

What's New

- [Condemning Acts of Vandalism, Racist and Homophobic Graffiti](#)
- [Statement on the Passing of His Holiness, Pope Francis](#)
- [Secondary School Washrooms](#)

Board Highlights

The following items were received or approved by the Board of Trustees at its April 29, 2025 meeting:

Pastor's Remarks:

- Video Presentation by Monsignor Shiels - Easter

Awards & Presentations:

- St. Joseph C.S.S. Student Participant in Peel Regional Police Youth Engagement Strategy (YES)

Retirements: A. Bomben, Principal C. Cini, Principal
G. Scanlon, Principal N. Resendes, Principal
M. McCallen, Principal

Updates/Information/Reports:

- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) - 2025 Survey of Teachers
- TRCA and National Science and Education Committee (NSEC) Meeting Summary of March 17, 2025
- Motions Recommended by the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee, April 22, 2025
- Naming of Mount Pleasant #2 Catholic Elementary School
- Revised Policy P-8006 Access to Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Properties

[Link to Recording](#) / [Link to Agenda](#)

Upcoming Board Meeting: May 27, 2025

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**Dufferin-Peel Catholic
District School Board**
40 Matheson Boulevard West
Mississauga, ON L5R 1C5
905-890-1221
dpcdsb.org

Virtue of the Month: Acceptance

Acceptance is the ability to respect the dignity and rights of all persons, even those whose beliefs and behaviours differ from our own. Everyone should strive to love and respect their neighbour, as they love and respect themselves.

Grade 6 St. Leonard Space Team Blasts Off with Astronaut Project

The Grade 6 Space Team at St. Leonard Catholic Elementary School took learning to new heights with a creative and engaging astronaut project. As part of their space exploration unit, students researched and designed their own astronaut costumes, deepening their understanding through hands-on learning.

This fun and educational activity sparked discussions on the importance of spacesuits—how they protect astronauts from extreme temperatures, radiation, and space debris. Students then brought their learning to life through dramatic play and role-playing activities, simulating life as astronauts in space.

The experience helped students make meaningful connections between their classroom learning and real-world applications, such as the challenges astronauts face and the science behind space missions. The project culminated in a school-wide “Space Launch,” giving students the opportunity to showcase their creativity and imagination.

Well done to the St. Leonard Grade 6 Space Team for making learning an adventure.



Gonzaga Hosts Special Olympics Floorball Qualifier

On April 4, St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic Secondary School proudly hosted the Special Olympics Floorball Peel Qualifier—an exciting day filled with sportsmanship, teamwork, and celebration. The event took place at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Secondary School and brought together seven enthusiastic teams for a day of fun and friendly competition.

The event was planned and executed by Gonzaga’s Grade 12 Leadership class, whose efforts ensured a memorable and inclusive experience for all participants. One traditional team and one unified team earned the opportunity to advance to the provincial level—and Gonzaga was thrilled to be named the unified team representing Peel at the upcoming Provincial Games this June in Ottawa.



Congratulations to all teams and a big thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success.

Create Waves.....Inspire Change – DPCDSB Recognizes International Women’s Day

International Women’s Day is recognized annually on March 8. It is a day meant to recognize the importance of ensuring all women and girls are guaranteed full participation in society so that they can achieve their full potential.

This year, DPCDSB brought together various groups of female students from all 26 secondary schools to celebrate, highlight and uplift the achievement of women. Students were invited to attend a leadership conference where they were able to come together in liturgy, hear from inspirational female speakers, and participate in communication skills and leadership activities.

Thank you to the following students who helped to inform and host the event: Sophia Berry, Grade 12 - St. Marcellinus C.S.S., Nneoma Charles, Grade 12 – St. Roch C.S.S., Chloe Gottwald, Grade 11 – Holy Name of Mary C.S.S., Vivian Ha, Grade 12 – Father Michael Goetz C.S.S., Jia Sharma (Student Trustee), Grade 12 – St. Marguerite d’Youville C.S.S. and Esther Tengue, Grade 12, Loyola C.S.S.

It was a memorable day of acknowledging female achievement, networking, and inspiring young leaders to create waves and inspire change.



New LINC Program Launches in Adult and Continuing Education

April marked an exciting milestone for the English as a Second Language (ESL) Department at DPCDSB, with the launch of a new program—LINC (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada). This free, federally funded initiative opened its doors to students on April 1, offering English language training to adult permanent residents and convention refugees.

Two DPCDSB Adult and Continuing Education sites—St. Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Adult Learning Centre and Central Parkway English Learning Centre—were selected to host the LINC program. In preparation, classrooms were set up, bulletin boards decorated, and welcoming spaces arranged by enthusiastic ESL instructors.



The sites quickly came to life as eager new learners filled the rooms, ready to begin their language learning journey. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our dedicated ESL staff for their efforts in ensuring a smooth and welcoming transition to the LINC program.

We extend our best wishes to our new LINC students. We are committed to supporting you in developing the language skills necessary to thrive in Canadian society and the workforce.

St. Hilary Welcomes Firefighter Heroes to Kindergarten Classrooms

On April 2, the JK and SK classes at St. Hilary Catholic Elementary School had a very special visit from our local Mississauga Firefighters. Students were thrilled to tour the fire truck and welcome the firefighters into their classrooms for an engaging and educational experience.

During the visit, firefighters spoke to the students about fire safety and what to do in an emergency. Their presence and message left a lasting impression—many of the students saw them as real-life superheroes!

A sincere thank you to Mrs. Sheldrake, Mrs. Pacheco, and Ms. Akenten for organizing this enriching experience, and to the firefighters for taking time to connect with our youngest learners in such a memorable way.



St. Francis Xavier Elementary Celebrates Holy Week in Faith and Unity

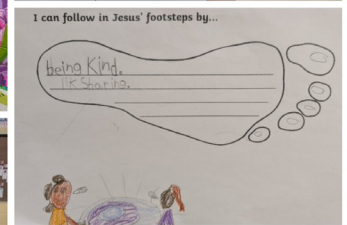
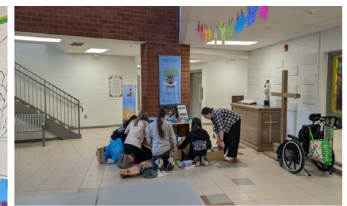
During Holy Week, the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Elementary School community came together in faith and reflection. Their school-wide retreat was a special time of unity, as Grade 7 and 8 students and teachers reenacted the Stations of the Cross. This moving experience allowed everyone to reflect on Jesus' journey and how we can follow His teachings in our own lives.

The school also launched a Care Kit drive, collecting items to support those in need as part of their commitment to social justice.

St. Francis Xavier's youngest learners recreated the Last Supper with their teachers, bringing the story of Jesus' final days to life in a meaningful way.

In celebration of creativity and community, every student helped create a collaborative mural with the school's Catholic School Council. The mural is a symbol of unity and belonging.

Throughout Holy Week, each activity reflected the spirit of St. Francis Xavier, as they came together in faith, service, and love, embracing the message that "We All Belong."



St. Edmund Presents Moving Holy Thursday Passion Play

On Holy Thursday, April 17, St. Edmund Catholic Elementary School welcomed students and parents to the gym for their annual liturgy, featuring a powerful dramatic presentation of the Stations of the Cross. Led by Mr. Pividor's Grade 5 class, with support from select Grade 8 students, the performance beautifully conveyed the themes of sacrifice, love, and hope, central to the Passion of Christ. Mr. Pividor has been the guiding force behind this liturgical tradition for many years, embodying his vocation as a Catholic educator with passion and faith. The St. Edmund community is deeply grateful for his unwavering dedication and the meaningful example he sets for his students.



St. Edith Stein Grade 8 Students present Stations of the Cross Performance

On April 17, Grade 8 students from St. Edith Stein Catholic Elementary School delivered a moving performance of the Stations of the Cross. Under the guidance and leadership of their classroom teacher, Ms. Eva Blazevic, the students spent weeks preparing for this dramatic reenactment. Their dedication and reverence were evident throughout the presentation, which offered a meaningful reflection for all in attendance. Ms. Blazevic and her students are commended for their outstanding work in portraying the suffering of our Lord with such care and devotion.



Upcoming Events

May is:

Asian Heritage Month (National)
Canadian Jewish Heritage Month (National)
Speech and Hearing Month (National)
Polish Heritage Month (Provincial)

Community Living Month in Ontario (Provincial)
South Asian Heritage Month (National)
National Vision Health Month (National)

May is the Month of Mary: Mother of God

The Church's tradition in many places dedicates the month of May to the Blessed Virgin Mary. During this time, Catholics try to keep the Mother of God more present in their hearts, with a love shown in affectionate devotion to our Lady.

May 1 – DPCDSB Staff Appreciation Day / Memorial of St. Joseph the Worker - International Workers' Day

May 3 – The Feast of St. Philip and St. James

May 4-9 - Catholic Education Week

The theme for Catholic Education Week 2025 is Pilgrims of Hope. The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) will engage the community with a social media campaign to mark this year's Catholic Education Week. Students, staff, parents, trustees, and alumni are encouraged to share their personal reflections on Catholic education and showcase how they are celebrating the week through photos, videos, quotes, and artwork, using the hashtag #DPCDSB_CEW. To see the celebration unfold across DPCDSB schools, follow us on [X](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). For more information about Catholic Education Week and to access OCSTA Resources, visit the [OCSTA website](#).

May 5-11 - Mental Health Week

Mental Health Week is May 5-11, 2025. During this week, all DPCDSB students and schools are invited to participate in a series of wellness activities. The Well-Being Department will provide a selection of activities and resources that may be embedded in everyday lessons and school activities.

May 7 - Catholic Education Week Provincial Mass

The Mass will be celebrated by the Most Rev. Douglas Crosby, Bishop of Hamilton. All members of the DPCDSB community—students, families, staff, trustees, and the broader Catholic community—are invited to participate virtually. The Mass will be live-streamed from the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King, beginning at 11:00 a.m. [Livestream Link](#)

May 7 - B.E.S.T. Mentoring Session

The Black Excellence Success Team's mission is to build capacity, promote relationships, and foster community engagement among Black employees and students in Dufferin-Peel. The B.E.S.T vision is to advance the well-being of Black students, foster community relationships, and provide mentorship opportunities for our members. The B.E.S.T committee will be hosting a mentorship session from 3:30-5:30 on May 7 at St. Marcellinus C.S.S. This session will provide members the opportunity to engage in networking, break-out sessions, and activities that highlight different career categories. Light refreshments will be provided. All participants who attend the event must [register here](#).

May 7 & 8 - St. Daniel Comboni C.E.S. presents The Lion King Jr!

St. Daniel Comboni C.E.S. is pleased to announce the production of The Lion King Jr! Students of all ages and grade levels will be showcasing their gifts and talents, dramatizing, singing and dancing to the amazing story of The Lion King. Time: 6:30 p.m.

May 7, 14 & 22 - School Mental Health Ontario Webinar: Supporting Your Child's Well-Being

School Mental Health Ontario is offering a free webinar series designed to help parents and caregivers navigate important topics related to substance use and addictive behaviors. Each 45-60-minute session will include a brief presentation followed by expert responses to pre-submitted questions from parents and caregivers. Webinar recordings will be available later on the [By Your Side learning hub](#). Parents/caregivers can sign up for any of the sessions they'd like to attend. Sessions will be facilitated by Ontario parents and caregivers and will include simultaneous French translation. Parents and caregivers can register on [Eventbrite](#) and submit questions they want addressed during the session.

May 8 - St. Albert of Jerusalem C.E.S. 25th Anniversary

5:00-6:30 p.m. Mass & Speeches, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Open House Location: St. Albert of Jerusalem C.E.S., 7185 Rosehurst Drive, Mississauga. [Event Flyer](#)

May 8 – Mississauga West Family of Schools hosts the 14th Annual Shining Stars Event

On May 8, the Mississauga West Family of Schools will host the 14th Annual Shining Stars Event. This beloved event takes place every year for our Mississauga West Diverse Learners. The event will take place at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic Secondary School (2800 Erin Centre Blvd. Mississauga). Students will have the opportunity to participate in Special Olympic Events, all supported by staff, elementary student volunteers, and St. Aloysius Gonzaga leadership students. The Opening Ceremony and Liturgy will start at 10:15 am. Students will then begin participating in the Special Olympic Events. They will all rejoin for lunch at 11:45 am. The event will conclude with a parade and singing at 12:15 pm.

May 8 - March for Life**May 9 - Second Annual Catholic Education Week Quiz Bowl**

Each participating school will send a team of five students from Grade 6 and up who will work together to compete against other schools in a trivia competition. Questions will be selected randomly from all subject areas of the curriculum, as well as general knowledge and current events. Friday May 9, 2025, at St. Isaac Jogues C.E.S., 300 Great Lakes Dr., Brampton.

May 13 – Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima**May 13, 22 & 28 - Associated Youth Services Peel and DPCDSB Parent Workshop Series**

Associated Youth Services Peel and DPCDSB invite parents/guardians of youth age 12+ to virtual group sessions during the month of May. The purpose of the sessions is to promote positive behaviour in youth and prevent problematic behaviour such as substance use and internet overuse. Workshop sessions:

[Parenting in the Digital Age Balancing Screens and Social Media - May 13, 2025 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm](#)

[Building Resilience and Managing Stress in Youth - May 22, 2025 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm](#)

[Fostering Positive Parenting and Communication - May 28, 2025 - 6:00 to 8:00 pm](#)

May 14 – The Feast of St. Matthias**May 16 - PA Day (Elementary and Secondary)****May 19 - Victoria Day (Schools Closed)****[May 27 - DPCDSB Board Meeting](#)****May 28 - Parent Reaching Out Event: Employment Supports Resource Fair 2025 for Students with Differing Abilities**

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee invites students with differing abilities and their parents/guardians to attend the Parent Reaching Out event Employment Supports Resource Fair 2025. It will be held at St. Marcellinus Catholic Secondary School on Wednesday May 28, 2025, from 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. [Please refer to the flyer](#) for registration and information.

May 28 - St. Augustine C.S.S. 2nd Annual Multicultural Night

Join our St. Augustine C.S.S. Community for our 2nd Annual Multicultural Night. Our event will feature a Talent Show that will include dancing, singing, acting, and more! After the show, community members can visit our pavilions to learn about different countries and cultures while enjoying food and drinks from around the world. A DJ will bring all cultures together as we dance and celebrate the diversity of our school community. Time: 5:00-7:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 Adults, \$7 Students. Location: St. Augustine C.S.S., 27 Drinkwater Road, Brampton. For more information, call 905-450-9993.

May 29 – Ascension of the Lord**May 29 - Parent Engagement Evening: Building Safe School Communities**

In collaboration with Peel Regional Police, DPCDSB will be hosting a Parent Engagement Evening focused on creating safe school communities and supporting student wellness and safety at St. Marguerite D'Youville CSS. This event will feature presentations by PRP and student safety advocates, along with information booths where parents and guardians can connect with representatives from local community partner organizations. [Click here to RSVP to attend.](#)

May 31 – The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

For a complete schedule of events, visit the [DPCDSB Events webpage](#).

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Luz del Rosario (Chair)
Mississauga Wards 6 & 11
416-528-6447
luz.delrosario@dpcdsb.org



Thomas Thomas (Vice Chair)
Mississauga Ward 5
416-845-8225
thomas.thomas@dpcdsb.org



Brea Corbet
Mississauga Wards 9 & 10
905-301-9373
brea.corbet@dpcdsb.org



Anisha Thomas
Brampton Wards 1,3, 4
437-215-1676
anisha.thomas@dpcdsb.org



Paula Dametto-Giovannozzi
Caledon/Dufferin
416-570-5087
paula.dametto-giovannozzi@dpcdsb.org



Herman Vilorio
Mississauga Wards 2 & 8
416-452-9345
herman.viloria@dpcdsb.org



Darryl D'Souza
Brampton Wards 2,5,6
416-528-8515
darryl.dsouza@dpcdsb.org



Shawn Xaviour
Brampton Wards 7-10
416-528-9622
shawn.xaviour@dpcdsb.org



Bruno Iannicca
Mississauga Ward 7
905-270-0536
bruno.iannicca@dpcdsb.org



Raheem White
Student Trustee



Mario Pascucci
Mississauga Wards 1 & 3
905-302-3096
mario.pascucci@dpcdsb.org



Jia Sharma
Student Trustee



Stefano Pascucci
Mississauga Ward 4
416-508-5543
stefano.pascucci@dpcdsb.org

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