

Thank you for for choosing Catholic education

The 2018-19 school year has been an exciting and busy one here at the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB), and it is always astounding how quickly we seem to go from opening day in September to the end of the June.

This has been a year of change on the Board of Trustees. In the fall, we said farewell to two longstanding trustees, Anna Abbruscato and Esther O'Toole, and thanked them for their Catholic community leadership and service. We welcomed two new trustees, Brea Corbet and Stefano Pascucci, as well as Rynal Pinto and Faye Rozario, who represented student voice on the Board of Trustees. Together, we continue to work for you, our Catholic community, as stewards of this wonderful gift we call Catholic education.

Through to the end of the calendar year, we will continue to celebrate 50 years of excellence in Catholic education since the formation of the Dufferin-Peel County Roman Catholic Separate School Board in 1969. And, as we celebrate the past and present, we also look to the future with hope and trust in the Holy Spirit for continued blessings as a strong unified voice and advocate for all learners in our system.

We hope that you will take a few moments to read and review the items in this newsletter. We are proud that, despite these challenging times we are in, your Board of Trustees continues to work towards our common goals.

We pray for a restful, peaceful and safe summer break for all students, parents, guardians, families and staff and we look forward to seeing you in the fall. Thank you for your continued support and for choosing a Catholic education for your child(ren).

May God bless you all.

Board of Trustees



Board of Trustees

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- Brea Corbet**
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- Anna da Silva**
Brampton Wards 1,3 & 4
- Darryl D'Souza**
Brampton Wards 2,5 & 6
- Shawn Xaviour**
Brampton Wards 7-10
- Frank Di Cosola**
Caledon/Dufferin

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Highlights from 2018-19



DPCDSB Celebrates 50th Anniversary

This year, we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) with events and activities across the system. To help understand how the formation of what was then called the Dufferin-Peel County Roman Catholic Separate School Board (DPCRCSSB), came about, the following excerpt from the book, *Catholic Education in Dufferin-Peel, A Story Worth Telling*, first published in 1989, provides some context.

“On June 28, 1968, the Minister of Education announced in the House the government’s decision to amalgamate the local Roman Catholic school boards. ‘Mr. Speaker, it is an honour for me to present to this house, legislation to establish larger units of administration for Roman Catholic separate school purposes ... The availability of broader school programs, the provision of special services to schools, and improvement in the ability to attract, retain and organize to best advantage its professional resources are all factors which will be an advantage to the new separate school boards as they seek to extend and improve the quality of education.’ Hon William Davis, Minister of Education, June 28, 1968.

While the announcement was not unexpected (similar legislation affecting public boards had been introduced in March) the ramifications of Bill 168 were profound and quite dramatic. It was the continuation of a trend that encouraged the amalgamation of smaller boards. The number of separate school boards in the province was decreased from 500 in 1967 to 40 by 1970.

In Dufferin and Peel Counties, the legislation brought together eight small separate school boards from the counties of Dufferin and Peel to form the nucleus of the Dufferin-Peel Roman Catholic Separate School Board. The new board was responsible for the twenty-seven schools and 9,000 children in Kindergarten to Grade 8.”

Multi-Year Strategic Plan

A board of trustees’ Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) informs constituents of what the board intends to achieve, what its priorities are, and how it plans to accomplish them. The MYSP reflects the board’s vision, including its overall purpose, beliefs and strategic directions, based on local practices, traditions and cultures. While strategic planning is required of school boards by the Ministry of Education, it is also deeply aligned with our primary focus on Catholic Social Teachings. Our focus as a faith community is on the inherent human dignity of all, the need to work to support interdependence and the common good and the requirement of ensuring subsidiarity across the levels of our system, from classroom to board.

Throughout the course of the 2018/2019 school year, the Board of Trustees has continued to engage in a process to review its outcomes in preparation for the 2019-2023 MYSP. In addition to conducting a broad-ranging environmental scan and reviewing operational plans and activities to date, the Board of Trustees have also been working on developing and refining the Vision and Mission of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, to be shared in the context of the overall MYSP with the entire system in the coming school year.

Distinguished Alumni

Each year, we highlight a few of the many Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board alumni who have gone on to make significant and unique contributions in their respective careers, industries and communities in a “Distinguished Alumni” poster series. This year’s poster features four alumni, including a physician, lawyer, conservation storyteller and an international trade and investment professional. The posters were distributed to all Catholic schools and parishes in Dufferin-Peel. Profiles of each alumni are featured on the [board website](#).

New Student Trustees elected for 2019-20

Elections to choose the student trustees for the 2019-20 school year took place at the Catholic Education Centre in May. Sheanne Jesudhason, a student at Holy Name of Mary Catholic Secondary School and Eugene Zanone, a student at Loyola Catholic Secondary School were elected. We thank Rynel Pinto and Faye Rozario, our student trustees for 2018-19, for their exceptional representation of student voice at the board table this year.

2019-2020 Budget

The development of the 2019-2020 budget has been a challenge following the announcements from the Ministry of Education that started on March 15, 2019. The direction to school boards has been one of funding reductions and efficiencies. Our development process has been guided by collaboration, inclusivity and transparency which included many opportunities for public input from parents/guardians and other community stakeholders. These options included a public consultation webcast, use of the ThoughtExchange™ application which provided a forum for sharing input, as well as opportunities to delegate the Board of Trustees and provide online input. All public input was shared in a report to the Board of Trustees on June 4, 2019. Throughout the difficult process of developing the 2019-2020 budget, the priorities of quality Catholic education, student well-being and achievement and accountability have been paramount in all discussions. The key objective is to align the allocation of resources to the Strategic Plan of the Board and ensure that impacts of any required reductions are minimized for students and the classroom. At a Special Administration and Finance Committee meeting held on June 17, the Board of Trustees received a proposed compliant 2019-2020 Operating and Capital budget. The 2019-2020 budget was approved at the Regular Board meeting on June 18 and will be filed with the Ministry of Education by the end of June.

Summer Work

The Plant Facilities Department will undertake approximately \$73.5M in capital/renewal work including 96 interior and 61 exterior projects at various schools. Energy management-related projects will continue at a number of schools as well as the installation of exterior signage at 10 elementary schools and the installation of water filling stations at 30 schools. In addition, two major school capital projects will be undertaken this summer, namely Holy Name of Mary Catholic Secondary School, anticipated to be completed in 2020, and St. Cornelius Elementary School, expected to be completed for the September 2019 school opening. The Plant Facilities Department will also coordinate numerous Facility Renewal, School Condition Improvement, Special Accommodation, Kindergarten play area refurbishing, and other projects at various schools during the summer.

Online Community Bulletin Board

Looking for a summer camp or recreational activity for your child? Check out the board's online Community Bulletin Board. Resources include local youth programs, such as summer camps, recreation and other non-board programs and services. Content is added on an ongoing basis. Visit www.dpccsb.org/Parents/Community-Bulletin-Board.

Make a Difference - Get involved in your local Catholic School Council

At DPCCSB, parents/guardians are an integral part of our Catholic school communities. We appreciate the involvement of parents/guardians at the local school and encourage participation in school activities and events. Consider becoming involved in your school's Catholic school council. School councils play a vital role in the education system in Ontario. They provide a forum through which parents and other members of school communities can contribute to improving student achievement and school performance. For more information about your local Catholic school council, please inquire through your school office.

Support Catholic Education

Like many Catholics, you may be surprised to find out that you are not registered as a Separate (Catholic) School Supporter, but rather, as a Public School Supporter. By directing your tax support to the Separate School System:

- You may vote for Catholic School Trustees in Municipal elections;
- Your children may attend Catholic elementary schools, subject to eligibility requirements;
- You show your support for the Catholic school system.

To verify that you are an English Separate (Catholic) School Supporter, check the assessment section of your Tax Bill or Property Assessment Notice. To register as a Separate (Catholic) School Supporter or change your Direction of School Support, contact our Admissions Department at 905-890-0708 ext. 24512 or admissions@dpccsb.org.

ROLE OF THE TRUSTEE

Dufferin-Peel's Catholic schools are overseen by a board of 11 elected trustees. Trustees serve as system leaders of publicly funded education in their communities and province. They work collaboratively with their community to shape a vision for DPCDSB that is reflective of the input of parents, students and community members. Trustees advocate for excellence in education and act as role models to engender confidence in publicly funded education. In addition, Catholic school trustees have a clearly defined role as stewards and guardians of Catholic education. Two student trustee representatives, elected by their peers, also sit with the Board of Trustees in a non-voting capacity.

Regular meetings of the Board of Trustees are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre located at 40 Matheson Boulevard West in Mississauga. Check out the [Trustees section](#) of our school board website.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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Rynel Pinto
Student Trustee



Faye Rosario
Student Trustee