-2008 school year) and we have grown to 800 students.

As a school we are committed to offering each student the opportunity to develop their individual talents in a welcoming and safe environment. **Teaching for the Father, Inspired by the Son, Guided by the Holy Spirit**, we, the community of Holy Spirit Catholic School, are dedicated to fostering the development of each child in fullness and likeness of God.

The administration of Holy Spirit Catholic School is very proud not only of the physical structure of the building, but more importantly of the individuals that have come together to make this building a community of loving and caring individuals.

At Holy Spirit School our commitment to academic excellence is a shared responsibility. As a Staff and School Council, we work hard bringing together students, parents, teachers, pastoral team, trustees and other partners to form a Catholic community in the service of the spiritual, intellectual, physical and emotional needs of students in our care.

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. The curriculum 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. Accordingly, appropriate assessment procedures are employed regularly to motivate and encourage student success. To ensure coherence and wholeness, subjects are taught within the context of *The Ontario Curriculum*, Gospel values 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

School results on the EQAO Grades 3 & 6 assessments indicate that there was a decline from the previous year in all areas. Our emphasis will continue to focus on improving student achievement.

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	62%	66%	61%
Board	65%	71%	68%
Province	61%	66%	68%
Grade 6 ('07-'08)			
School	62%	71%	45%
Board	70%	72%	62%
Province	66%	67%	61%

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> <p>• 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster student spiritual development within the image of Christ through the celebration of liturgies with students, pariah, and school community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent and pastoral staff involvement and attendance celebrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal feedback from: pastoral team, parents, school council, staff, and students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2009 • Ongoing feedback will inform the school's planning for next steps
<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>• 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement PALS / Circle of Friends ▪ Youth Faith Ambassadors ▪ Comprehensive Bullying Prevention program in cooperation with Peel Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced number of conflicts • Increased student sense of safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal feedback • suspension data / incident tracking data • Safe Schools Survey • Bullying Prevention Initiative Surveys-students, parent and staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 2008 • April 2009

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<p style="text-align: center;">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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop a balanced approach to literacy and numeracy across the curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A focus on literacy and numeracy in school and classroom planning (refer to detailed action plan available at the school) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved literacy and numeracy as evidenced through a variety of assessments including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CASI PRIME CSI Student work samples Teacher observation EQAO Use of Skopus data warehouse to monitor student achievement data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 2008 April 2009 June 2009

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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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the school budget is aligned to system/school goals vis-à-vis improved student achievement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Budget allocation will align with school priorities for student achievement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use i-Ren reports to monitor and track school budgets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 2008 • May 2009
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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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure accurate reporting of student enrolments through the electronic register (e.g. following Ministry guidelines) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Electronic registers reflect accurate classroom enrolments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enrolment registers align with Ministry guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly
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