

BREA CORBET

TRUSTEE - MISSISSAUGA, WARDS 9 AND 10

In my Father's house, there are many dwelling places." - John 14.2



December 2020

Our DPCDSB **Mission**: Disciples of Christ, nurturing mind, body and soul to the fullness of life.

Our DPCDSB **Vision**: Changing the world through Catholic education.

As our Catholic educational journey continues in a very different time and in a markedly different environment, our faith calls us to walk together, to learn and grow, while deepening our personal relationship with Christ. Catholic education is rooted in Catholic doctrine and inspired by the life, mission and teachings of Jesus Christ. The apostles said to the Lord, "Make our faith greater." I am inspired by the reminder that our faith in difficult times is so important, even when it is the size of a mustard seed.

The 2020-2021 school year is guided by our Catholic Education Week 2021 theme - *Nurturing Hope*. December 1st marks the beginning of Advent in our Catholic liturgical year. During this exciting time of anticipation and hope, we see Christmas through the eyes of our children. Our hope is ignited by the miracle of the baby Jesus. His saving message carries the reminder of Jesus' presence in our schools, homes, church and in our hearts.

The familiarity of the back-to-school routines was notably different this year. We continue to follow public health approved health and safety protocols, while adapting to the ever-changing landscape of our regional circumstances. We remain committed to providing and maintaining safe and healthy environments to learn, work and play while ensuring continuity of education to support our students attending in-person and learning online. Together, we are navigating many new experiences delivering Catholic education, in this time of the pandemic. I can share that it has been incredibly inspiring to witness and hear of the amazing, creative and responsive Catholic teaching and learning that is occurring within our schools and by our dedicated educators and staff. Know that you may ask questions of your educators, administrators, staff and myself, at any time.

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) is one of the largest and most diverse school districts in Ontario. We serve approximately 77,000 students and employ over 11,000 staff throughout Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon and Dufferin County. The DPCDSB has grown from 23 founding schools to 151 Catholic schools (125 elementary and 26 secondary) over fifty years. We work in partnership with 46 churches and missions and are blessed to have the collaboration of our priests, clergy and Catholic church communities to enrich the Catholic education in our schools.

As your elected DPCDSB Catholic School Trustee in Mississauga - Wards 9 and 10, I am one of eleven Trustees in our board. My role is to develop and shape policy, promote and protect our Catholic education, advocate for student achievement and wellbeing, approve the corporate capital and operating budgets, as well as contribute to the development of our Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP). I also represent you and your child(ren) on the Board of Trustees, so knowing my communities is crucial to my involvement in our decision-making processes. Since the school closures in March, 2020 the work has continued to advance our board, despite the challenges, and address the concerns from our parents/guardians, students and school communities.

Extraordinary lives start with a great Catholic education.

As a mother of three school-aged children attending DPCDSB schools, I know the value and importance of Catholic education. I am pleased you have also chosen a Catholic education for your family. It is a privilege to serve our school communities in Mississauga Wards 9 and 10, alongside our families, educators, Catholic School Councils, lunch monitors, custodians, bus drivers, crossing guards, etc. It is my hope that we continue to nurture hope in each other.

Organizational Meeting of the Board - At the December 1, 2020 Organizational Meeting of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB), trustees acclaimed Sharon Hobin (Trustee - Mississauga Wards 2 and 8) as Chair of the Board and appointed Luz del Rosario (Trustee – Mississauga Wards 6 and 11) for the new Vice-Chair of the Board. I had the honour of accepting the nomination to serve as Chair of the Bylaw and Policy Committee for the 2020-2021 school year. Congratulations to all of our eleven elected trustees, as they continue into the next year in their leadership roles! I look forward to supporting your important work.

Meetings of the Board of Trustees and Committees of the Board continue to be available to the public via teleconference on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Everyone is invited to attend virtually and are encouraged to call in to listen to stay updated and informed. Meeting schedules, agendas and minutes are available online. For more information please visit: <https://www.dpcdsb.org/news/board-meetings>.

We welcome Superintendent Martine Lewis to our Mississauga North Family of Schools in Wards 9 and 10 and thank her Administrative Assistant, Sharon Fernandes for her support. I wish to extend my appreciation to Superintendent Silvana Gos, who now serves our DPCDSB school communities in Mississauga South.

I express my sincere gratitude to our parents, guardians and families for your patience, flexibility and feedback along this journey. Throughout the pandemic, the Continuity of Catholic Learning has been so important. I recognize that parents/guardians have many questions. We endeavor to continue to communicate board updates and provide as much information as possible, through the school year at the DPCDSB. Please check www.dpcdsb.org for updates.

I am proud to be your Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Trustee. Despite the many challenges, our schools provide quality educational opportunities in a Catholic environment for all of our students. During this unusual and uncertain time, may your child(ren) grow in academic learning, individual development and in spiritual growth. You are always welcome to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. I also invite you to follow me on my social media platforms.

Wishing all families, friends and staff a blessed season of Advent, and very a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Rom. 15:13).

Yours in learning, growing and leading with Christ,

Trustee Brea Corbet

DPCDSB Trustee - Mississauga, Wards 9 and 10

Chair – Bylaw & Policies Review Committee

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