

April 2024

This month, the virtue of **LOVE** helps us grow in love for God and for one another. During the Holy season of Lent and the celebration of Easter, we are reminded of Jesus' love in action. Love guides the practice of our Catholic faith and is embedded in the ethos of our Catholic education. May you leave footprints of love, wherever you go.

DPCDSB PA Day – Monday April 8, 2024 is a Professional Activity (PA) Day for all schools in our board and no school for all students.

New DPCDSB Graphic – The new graphic 'We All Belong' aligns with our DPCDSB Board of Trustees' 2023-2027 Multi-Year Strategic Plan. It represents an all-embracing community in our schools, classrooms, learning and work environments. Parents/guardians, students and staff can anticipate seeing this graphic displayed in all of our DPCDSB schools and facilities. Learn more: <https://www.dpcdsb.org/news/news-archives/dpcdsb-we-all-belong>

DPERWA Strike Notice – A Community Information Bulletin has been sent to all DPCPSB families that a strike notice has been received from the Dufferin-Peel Education Resource Workers Association (DPERWA) bargaining unit indicating its intent to commence strike action the week of April 29, 2024. Under the School Board Collective Bargaining Act, bargaining units may strike locally, only on local items and not those being discussed at the central bargaining table. At this point, there has been no central agreement reached making it challenging to bargain locally. It is our board's commitment to continue to engage in meaningful collective bargaining with the goal of achieving a local memorandum of agreement.

DPCDSB Public Budget Information – The 2024-2025 Public Budget Information Webcast is Wednesday, April 24, from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The webcast offers an opportunity to share important financial information with our communities and provides an opportunity for questions to be addressed. Our DPCDSB schools have been advised to ensure Catholic School Council meetings are scheduled for this same evening to join the webcast together. More information is also on the DPCDSB website.

DPCDSB Math Achievement Action Plan – In September 2023, the Ministry of Education introduced the *Math Action Achievement Plan* which focused on supporting the following priority actions: 1) curriculum fidelity 2) math content knowledge for teaching 3) knowing your student and 4) measurable results. The Ministry identified 35 priority elementary schools and 3 priority secondary schools in DPCDSB, based on an analysis of 2021-2022 EQAO mathematics achievement data. Supports for this plan for all classrooms across the board include: access to digital tools, resources as created by the DPCDSB Math Team, and Math Professional Development opportunities. The Ministry of Education expects school boards to complete a *Math Achievement Action Report* to evaluate priority actions based on the areas of needs. An initial report was submitted to the Ministry of Education on November 15, 2023 with updates on progress sent on March 28, 2024. More information is available online - March 5, 2024 Faith and Program Committee Agenda.



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Supporting Recruitment and Retention – Diversity is celebrated in the DPCDSB and in order to build on this strength, leadership in our schools must reflect the communities in which they serve. The inclusion of candidates with diverse experiences and backgrounds is a cornerstone of DPCDSB’s leadership process. DPCDSB continues to promote diverse candidates purposefully and intentionally in various leadership positions and is committed to the intentional recruitment of racialized identifying staff. DPCDSB also works directly with the Black Excellence Success Team (BEST) to provide mentorship for Black identifying employees. Supported by the Superintendent of Equity and Indigenous Education, focused mentorship is available to all racialized employees to support and encourage leadership opportunities.

St. Sofia Registration Update - St. Sofia Catholic Elementary School continued to have spaces available in grades 1, 6 and 8 for the 2024-25 school year. The registration window for these three grades closed on Friday, February 23, 2024. With the registration window now closed, there still remains spots available in JK and grades 1, 6 and 8. Registrations for these grades will now be on a first come, first serve basis and no random selection process will be required.

Online Learning - The Ministry of Education issued a Policy and Procedures Memorandum (PPM 167) on February 1, 2022 regarding the online learning graduation requirement for secondary students. Beginning with the cohort of Grade 9 students who entered secondary school during the 2020-2021 school year, all students must earn a minimum of two (2) online learning credits as part of the [requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma](#). However, students have the opportunity to **opt out** or be exempted from online learning. Parents/guardians and students can discuss any questions or concerns they have with their guidance counsellors for course selection in the upcoming 2024-2025 school year.

Let's Move, Mississauga - The “*Let’s Move, Mississauga*” campaign, runs annually for the month of April and encourages Mississauga residents to get outside and move to support a healthier community! For our DPCDSB school families, the School Walking Routes Program promotes active travel, such as walking, cycling or other mobility devices to and from school. This aligns with the city’s Vision Zero Action Plan. Families can keep track of the number of times they are walking or rolling during April and can download and/or print a digital certificate of achievement! Learn more: <https://campaign.mississauga.ca/lets-move-mississauga/>

We wish our DPCDSB families and staff a blessed Easter!



As always, we are pleased to help support the families entrusted to our care. Thank you for choosing a Catholic education for your child(ren). Happy Easter!

HERMAN VILORIA
Catholic Trustee, Mississauga Wards 2 & 8