

Message from the Chair of the Central Committee for Catholic School Councils 2024-2025

Good day, my name is Natasha Kovar-Euler. I would like to start by sharing what a tremendous blessing, to serve as the Chair for the Central Committee for Catholic School Councils (CCCSC) this academic school year is. Having your vote of confidence, as I embark in this new role is truly a privilege I do not take lightly. I ask for your grace and understanding, as I too, like our children, am ever learning and evolving. Collectively as a committee, we may not always agree, but through hard work I am confident that we may come to common ground and understanding. Being part of a committee such as CCCSC, rooted over twenty years, with parents centered around education, that is guided by faith is an honour.

I am extremely proud to share that my family has four daughters, all attending one of our Dufferin-Peel Catholic District schools. When my first daughter started attending Junior Kindergarten, it was simple, I had a desire to be active and present in her school life. I personally felt that her education would be a partnership between home, school, and the Church. Like all of us, life is full and very active, however I made it a priority to start with volunteerism as much as possible whenever possible. Fast forward eight years later, I come to you with 4 years serving on School Council within my own daughters' school, one year as Parish/OAPCE Representative, two years as School Chair and this year as School Co-Chair. I have also been a member of the CCCSC for three years now and running.

Over the years it has been a true blessing to connect with like-minded parents and caregivers, who all have many gifts to offer and all with the same goal of continuing to strengthen their children's experience in Catholic Education. Recognizing, not all may have the gift of time, I have been honoured often to assist in being a supporter in helping to work towards solutions.

I am an advocate for Catholic Education and the role it plays and at the same time believe that parents and guardians are our children's first educators. Working together in partnership, alongside parents, students, parish partners, educators, system leaders and our Board of Trustees our children will continue to *Thrive* as a result of the Catholic Education they receive within the DPCDSB.

Though each year, our schools certainly are presented with challenges, I am encouraged by the words of Pope Francis: *"There is no cross, big or small, in our life which the Lord does not share with us."*

I continue to welcome and look forward to connecting with parents and guardians of DPCDSB.

May God continue to bless you and your families.

Natasha C. Kovar-Euler
CCCSC Chair