What’s New:

- 2022-23 Catholic Community, Culture, and Caring School Climate Survey

Board Highlights:

The following items were received or approved by the Board of Trustees at its May 23, 2023 meeting:

Proclamation for June National Heritage Months:
- National Indigenous Month
- Filipino Heritage Month
- Italian Heritage Month
- Portuguese Heritage Month

Presentations:
- S.J. Ulan Professional Contribution Award 2023 - Joseph DaCosta, Teacher, St. Francis Xavier C.S.S
- Ontario Schools Cricket Association (OSCA) Essay Winner - Serene Minaya Revelpulle, Student, St. Faustina C.E.S

Delegations:
- Raising the Pride Flag at Schools - Rhaya Clyne
- Raising the Pride Flag at Schools in June - Laura Fieldhouse, Barbara Pereira, Vanessa Carty and Quinn Cousineau
- Catholic Principles and the Pride Flag - Timothy Deen
- Raising of Pride Flag - Matthew Wojciechowski

Reports/Motions:
- Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association Report
- Student Voice Report
- Secondary School Scholarships and Awards Committee Report
- Motions Recommended by the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee - May 16, 2023

Upcoming Board Meeting: June 20, 2023

For a complete calendar of Board and Committee meetings, agendas and minutes, visit the DPCDSB Board Meetings webpage.

Virtue of the Month: Fairness

Fairness is the ability to be open-minded and act in a just and fair way. Fairness allows us to treat others with mercy and compassion - to feel and act with and for another person.
Catholic Education Week - April 30 - May 5, 2023

During Catholic Education Week, schools across Ontario celebrated the significant contributions that Catholic Education has made to our communities, the province and to Canada. In DPCDSB, Catholic Education Week was marked by many special activities at all grade levels, including prayer celebrations, service activities, Ontario Catholic Student Youth Day and the Catholic Education Week Provincial Mass. The following are a few highlights of how our schools celebrated the week:

**St. Edmund Elementary @edmund_st • May 4**
"We are Many, We are One". Students ponder and answer an important question... Why is St. Edmund a GREAT Catholic School to come to? Great friends and nice teachers, sharing our faith, go to Mass and celebrate Christmas and Easter together! #DPCDSB_CEW

**St. Herbert @StHerbertDPCDSB • May 3**
A beautiful Crowning of Mary Celebration took place this morning with our Rosary Apostolates from @ReAdStJoseph. Thank you to all those who brought flowers 🌸 for Queen Mary. #DPCDSB_CEW #CEW2023

**Ms. Howells @OLGGrade5 • May 4**
Celebrating Catholic Education Week by reflecting on why we love our Catholic school!

**Holy Name of Mary CSS @HNMCS • May 4**
HNM celebrates Multiculturalism during Catholic Education Week @DPCDSB_Schools @DPEquity DPCDSB_CEW

**SETON DPCDSB @SetonWildcats • May 4**
We welcomed our community this morning to visit classes, thank you to all who could make it: parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, and even a pilot! #DPCDSB_CEW @DPCDSB_Schools @breaconball @StElizabethSchool

**Sami Kirk @MrKirk • May 4**
Great to have our parent community visiting our school today to celebrate our gift of Catholic Education! #DPCDSB_CEW @DPCDSB_Schools @stjeanrebelfu
Sequins & Suits Event

This year, Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board’s Social Work Department worked together with staff from Peel District School Board and the Children’s Aid Foundation of Peel to organize an event to provide free graduation garments for students in financial need.

This event was a huge success as over 100 students/families from Peel region attended and received great outfits to wear to their upcoming graduation events and celebrations. The outpouring of gratitude was evident. Many parents and students expressed appreciation for their garments and accessories. As one Grade 12 student recounted, “I didn’t think I could go to prom, and now I can go and be with my friends.” Another parent of a Grade 8 student thanked staff for “helping to ensure her child and other children can have a graduation experience and not feel embarrassed.” A parent of a Grade 12 student said, “thanks for keeping a smile on our children’s faces and carrying the heavy burden off of parents’ shoulders during an economically distressing time.”

Many of the garments were donated by staff from DPCDSB and PDSB.

Also, a sincere thanks to Peel Children’s Aid Foundation for providing gift cards for students and families who were unable to find anything suitable.

DPCDSB Social Workers and other staff were all smiles when they were helping students and parents pick out graduation and/or prom garments. One parent of a Grade 12 student shared, “We can’t thank you enough for thinking about us for my son’s graduation day suit. We appreciate your kindness and generosity.”

Coming together to help bring cheer to families in financial need is a collective call to serve in our Catholic Caring Community.

Cardinal Leger Catholic Secondary School artists in Mrs. Catena’s Grade 9 Expressions of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis Cultures class, created original drawings for the City of Brampton’s Climate Change Art Competition. Jessica Z. captured the 3rd place prize and will receive a $50 Ontario Parks gift card. Her artwork will also be featured in the City’s Climate Change Action Plan publications. All of the drawings were displayed at Brampton’s Earth Day event. The judges were very impressed and even commented that, “these artworks show what a climate resilient future could look like.”
St. Marguerite d’Youville Catholic Secondary School’s Health and Wellness SHSM students visited Sheridan College Davis Campus for a Reach Ahead and Experiential Learning Experience. The campus tour included a visit to Sheridan’s state of the art nursing lab, the kinesiology lab and the pharmacy lab. While in the pharmacy lab, students had the opportunity to do non-sterile compounding.

On May 16 and 17, Our Lady of Providence Catholic Elementary School presented “A Tribute to Broadway”. Students, teachers, staff and parent volunteers came together to help produce this spectacular show filled with hours of choreography, artwork, set and costume design. The students of Our Lady of Providence were proud and thrilled to showcase their gifts and talents to family and friends to bring the Arts alive.

On May 8, St. Francis Xavier Catholic Secondary School’s foyer was filled with Latin music, food, and culture. The Latin Fest celebration was organized by Grade 12 student, Cesar Arriojas Ocampo. Excited to share their cultural heritage, students made treats from family recipes which included calzones rotos, empanadas, tacos, and mangonada. There were many amazing booths, including Venezuela, Columbia, Mexico, El Salvador, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Panama, and Brazil.
Mindfulness Matters, Mental Health and Well-Being Grade 8 Transition Conferences

Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School’s Mindfulness Matters, Student Leadership team, “The Pack”, proudly hosted two Mental Health and Well-Being Transition Conferences for Grade 8 students on May 2 and May 3. The goal of this initiative was to develop and foster a safe, caring, inclusive community amongst Grade 8 students and their high school counterparts, and to build capacity in Mental Health education.

Over the course of two days, hundreds of Grade 8 students from six elementary schools participated in the conferences. The focus of both days was the development of Mental Health education through understanding and implementation of the Triple As (Awareness, Advocacy and Action).

RFH “Pack” leaders began both days with smaller group ice breakers aimed to break down barriers and fears about high school and to build relationships between the intermediate and senior students. Next, Pack leaders led an interactive Mental Health education presentation, directly followed by a dynamic Family Feud game. The high energy game worked to dispel myths and stereotypes surrounding mental health and to link students to resources in RFH and the community. Grade 8s also participated in six workshops including Yoga, Nutrition, Christian Meditation, Gratitude, Conflict Resolution and had the opportunity to create their own “Mind Jar” (a proven mindfulness tool to help with self-regulation). As well, Grade 8s were treated to a delicious pizza lunch, prepared by RFH’s hospitality staff and students.

Participation in this conference taught students healthy ways and strategies for dealing with their emotions and built capacity in Mental Health education. It also functioned to develop connections between the incoming students with their peers, teachers and support staff. Pack leaders will continue to connect with Grade 8 students in our feeder schools through email letter writing over the next weeks in efforts to further ease the transition to high school in the fall.

The Senior French students at John Cabot Catholic Secondary School had the opportunity to experience French at the university level. On May 17, the Language Studies Department at the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) welcomed Grade 11 and 12 French students to UTM. The day began with a chance to meet the professors and to enjoy refreshments which included authentic French croissants. The students then had a guided tour of the beautiful campus. Finally, students attended two mini-lectures given by Professors Michelucci and Rannaud, during which they were able to comprehend the content and ask questions, all in French. The experience at UTM was definitely confidence boosting and the students were able to make exciting new connections between what they are studying in the classroom and the real world. Vive le français!
Upcoming Events

The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

June is:
- National Indigenous History Month (Provincial)
- Pride Month (National)
- Filipino Heritage Month (National)
- Italian Heritage Month (National)
- Portuguese Heritage Month (National)

June 1 – Parent Reaching Out Event: EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS RESOURCE FAIR
The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee invites students with differing abilities and their parents/guardians to attend a Parent Reaching Out Event on Employment Supports. Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023. Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Location: St. Marcellinus Catholic Secondary School, 730 Courtneypark Drive West, Mississauga. Please use this link to register by May 29, 2023 for the in-person event. Event Flyer

June 3 – St. Timothy C.E.S. Community Spring Market
St. Timothy Catholic Elementary School’s Community Spring Market will take place on Saturday, June 3 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm, located at 2214 Cliff Road, Mississauga. With more than 30 vendors scheduled for our market, we’re sure it’s going to be an amazing event for all! Shop for and enjoy handcrafted gifts and treats such as paintings and quilts, event décor, giftware, artisan butters, crafted hot sauces and much more.

June 7 & 8 - Brampton West STEAM Celebration Days
The two-day interactive STEAM Celebration Days event will take place at St. Bonaventure Catholic Elementary School, 35 Mc-Crimmon Drive, Brampton. The free event is hosted by Brampton West intermediate student leaders and designed for Brampton West students in Grade 6. By harnessing the collective passion and expertise of the student organizers, this event will provide an inclusive platform for young Catholic minds to explore and engage with various STEAM disciplines.

June 12 – Elementary P.A. Day

June 14 – St. Gregory Catholic Elementary School’s 25th Anniversary
We are excited to invite you to the 25th anniversary of St. Gregory Catholic Elementary School on June 14. Guests are welcome to take a walk down memory lane and participate in activities in the schoolyard (1075 Swinbourne Dr., Mississauga) at 4:30 pm. We will officially begin with a liturgy and blessing of St. Gregory at 5:30 pm. This will be followed by a food festival and an Open House where you will have the opportunity to buy some goodies, explore the school's classrooms and facilities, and meet with current and former staff and students.

June 15 - St. Stephen C.E.S. Presents Disney’s Beauty and the Beast JR.
Based on the original Broadway production that ran for over thirteen years and was nominated for nine Tony Awards, and the Academy Award-winning motion picture, Disney’s Beauty and the Beast JR. is a fantastic adaptation of the story of transformation and tolerance. Disney’s Beauty and the Beast JR. features some of the most popular songs ever written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman. The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed to his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and curtain time is 7:00 p.m. Tickets are $5 for adults and children in strollers are free.

June 16 – World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests
Catholics worldwide are urged to pray for Priests today. The day was initiated by Saint John Paul II in 2002 with the objective of having all Catholic faithful join in prayer for the sanctification of Priests. World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests coincides with the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
June 20, 21, 22, 23, 26 - Semester 2 Secondary Examination Days

June 20 & 21 - St. Cecilia C.E.S. Presents Disney’s Frozen JR.
The enchanting modern classic from Disney is ready for your Broadway Junior stars! Frozen JR. is based on the 2018 Broadway musical, and brings Elsa, Anna, and the magical land of Arendelle to life, onstage. The show features all of the memorable songs from the animated film, plus five new songs written for the Broadway production. A story of true love and acceptance between sisters, Frozen JR. expands upon the emotional relationship and journey between Princesses Anna and Elsa. When faced with danger, the two discover their hidden potential and the powerful bond of sisterhood. With a cast of beloved characters and loaded with magic, adventure, and plenty of humor, Frozen JR. is sure to thaw even the coldest heart! Doors open at 5:45 and curtains at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $6 for adults and $3 for children under 12. Children under 5 are free.

June 20 - World Refugee Day

June 21 - National Indigenous Peoples Day (Provincial)

June 27 - Canadian Multiculturalism Day (National)

June 27 - Secondary Examination Review Day

June 28-30 – Secondary P.A. Days

For a complete schedule of events, visit the DPCDSB Events webpage.

On May 9, St. Martin Catholic Secondary School hosted a visit from Major Antonio Gomez, a St. Martin graduate who is an active member of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). Maj. Gomez and his flight crew arrived at the school in a RCAF CH-148 Cyclone helicopter and landed on the school's sports field. Maj. Gomez spoke to students about career paths in the Canadian Forces. After his presentation, students, staff and local community members had the opportunity to get a closer look at the helicopter and speak with Maj. Gomez and his crew members.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Luz del Rosario (Chair)
Mississauga Wards 6 & 11
416-528-6447
luz.delrosario@dpcdsb.org

Thomas Thomas (Vice Chair)
Mississauga Ward 5
416-845-8225
thomas.thomas@dpcdsb.org

Brea Corbet
Mississauga Wards 9 & 10
905-301-9373
brea.corbet@dpcdsb.org

Stefano Pascucci
Mississauga Ward 4
416-508-5543
stefano.pascucci@dpcdsb.org

Paula Dametto-Giovannonnozi
Caledon/Dufferin
437-215-7139
paula.dametto-giovannonnozi@dpcdsb.org

Anisha Thomas
Brampton Wards 1,3, 4
437-215-1676
anisha.thomas@dpcdsb.org

Darryl D’Souza
Brampton Wards 2,5,6
416-528-8515
darryl.dsouza@dpcdsb.org

Herman Viloria
Mississauga Wards 2 & 8
416-452-9345
herman.viloria@dpcdsb.org

Bruno Iannicca
Mississauga Ward 7
905-270-0536
bruno.iannicca@dpcdsb.org

Shawn Xaviour
Brampton Wards 7-10
416-528-9622
shawn.xaviour@dpcdsb.org

Mario Pascucci
Mississauga Wards 1 & 3
905-302-3096
mario.pascucci@dpcdsb.org

Dea Sokoli
Student Trustee

Leroy Onuoha
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