

Ministry of Education

Minister

315 Front Street West
Toronto ON M7A 0B8**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Ministre

315, rue Front Ouest
Toronto ON M7A 0B8

Ontario

Dear Parents, Students, Teachers and Staff,

As the new school year gets started, I want to take this opportunity to wish students, families and educators across the province every success. The first days of school are always filled with new opportunities, new friendships and new goals.

To all our students, I know you will meet the year ahead with hard work, determination and creativity. Your success is at the centre of everything we do, and I encourage you to take on new challenges with confidence.

To teachers and staff, thank you for the incredible work you do every day. Your dedication, expertise and care are what make our schools strong and supportive learning environments. As you welcome students back, know that your hard work is deeply valued and that our government will continue to support you in helping every child succeed.

To parents, thank you for your ongoing commitment to your children's education. Your encouragement and involvement are essential, and you deserve to have confidence that decisions being made are always with your child's best interests in mind.

We recently placed the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) under supervision following an investigation by ministry staff that revealed the board was at a significant risk of defaulting on its financial obligations. In addition, the board's accumulated deficit is projected to increase from \$97.8 million at the end of the 2023-24 school year to \$106 million at the end of the 2024-25 school year, after accounting for anticipated proceeds of disposition of \$30.3 million.

Our appointed supervisor— Rick Byers—is tasked with overseeing the financial and operational management of DPCDSB. He will take the time needed to not only bring the board's budget into balance, but also ensure long-term stability for years to come, so that funding goes where it belongs: directly into classrooms to support students and teachers.

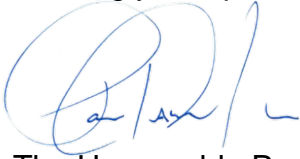
The actions we have taken will help the province restore sound financial and operational management at DPCDSB and ensure that every dollar invested goes toward preparing students with practical skills for good-paying, stable careers.

To keep the community informed, the supervisor will be posting his decisions regularly online. For questions about a school or your child's education, contact the Catholic Education Centre at (905) 890-1221 to be directed to the appropriate person or email your school's superintendent. If unresolved, contact the director of education at director@dpcdsb.org or at the same phone number.

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As we begin the new school year, I want to thank you for your commitment and wish all teachers, staff and students the best of luck.

Wishing you a positive year ahead!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Calandra", with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Honourable Paul Calandra
Minister of Education