

What is OAPCE and why does my School Council need an OAPCE Representative?

The Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1939. The OAPCE is the voice of parents and guardians of children enrolled in the Publicly funded Catholic System of Education in Ontario and is the only association recognized by the Ministry of Education and the Institute for Catholic Education as representing the parents/guardians of children in the publicly funded system of Catholic education. .

The OAPCE representative is an appointed position, and every Catholic school is legislated to have an OAPCE rep on their school council. (Regulation 612) The purpose of this position is to provide contact between the school council and the parent Association. These OAPCE Reps will sit as part of the Dufferin-Peel Regional Association of Parents in Catholic Education (DPRAPCE), which is a Regional OAPCE committee, and become the conduit to share parents' views and concerns with the OAPCE.

OAPCE Mission Statement

We shall preserve and enhance the highest quality publicly funded English Catholic Education in Ontario, enabling all our children to become contributing members of the Church, School, Home and Society in accordance with God's Will.

It is important, especially at this time, that every school have an OAPCE rep. We need to make sure that our voice is strong and show the government in power that we as Catholic parents/guardians are committed to keeping our publicly funded Catholic schools. By having a rep on your council, your rep will be the link to bring your council's view and concerns to the provincial group which will then bring these views and concerns to attention of Ministry of Education attention. This process goes in reverse, whatever information the Ministry brings forward will be brought back to the provincial group which will get it to your rep, who will bring it to your school council. This flow of information ensures that all parents/guardians are being represented and informed.

I invite your OAPCE representative to attend our regional meetings, which are held the last Wednesday of every month at St. Marcellinus Secondary School, 730 Courtney Park Drive (401/Mavis), from 7pm to 9pm. Due to Halloween (Wednesday October 31st), our October meeting will be Tuesday October 30th. There will also be an in-service/training meeting on November 24th, 2007 at St. Francis Xavier Secondary School, 50 Bristol Road Mississauga (Hurontario/Bristol).

We look forward to seeing you all at our meeting, Tuesday October 30th and at our In-service on Thursday November 24th, 2007. If you have any questions you may contact me at 905-824-3558 or roberta.zamadar@rogers.com. For more information about the OAPCE, check the website, www.oapce.on.ca.

Sincerely,

Roberta Zamadar- Director
Ellen Boyington - Director
Marianne Baker – DRAPCE Chair