

# **NEWS & UPDATES**From the Board of Trustees

**December 2024** 

#### What's New

- Kindergarten Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now open
- Weather-Related Bus Cancellations/System Closures
- Self-Identification Option for Indigenous Families

# **Board Highlights**

The following items were received or approved by the Board at its November 26, 2024 meeting:

#### Pastor's Remarks:

Monsignor J. Shiels Video Presentation: Remembering

#### **Presentations:**

Lifetime Achievement - Canadian Security Honours 2024: Minaz Jivraz,
 Chief Security Officer

#### **Delegation:**

Melanie Cormier, Indigenous Education Council - Land Acknowledgment

#### **Retirements:**

- A. Metivier, Principal
- L. Scardicchio, Principal
- C. Sforza, Principal
- A. Brown, Principal
- D. Clifford, Principal

#### **Updates/Information/Reports:**

- 2025 Nominees for Membership on Committees
- Motion Recommended by the Audit Committee, November 12, 2024
- Motions Recommended by the Administration and Finance Committee, November 12, 2024
- Advocacy Letter: Proposed Changes to Speed Limits in School Zones, City of Mississauga

#### Link to Recording / Link to Agenda

**Upcoming Board Meeting: December 10, 2024** 

For a complete calendar of Board and Committee meetings, agendas and minutes, visit the DPCDSB <u>Board Meetings webpage</u>.

#### **Board of Trustees**

Luz del Rosario (Chair) Mississauga Wards 6 & 11

Thomas Thomas (Vice Chair) Mississauga Ward 5

Brea Corbet
Mississauga Wards 9 & 10

Paula Dametto-Giovannozzi Caledon/Dufferin

Darryl D'Souza Brampton Wards 2,5 & 6

**Bruno lannicca** Mississauga Ward 7

Mario Pascucci Mississauga Wards 1 & 3

**Stefano Pascucci** Mississauga Ward 4

Anisha Thomas Brampton Wards 1,3 & 4

Herman Viloria Mississauga Wards 2 & 8

**Shawn Xaviour**Brampton Wards 7-10

Raheem White Student Trustee

Bailey Clyne Indigenous Student Trustee

**Jia Sharma** Student Trustee

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# Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board re-elects Luz del Rosario as Chair, Thomas Thomas as Vice-Chair

At the annual Organizational Meeting of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board on Tuesday, November 19, trustees re-elected Mississauga Wards 6 & 11 trustee, Luz del Rosario to a third consecutive term as chair of the 11-member Board of Trustees. Mississauga Ward 5 trustee, Thomas Thomas, was re-elected vice-chair, also for a third consecutive term.



Luz del Rosario (Chair) Mississauga Wards 6 & 11



Thomas Thomas (Vice Chair)
Mississauga Ward 5

"Re-elected for a third consecutive term as Chair, I am deeply honored to continue serving this Board alongside my colleagues," said Luz del Rosario. "Together, we remain committed to nurturing the values of faith and excellence in Catholic education, ensuring that every student is empowered to reach their full potential and contribute positively to our community."

The meeting opened with the annual address to the board by the Director of Education, Marianne Mazzorato, who recognized and thanked system partners, including parents and guardians, trustees, unions and associations, parish priests and staff at all levels for their commitment and dedication to Catholic education.

In addition to the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees, elections were held for four committees. Results, including the election of the Board Chair and Vice-Chair, are as follows:

Board of Trustees Elected (E) or Acclaimed (A)

Chair Luz del Rosario: Mississauga Wards 6 & 11 (E) Vice-Chair Thomas Thomas: Mississauga Ward 5 (E)

#### Administration & Finance Committee

Chair Darryl D'Souza: Brampton Wards 2, 5, & 6 (A) Vice-Chair Herman Viloria: Mississauga Wards 2 & 8 (A)

#### **Faith & Program Committee**

Chair Shawn Xaviour: Brampton Wards 7, 8, 9 & 10 (A) Vice-Chair Brea Corbet: Mississauga Wards 9 & 10 (A)

#### **Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee**

Chair Stefano Pascucci: Mississauga Ward 4 (E)
Vice-Chair Anisha Thomas Brampton Wards 1, 3 & 4 (E)

#### **Multi-Year Strategic Planning Committee**

Chair Bruno Iannicca: Mississauga Ward 7 (A)
Vice-Chair Mario Pascucci: Mississauga Wards 1 & 3 (A)



On November 1, the St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School choir performed O 'Canada for the opening ceremony of the Royal Winter Fair. Under the direction of Ernie Antoniw, the choir sang a bilingual rendition of our anthem and met Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Toronto Mayor Olivia Chow.



St. Oscar Romero Catholic Secondary School's Sanctuary North and South programs came together to plant native species of trees and shrubs at Andrew McCandless Park in Brampton with the Credit Valley Conservation Branch Out program.

### A Dream Career! Exploring the Trades in Dufferin County

On October 9, over 500 Grades 7-12 DPCDSB elementary and secondary schools joined hundreds of other students in exploring the skilled trades and learning about emerging technologies and related careers at Dufferin County's annual Dream Dufferin event.

Hosted at the Orangeville Agriculture Society Event Centre in Mono, students were able to hear from a panel of industry speakers including one of the young hosts of Trading Skills, a TVO kid's television series about the world of skilled trades. Exhibitors at the event provided hands-on activities for students to explore and ask questions about the trades and other related career opportunities in their local community.

To help guide students interested in apprenticeship as a potential pathway, information about the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) in DPCDSB was provided. Check out the many skilled trades program opportunities available to DPCDSB youth <a href="here">here</a>.

Thank you to the Dufferin Board of Trade and Career Education Council for hosting this rich and engaging experiential opportunity for our students. A big thank you to the staff and students who attended the event: St. Andrew C.E.S., St. Benedict C.E.S., St. Peter C.E.S., St. Marguerite d'Youville C.S.S., St. Michael C.S.S. and Robert F. Hall C.S.S.







DPCDSB's Korean Teacher Exchange Program (Fall 2024) proved to be a resounding success, fostering a vibrant cultural exchange and enhancing pedagogical practices across borders. Participants reported transformative experiences, as they immersed themselves in different educational environments, gaining fresh perspectives on teaching methodologies and classroom management. Collaborative workshops strengthened professional ties and enriched the curriculum with diverse approaches. The program not only cultivated lasting friendships, but also inspired a renewed passion for teaching, ultimately benefiting students and communities. Thanks to St. Pio, St. Giovanni Scalabrini, Corpus Christi and Father Daniel Zanon Catholic Elementary Schools for hosting the Korean teachers. Special recognition to Max Vecchiarino, Superintendent, Ken Ko, Director of PIEA (Peel International Education Alliance), Annalisa Sodhi, Program Coordinator, Daniel Colangelo, Principal and Marisa D'Alessandro, Vice Principal, for their ongoing support.

## **Upcoming Events**

#### Virtue of the Month - December: Hope

Hope is the virtue of relying on God. It keeps us searching for true happiness and sustains us during hard times or discouragement.

December 1 - First Sunday of Advent

December 2 - International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

**December 3 - International Day of Persons with Disabilities** 

#### December 4 - DPCDSB Elementary School Fall Classic Chess Invitational Tournament

Guardian Angels Catholic Elementary School will be hosting the Fall Classic Chess Invitational Tournament on Wednesday, December 4, 2024. This tournament is open to ALL Dufferin-Peel Catholic elementary schools. Each school will enter one team. Each team will be made up of five players + one alternate for a total of six players.

#### December 5 - Black Community Advisory Council's Second Annual Christmas Event

The DPCDSB's Black Community Advisory Council is hosting its second annual Christmas event. Families and community members are invited to join us for crafts, treats and a read-aloud with local author Yolanda T. Marshall. All DPCDSB families are welcome to join us as we gather in community in the joy of the season. Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Location: Cardinal Leger C.S.S., 75 Mary Street, Brampton. Registration: Due to capacity limits, we kindly invite families to register no later than November 30, on the Google Form. More Info: Event Flyer

December 6 - National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

December 8 - Second Sunday of Advent

**December 9 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** 

A feast dedicated to Mary's conception.

December 10 - International Human Rights Day

#### December 12 - National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples

The Canadian Catholic Indigenous Council, founded by the Canadian Conference of Bishops (CCCB) in 1998, proposes that the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12) be a National Day of Prayer and Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples. All are invited to join their Indigenous sisters and brothers in a special way this day through prayer and acts of solidarity.

**December 15 – Third Sunday of Advent** 

**December 20 - International Human Solidarity Day** 

**December 22 – Fourth Sunday of Advent** 

December 23 - January 3 - Christmas Break

December 24 - Vigil of Christmas - The Nativity of the Lord (Solemnity)

#### December 25 – Christmas, The Nativity of The Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)

"To you is born this day a Saviour, who is the Christ." (Luke 2:1-16)

#### December 27 – St. John, Apostle, Evangelist (Feast)

St. John is referred to as the "beloved disciple" in the gospels as well as John the Divine.

#### December 28 – Holy Innocents, Martyrs (Feast)

The 'Holy Innocents' are the male children slain by King Herod in Matthew's Gospel. This feast also points to Jesus as the Messiah.

#### December 29 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (Feast)

"Those who honor their father atone for sins, and those who respect their mother are like those who lay up treasure." (Sirach 3:2-6)

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



On November 6, DPCDSB's Black Excellence Success Team (B.E.S.T) hosted its third annual Black Excellence Professionals Expo (B.E.P.E) at Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School. The Black Excellence Success Team's biggest event of the year was created to help students explore post-secondary pathways by connecting them with Black professionals. The evening began with a warm welcome from Director of Education, Dr. Marianne Mazzorato, and also featured an empowering keynote address from Poet Laureate Randell Adjei. There were also outstanding performances by Notre Dame's Stomp Shakers and St. Augustine's Falcon Step Team. The Black Excellence Professionals Expo brought together close to 400 participants and over 85 Black professionals to be a beacon of inspiration for Black youth. The Expo was organized by the B.E.S.T committee members, DPCDSB students, and the B.E.S.T leads. The B.E.S.T committee is committed to building capacity, fostering relationships, and promoting community engagement amongst Black employees, students, and their families.

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



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**Jia Sharma** Student Trustee

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