



Catholic School Council Annual Survey

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FAMILY AND CHURCH, IS TO PROVIDE, IN A RESPONSIBLE MANNER, A CATHOLIC EDUCATION WHICH DEVELOPS SPIRITUAL, INTELLECTUAL, AESTHETIC, EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL, AND PHYSICAL CAPABILITIES OF EACH INDIVIDUAL TO LIVE FULLY TODAY AND TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE, THUS ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY.

Effective educational governance requires various groups within the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board educational community to share their perspectives on the evolution and maintenance of the school. Catholic School Councils are a significant vehicle for sharing a perspective on the local school situation.

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board *Catholic School Council Annual Survey* document is a formal means of soliciting information from the Catholic School Council on a variety of items relating to the local school community. This document along with other organizational documents and organizational functions helps portray the school community.¹

Each school year the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board *Catholic School Council Annual Survey* document will be sent to each Catholic School Council Chair with the request that the document be developed, reviewed or revised by the Catholic School Council, in accordance with the approved template for comment. The information provided by each Catholic School Council through the completion of this document will assist the board and its educational officers in a number of ways. This includes goal setting by the principal, identification of budget concerns, school improvement plans and information that is used in the criteria applicable to the selection of school administrators. The information provides a means of better understanding each unique school community.

Please take time to develop, review or revise the *Catholic School Council Annual Survey* document and forward the completed document to the Superintendent of your Family of Schools, by January 31, 2007.

¹

- a) Ontario Regulation 612/00
- b) DPCDSB, "Policy & Regulation" for School Councils
- c) The Catholic School Principal in the DPCDSB.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL SURVEY

Name of School: ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

You are invited to develop responses to each of the key areas outlined below as it relates to your school. To assist you in the development of these responses, there are a variety of suggested focuses/themes listed under each key area which you may wish to address, comment on, or expand upon.

1. **Catholicity and Spiritual Leadership**

- Home, school and parish all have a part in the educational process,
- Collaborative relationships with the local parish and diocese
- School climate exemplifies the teachings of Christ and the Catholic church
- Opportunities for the school community to gather as a faith community
- Catholic religious instruction across the spectrum of the curriculum

- All Saint's Pillar #1 Goal is to practice, live, teach and model Catholic Faith Life and Gospel Values in collaboration with school, home and parish. We continue with daily prayer and visual symbols. We continue to be invitational to parents for all events in the school. We facilitate classroom visits from Parish priests. We continue with Liturgical Team. Monthly Masses and liturgical celebrations. Our School Council definitely supports these special times by either attending Masses or providing any volunteer support required.
- It is the mission of All Saints Catholic School to challenge students to:
 - i. Develop as independent thinkers who are engaged in life-long learning and the pursuit of excellence in reaching their full spiritual, academic and physical potential.
 - ii. Acquire and demonstrate basics skills and attitudes that equip them for the future
 - iii. Grow in an understanding of Roman Catholic teachings and traditions and to incorporate these into everyday life.

By providing an environment:

- iv. Where we grow and learn within the context of a cooperative, community team of the Family, School and Church
 - v. That is nurturing and safe, where the Christian ideals of mutual trust, responsibility, equality and respect for all are encouraged.
- Faith Opportunities consists of:
 - i. Student Assemblies
 - ii. Masses, Special Liturgical Celebrations (Staff and Students)
 - iii. Professional Development Day Liturgies, Dinner with Priests to plan and dialogue, Staff Christmas Liturgy with a Candle Lighting Ceremony, Liturgies prior to monthly staff meetings, First Friday

- staff gatherings in the a.m. for a Non-Eucharistic Liturgy, Morning Daily Prayers on the PA and in each class.
- iv. Prayers before meals in the classroom, Prayers at dismissal time in each classroom, Prayers for special petitions at Mass and for special intentions, Prayer to start special events, meetings and assemblies, Prayer as part of Religion and Family Life Programs
 - v. Special Catechesis times; Masses, All Saints Day-Devotion to Saints, Remembrance Day-Assembly, Advent-Pageants, Lent-Ash Wednesday/Stations of the Cross, Easter-Holy Week Events, May-Devotion to Mary-Rosary Society Visits, June-End of Year Mass, Graduation Mass.
 - vi. Social Action; Sharelife Dance-a-Thon and Hockey Game, United Way Fund Raising Events, Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Baskets, St. Vincent DePaul Christmas Gifts for Needy Families, Lenten Food Drives, Easter Food Donations and Baskets, Grade 8 Confirmation Candidate Community Service Projects, Intermediate Student Ambassadors' Fundraising Projects.

2. **Program Development and Academic Progress**

- *Communicate school implementation plans to staff, parents and the school community*
- *Involve staff, school council and the community in the development of a shared vision*
- *Community is aware of curriculum program requirements*
- *Professional Development opportunities are provided to staff to help meet the learning needs of all students*
- *Curriculum needs are supported by human, financial and material resources*
- *All partners feel that their school is providing the best possible education to the students*

Student Achievement is continued at All Saints by maintaining Special Education and Support Services, ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder Class) and conducting the Literacy and Numeracy nights and keeping our parents informed about EQAO. Volunteers are recruited when required to provide support such as for the “All Star Reading Program”.

- **All Saints Catholic School Mission Statement:** – The mission of All Saints is to create, nurture and maintain an inclusive Catholic environment that permits and encourages all learners to achieve success as determined by Ministry, Board and School expectations. We are committed to collaboratively and continually assessing and evaluating student achievement, and to provide scaffolding to ensure success for all learners. We will also effectively respond with a comprehensive system of support to meet students' diverse needs. We pledge to guide the growth and development of all students academically, spiritually, emotionally and physically rooted in Gospel Values and the promotion of lifelong learning.
- **Goals - Pillar #2 and #3** – Student Achievement – Quality Programs and Services – To develop a collaborative culture within All Saints that emphasizes the importance of the holistic development of each student regardless of exceptionality with particular emphasis on Literacy and Math

Literacy – provide extra curricular activities that extend opportunities to all students. Please see viii for specific initiatives that have been very successful.

- **All Saints Catholic School continues to update their School Profile** – This is available to all parents:
 - i. Includes School Mission Statement
 - ii. School population information
 - iii. Information around “Measures of Student Achievement and Success”
 - iv. School, Board and Provincial Achievement Results (EQAO Grades 3 & 6) and Response to School Assessment Information
 - v. Programs and Services offered at All Saints – SERT, social worker, child and youth worker, psychologist, speech and language pathologist and other specialized teaching personnel are available. SERC class and/or special education support, boardwide class for students with autism and is in the fourth year as a pilot school for an Anti-Bullying Program. English as a Second Language Program is provided for all newcomers to Canada.
 - vi. School Safety Information
 - vii. Faith Development Information - In partnership with St. Ignatius Loyola Parish – Masses are celebrated at special times of year at the school; the opening of the school year, Thanksgiving, Advent, Easter, Graduation and the closing of the school year. Prayer is centre everyday. We have staff Faith Ambassadors that assist in the faith development of both staff and students.
 - viii. School Plans and Initiatives Information – Grade 3 & 6 Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics took place, in conjunction with school data to identify areas of strength and areas for improvement. Information that was gathered was used to develop a plan which was aligned to the provincial curriculum and the board’s plan to improve student achievement. Some initiatives that have been focused on this year to improve student achievement include:
 - a. Literacy; Learning Team, Literacy Nights, All Star Reading, Library Links, Benchmark and CASI Data, Literacy Room with increased Literacy material, Budget Allocation in Literacy Resources.
 - b. Mathematical Literacy; Learning Team, Professional Development for Teachers, Link to Board and Family Improvement Plan.
 - c. Catholic Faith Development; Sacramental Preparation, School Parish Partnership
 - d. School Based Initiatives; PALS Program, EQAO Parent Evenings, Monthly Assemblies.

3. **Positive Relationships and Effective Student Discipline**

- *A safe caring and inclusive environment is established for students to learn and work*
- *Policies/expectations about discipline/behaviour are clear, fair and equitably applied*
- *Problem solving is collaborative and conflict resolution involves all stakeholders*
- *Solutions are consistent with the values/beliefs/goals of the school*
- *Teachers model good citizenship and positive behaviour for students*

All Saints created a “School Handbook” that was established for students and parents which includes information such as:

- i. School hours and Visitor Protocol, Dropping off /Picking up Students, Attendance / Absenteeism, Tardiness and Safe Arrival Program, Classroom Expectations, Physical Education, Lunch Policy, Excursions and Field Trips, Sacraments
- ii. School Resources; library/resource centre, computers
- iii. Safety – emergency forms, student supervision, bicycles, skateboards and inline skates rules, crossing guard, trespass to property act/school visitor program, lockdown and fire evacuation, children in need of protection, reporting procedures and cancellation/hazardous weather conditions and other commitments aligned to The Safe School Act
- iv. Communication – between home and school, reporting, student vacations outside of regular school holiday times, Homework rules and expectations, Curriculum Night Barbeque, Volunteers, School Newsletter, Assemblies, Liturgy, Health Guidelines, Distribution & Storage of Medication, Recess Breaks, Head and Eye Injuries, First Aid
- v. Student Code of Behaviour and Discipline

4. **School Communication and Public Relations**

- *Communication is open between all stakeholders*
- *Community is part of the development and integration of goals which focus on student achievement*
- *Communication takes place regarding Ministry/Board/Family/School goals*
- *Involve the community in all facets of the school program, extra-curricular and social elements*
- *Community is involved in school and faith based activities*

Part of All Saints Goals – Pillar #4 – Community Development – Develop and foster a sense of Community, school wide that is rooted in our Catholicity.

- i. All Saints continually does a great job in **school communication and public relations**, there is a monthly school newsletter that goes out. Our school continues to host with help from our School Council a wonderful BBQ event for parents and students and a Play Day at the end of the year. New issues are brought to the School Council meetings for discussion and the Council continues to send out a detailed monthly newsletter to keep the parent community up-to-date.
- ii. **Community Development** – staying connected between the teachers and our School Council. Welcoming the parent community to all assemblies and Masses is beneficial, as well as EQAO Parent Evenings, Special Theme Assemblies and SAC Meetings - it allows the community to be connected.

5. **Fiscal Management and Allocation of Resources**

- *School Council is aware of the budgetary issues and allocation of resources within the school.*
- *Budgetary matters are reported to the community on an annual basis*

Goals Pillar #5 – Financial Accountability and Transparency – Implement and maintain a school budget process that is effective, equitable, accountable and follow Board procedures.

- The school strikes a budget outline at the beginning of the school year
 - Adhere to budget allocations
 - Align budget to curriculum initiatives
 - Reconcile all Board and Other Board funds
 - Ensure wise use of resources
 - Work with the School Council on Fundraising
 - Follow Superintendent's direction – spend wisely and maintain a balanced budget
 - Submit financial/budget statement to the Superintendent bi-annually
- Our School Council has been very successful with all our fundraising ideas. Our parent community has been very generous. As a result, our School Council has been able to fund many things in the past such as the Scoreboard for our gym. The Council continues to communicate to the community through monthly newsletters and provide a council budget report that is available for all parents. We have been blessed as usual with such supportive parents and staff as well as with volunteers to operate our fundraisers this year. Below is a list of some of the items to-date that have been purchased and supported by our funding dollars.

Everything that we have funded to date is to support learning through enhancement and enrichments to various programs.

- ✓ Christmas treats for the children at Christmas time
- ✓ Funds towards the Literacy Room to purchase books to enhance the learning of the primary students.
- ✓ Funds towards the purchase of speakers for the Assemblies.
- ✓ Funds towards organizing author visits
- ✓ Funds towards a live tree for the foyer and a paschal candle to upgrade our Catholic Presence.

We are currently in the midst of running another fundraising activity to support many more initiatives for the school and students.

6. **Organizational Management**

- *Timelines, schedules and school planning is organized in an efficient, effective manner*

