Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board

NEWS & UPDATES From the Board of Trustees

June 2025

What's New

- Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) Community Feedback Survey
- <u>PowerSchool Cybersecurity Incident Update</u>
- <u>Update to Secondary School Exam Schedule</u>

Board Highlights

The following items were received or approved by the Board at its May 27, 2025 meeting:

Pastor's Remarks:

• Video Presentation by Monsignor Shiels - Our Blessed Mother Mary

Presentations:

Bailey Clyne, Terry Fox Humanitarian Award

Retirements:

- O. Glasford, Principal
- M. Cloutier McCann, Principal
- D. Speranza, Principal E. Del Grosso-Milek, Principal
- K.A. Marsi, Principal S. Chambers, Principal

Updates/Information/Reports:

- 2025-2026 Public Budget Information Session Report
- Core Education Funding 2025-2026 Update
- Extended Excursion Future Health Professionals International Leadership Conference - Spring 2025
- Motion Recommended by the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee, April 22, 2025
- Motions Recommended by the Contracts and Negotiation Committee, May 27, 2025

Link to Recording / Link to Agenda

Upcoming Board Meeting: June 17, 2025

Virtue of the Month: Fairness

Fairness is the ability to be open-minded and act in a just and fair way. Fairness allows us to treat others with mercy and compassion - to feel and act with and for another person.

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

Extraordinary lives start with a great Catholic Education.

School Blessing Reflects Deep Parish Connection and Brings Hope During Catholic Education Week

During Catholic Education Week, Fr. Favin Almeo, associate pastor at St. Francis Xavier Parish, visited St. Marcellinus Catholic Secondary School to offer a heartfelt school blessing and lead staff in prayer. With care and presence, Fr. Favin blessed every part of the school building, surrounding our community with a renewed sense of peace, joy and spiritual connection.

This visit reflected the deep and ongoing partnership between the school and parish. The parish continues to play a vital role in the spiritual life of our school including celebrating Masses and sacraments and offering pastoral guidance and support to both students and staff throughout the year.



Fr. Favin's presence during Catholic Education Week was a joyful and unifying reminder of the grace found in faith, and the strength that comes from walking together as a community rooted in Catholic values. We are truly grateful for the continued spiritual leadership and support from our parish.

St. Joan of Arc shines at Sheridan Game Maker Competition

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Secondary School proudly entered four teams in this year's Sheridan Game Maker Competition, showcasing impressive talent and creativity.

Justin Macazo created the vibrant artwork featured on every participant's T-shirt, helping to set the tone for a strong and unified team presence.

Two first-year teams made notable debuts:

- Arshiya Malik, Maria Fatima and Alizeh Faisal
- Zaland Khan (solo entry)

Both teams earned honourable mentions for the creativity and professional design of their games.

The team of Max Bartoszek, Chris Chong, Michael Bayato and Martin Quero took home the silver medal for their outstanding submission.

Capping off the event, the team of Martin Sinnung, Tyler Tran and Justin Macazo won the gold medal for their exceptional work.

Congratulations to all four teams for their excellence and for proudly representing the St. Joan of Arc community— demonstrating the true spirit of the "Courage to Believe" in themselves!



Catholic Education Week: A Celebration of Faith, Learning and Community Spirit

Catholic Education Week at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Elementary School was a joyful celebration of faith, learning and community spirit!

Our faith was beautifully expressed throughout the week. We began with a virtual liturgy on Monday, followed by our Virtue of Acceptance Liturgy on Tuesday, and the province-wide virtual Mass on Wednesday. On Thursday, we continued a cherished tradition with the Crowning of Mary celebration—an uplifting moment of devotion and grace.

Our students had an unforgettable experience thanks to a special visit from Karl Subban, who delivered powerful messages about persistence and leadership. A renowned educator, author and motivational speaker with more than three decades of experience as a teacher and principal, Karl



Subban is also the father of former NHL star P.K. Subban and a passionate advocate for youth development.

During his visit, Mr. Subban shared his children's book The Hockey Skates, a story inspired by P.K.'s early hockey days. The book emphasized perseverance and optimism in the face of challenges. He captivated both students and staff with insights into the power of focus, patience and hard work in achieving dreams. The event left a lasting impression, motivating our school community to embrace their potential and pursue their goals with determination.

On Friday, St. Isaac Jogues hosted the second annual Catholic Education Week Quiz Bowl. We welcomed teams from 12 DPCDSB schools to compete in a trivia competition covering Ontario curriculum and general knowledge. In a thrilling final match, St. Isaac Jogues emerged victorious over St. Mark C.E.S.

The week also honoured Mental Health Week with meaningful activities promoting well-being and compassion. Students explored career paths during the Skills Ontario field trip, while our softball team took part in the Jays Care Foundation trip—playing cooperative games right on the field at Rogers Centre.

To cap off the week, our Science and Arts Showcase dazzled with creativity and curiosity on full display.

Overall, it was a week full of inspiration, connection and celebration—highlighting the incredible gifts within our Catholic school community.

St. Hilary Student Wins Provincial Young Authors Award



Congratulations to Kirsten Fernandes, student at St. Hilary Catholic Elementary School and winner of the English Grades 7–8 Nonfiction category in the O.E.C.T.A. Young Authors Awards / Prix Jeunes Écrivains! Kirsten's piece, "What If Time Travel Was Real?" will be published in the annual Young Authors anthology, a showcase of exceptional student writing from across the province. We celebrate this talented young writer and her outstanding achievement. Way to go, Kirsten!

St. Marcellinus student crowned world champion at DECA International

St. Marcellinus Catholic Secondary School is proud to celebrate Grade 12 student Rithik Singh, who was named World Champion in Accounting at the DECA International Career Development Conference held in April.

DECA is a globally recognized organization that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management. The annual international conference brings together more than 20,000 high school students from around the world to compete in a wide range of business disciplines.

Rithik competed at the highest level in the accounting category, demonstrating outstanding knowledge and skill. As DECA president at St. Marcellinus, he has also served as a mentor to younger members, helping to build a strong culture of leadership and excellence. His achievement is a historic milestone for the school and a testament to the strength of its business education and co-curricular programming.



"I'm Almost Done": Grade 11 Media Arts Exhibition at St. Oscar Romero

At St. Oscar Romero Catholic Secondary School, Ms. Kim's Grade 11 Media Arts class wrapped up the term with the 2nd Annual Arts Exhibition.

The students creatively captioned their show as "I'm Almost Done: Commemorating Procrastination & Triumph," to symbolize the journey each of them took to complete the course and for some to graduate.

Students invited staff and peers to drop by for light refreshments and conversations about their artwork. The event was a celebration of artistic expression, perseverance and the shared struggles and successes of student life.



Students Embrace Jubilee Theme "Pilgrims of Hope" at NET Ministries Retreat

Students from St. Edmund Campion Catholic Secondary School recently took part in a transformative retreat experience hosted by NET Ministries at Guardian Angels Catholic Church. The retreat, titled "Dare to Hope," powerfully echoed the Jubilee Year theme of "Pilgrims of Hope," inviting students to boldly step into a future guided by faith, community, and the enduring promise of Christ.

Led by a team of young adult missionaries, the retreat featured a dynamic mix of testimonies, music, drama, prayer and small group sharing. These



elements created a welcoming space for students to reflect on their spiritual journeys and encounter Christ in a deeply personal way.

"During the prayer time when the missionaries prayed with us individually, I felt this calmness that can only be explained by God's presence," shared one student.

The retreat served as a reminder of God's presence in the lives of young people and encouraged them to continue walking as pilgrims of hope rooted in faith.

St. Marcellinus Varsity Band earns national gold at MusicFest Canada

The St. Marcellinus Catholic Secondary School Varsity Band, led by director John Horvat, earned a Gold Award at MusicFest Canada Nationals on May 12 — a first in the school's history.

After securing gold at the regional level in February, the band was invited to perform at the prestigious national event, which showcases Canada's top school ensembles.

At Nationals, the band was evaluated through a live adjudicated performance and a challenging sight-reading component, where students had just five minutes to prepare a brand-new piece. Not only did they earn a Gold Award, but they also received a Certificate of Excellence for their music clinic.

This marks Mr. Horvat's third gold with the Varsity Band. His leadership continues to elevate the program, fostering musicianship, discipline, and pride among students. It is a proud moment for St. Marcellinus and a major accomplishment in the Canadian band community.





Upcoming Events

June is the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

June:

Brain Injury Awareness Month (National) Deafblind Awareness Month (Provincial) Filipino Heritage Month (National) Italian Heritage Month (National) National Indigenous History Month (Provincial) Portuguese Heritage Month (National) Pride Month (National) Seniors' Month (Provincial)

June 1 - World Communications Day

Catholics are invited to reflect upon the media of social communication and how these influence our lives. The media can promote values that lead to a more fully human society. The Church's ministry is twofold, the media can be used to help promote the Gospel. At the same time, as receivers of the materials presented by the media, the faithful have a duty to support and promote worthwhile presentations on media and reject those which promote values contrary to spiritual growth.

June 3 - EQAO LIVE webinar series for parents and guardians

Join EQAO for a free live webinar where EQAO staff will discuss math questions that Ontario students encounter when they participate in Ontario's large-scale assessments. These assessments are taken by all Ontario students in Grades 3, 6 and 9. During the webinar, EQAO staff will show how these math questions help assess the skills students are learning in their math classes. Staff will also share valuable insights from the past three years of assessment results, which can help parents and guardians support their children's math learning. Time: 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. To register for the session, <u>click here</u>. **Note that this is an EQAO event, not a DPCDSB event.*

June 9 - PA Day (Elementary Schools)

June 9 - Memorial of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

June 15 – Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

June 16*, 17*, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24 - Secondary School Exams (* refer to the Update to Secondary School Exam Schedule)

June 16 - Canadian Martyrs C.E.S. presents An Inspiring Evening for Parents with Author and Motivational Speaker Timothy Spokes

This event will help parents and caregivers support their children's confidence and growth. We are encouraged to come together to build a stronger, more supportive community for our children. All are welcome! Time: 6:30 p.m. For more information, please contact the school at <u>canadianmartyrscatholicelementaryinfo@dpcdsb.org</u>

June 17 - DPCDSB Board Meeting

June 18 & 19 - Disney's Frozen Jr. at Sts. Peter and Paul C.E.S.

Do you want to build a snowman? You'll love this fanciful and heartwarming stage adaptation of the top-grossing animated film of all time! Join Anna, Elsa, and all of your favorite characters as they embark on an epic, ice-filled journey of self-discovery, ca-maraderie, and the real meaning of true love. Adapted for young performers, this musical includes favorite Frozen songs such as "Love Is an Open Door," "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?," and "Let It Go," as well as wonderful new songs from the Broad-way production. With its empowering message of love and understanding, Frozen JR. is sure to melt your heart! Doors open at 6:30 and curtain time is 7:00 p.m. Location: Sts. Peter and Paul C.E.S., 4205 Woodington Drive, Mississauga. For more information, please contact monique.lackey@dpcdsb.org.

June 25 - Instructional Day - Examination Review

June 26 & 27 - PA Day (Secondary Schools)

June 27 - Last Day of School

For a complete schedule of events, visit the <u>DPCDSB Events webpage</u>.

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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



Raheem White Student Trustee



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