

Speaking notes – Mario Pascucci

Introduction to Mouse – Mississauga City Council, April 8, 2009

Good morning. For those who don't know me, my name is Mario Pascucci. I am chair of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board and the trustee representing Catholic schools in Wards 1 & 3.

With me today is Anna Abbruscato, Vice Chair of the board and trustee for Catholic schools in Ward 4.

We are here today as your corporate neighbours.

The City of Mississauga has been a leader in civic politics in this province. Dufferin-Peel has long been a leader in education.

Our board's official slogan is "A Tradition of Excellence in Catholic Education." I believe we share the same standard of excellence that has made the City of Mississauga such a great place to live.

Our schools are a microcosm of the communities in which they are located ... we represent the same constituents ... and many of the issues that affect our communities affect our schools as well.

We strive to make our schools safe, caring, healthy and inclusive places to learn and to work.

Which brings me to the point of our visit ... to introduce Mouse ... a short anti-gang film that was produced by the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board in association with Peel Regional Police. The film was produced in an effort to educate young people, parents and the community about the dangers of gang involvement.

Mouse is a powerful short film about a 10 year old boy who is lured into a street gang.

The production was written and directed by a teacher from Ascension of Our Lord Secondary School. It was partially funded through an anti-bullying grant from the Ontario Ministry of Education.

The film features the talents of students, educators, and police based in Mississauga's Malton community. It was recently featured on W5 and has been nominated for awards at numerous film festivals.

We have brought copies of Mouse for each of you.

Additional copies can be purchased through our board website at www.dpcdsb.org.

Ladies and gentlemen, I present to you, "Mouse."