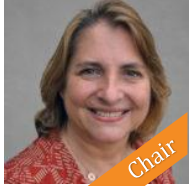




2021-2022 Year in Review



Elizabeth Crowe
Aurora, King,
Whitchurch-Stouffville

Chair



Theresa McNicol
East Gwillimbury, Georgina,
Newmarket



Carol Cotton
Markham,
Thornhill,
Unionville



Frank S.D. Alexander
Markham, Milliken,
Unionville



Dominic Mazzotta
Richmond Hill



Maria Iafrate
Richmond Hill



Rose Cantisano
Vaughan, Maple,
Kleinburg



Dino Giuliani
Vaughan, Woodbridge:
Area 2, Ward 2



Maria Marchese
Vaughan,
Woodbridge: Area 3,
Ward 3

Vice-Chair



Jennifer Wigston
Vaughan, Concord,
Thornhill



Alessandro Casbarro
Senior Student Trustee



Anthea Peta-Dragos
Junior Student Trustee

The 2021-2022 school year continued to be impacted by the global COVID pandemic as we offered a virtual learning option for elementary students and continued the hybrid model in our secondary schools. Our students and staff exemplified resilience as learning models changed. By the end of the year, masking and distancing restrictions eased, although ventilation and cleaning protocols remained in place. Slowly students re-engaged in extracurricular activities and hot lunch programs restarted. The year's highlight was a bevy of year-end activities, including field trips, in-person Masses, proms, and graduations. We end the year with so much positive energy and pray that COVID restrictions will be a thing of the past.

Integration of Our Catholic Faith

As a Catholic Board, the tenets of our faith guide our practices. The goal for 2021-22 was that "Students will integrate the Catholic faith's teaching of 'love your neighbour as you love yourself by building relationships that honour and respect the dignity of all.'" Much of our focus was on mental health initiatives to support students and staff impacted by the isolation and stress of virtual learning and social distancing. Students reported that Catholic meditation and prayer helped them feel calmer and more peaceful. Numerous school presentations focused on caring, supportive communities. The Board expanded its commitment to Truth and Reconciliation by replacing the regular Grade 11 English credit with the Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Voices course.

Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

In 2021-2022, York Catholic continued to achieve the top 4 and 5-year graduation rates among all school boards in the province. The Board offers a wide range of academic programs geared to the various learning needs of all students. The Board has begun initiating the recommendations of the Human Rights Commission's "Right to Read" report by dismantling its ISA centres and implementing Itinerant Literacy Intervention Teachers. SHSM, Co-op, and OYAP programs continued to expand. Six STREAM (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts, and Math) Centres of Excellence opened across the Board. Classes visited the centres where they were engaged in collaborative problem solving using state-of-the-art interactive technology. The Board approved a High-Performance Athlete program starting in 2023 at St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS, which builds on the success of the HPA program at Holy Cross CA. We are proud of the achievements of all our students, including OFSAA gold for the Holy Cross Senior Boys' Soccer team and two triple medalists at OFSAA Track. Two students from St. Robert CHS won Platinum at the National Science and Technology Fair and will represent Canada at the EU Contest for Young Scientists(EUCYS). The St. Elizabeth team placed first at the Ontario Envirothon and will compete in Ohio this summer. Overall, YCDSB successfully met or exceeded all three of its [strategic goals](#) in Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement.

Effective Use of Our Resources

YCDSB implemented system-wide upgrades to improve ventilation in all schools by installing high-grade Merv 13 filters in all air handling systems, which are changed four times a year. In addition, we added over 3000 standalone HEPA filter units, one for every classroom. St. Rene-Goupil-St. Luke CES received funding for a 3-room child care centre to include infant, toddler, and preschool-aged rooms, providing 49 much-needed childcare spaces. In addition, construction is underway for the new Stouffville schools St. Katharine Drexel/Blessed Chiara Badano. This site will also include a dedicated childcare. The anticipated opening of these new facilities is September 2023. In June, YCDSB, in partnership with the Woodbridge Sports Dome, held the official Grand Opening of the Woodbridge Sports Dome at Holy Cross Catholic Academy. One of the largest domes in Ontario, this domed sports field will undoubtedly benefit our Holy Cross students, community members, and local athletic teams that will share this space. Finally, this year the Board started to phase in the implementation of School-Day, an online cashless system for parents, teachers, and administrative staff. School-Day minimizes handling cash by students, teachers, and office staff, reduces paper consumption, allows parents to pay for trips and activities online, approve permission forms, and register for parent/teacher interviews.

Engaging Our Communities

YCDSB continually strives to further our communication between home and schools. While the pandemic presented many challenges, some beneficial practices emerged. Through the use of tools such as Google Classroom and D2L, parents have the opportunity to be connected to their child(ren)'s online learning environment. We transitioned to electronic report cards and will continue using this report card format. Our use of School Messenger has increased, keeping parents and guardians up to date with school news and Board events. Our Board Twitter account is active daily with over 33,000 followers, and the number of schools using Twitter continues to grow. To ensure engagement with our stakeholders, we conducted exit surveys with grades 6,8, and 12 students, as well as Parent and Staff Climate surveys. As always, we consulted our parents and school communities during the Board budget process.

School Start-Up

Elementary

- Elementary school offices open **Thursday, August 25, 2022.**
- The first day of school for elementary students is **Wednesday, September 7, 2022.**

Secondary

- Secondary school offices open on **Monday, August 22, 2022.**
- St. Luke site at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Learning Centre opens on **Thursday, August 25, 2022.**
- Grade 9 Orientation Day is **Wednesday, September 7, 2022** (*Grade 7 for Our Lady of the Lake CCS*).
- The first day for Grades 10-12 is **Thursday, September 8, 2022** (*Grades 8-12 for Our Lady of the Lake CCS*).
- Newcomer Orientation Week programs for secondary students new to Canada will take place late August. More Info, call 905.713.8281.

Transportation

Over the course of the summer, adjustments are made to bus route schedules and/or bus route numbers to accommodate new students and/or new schools. Beginning August 10, 2022, parents should confirm bus stop service times for September by visiting the STSYR website at: www.schoolbuscity.com. For information on busing eligibility, frequently asked questions, or to watch safety videos that teach children the rules for riding the school bus to help prepare them for September, please visit the STSYR website.

Partners in Education

Our collaboration between the home, school and parish, provides the foundation for student success. We give special thanks to:

- Administrators, teachers, and staff for their unwavering commitment to helping us achieve our mission and vision and who encourage our students to become responsible citizens who integrate Catholic values into their daily lives;
- Our employee group partners: CUPE Locals 1571/2331/2331-1/5476, OECTA, OSSTF, and the Elementary/Secondary PVP Associations;
- Our parishes for their continued support and ongoing spiritual guidance;
- The York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (YCPIC) members whose hard work promoting parent engagement and involvement in our schools continue to help students succeed; and,
- The parents who volunteer their time on Catholic School Councils – your dedication to working with our schools is sincerely appreciated.

Supporting Our Catholic Schools

Each time you change your residence, you must declare yourself an English-separate school supporter/elector. To determine if you are currently an English-language Catholic separate board school supporter/elector, check your property tax bill, contact the Municipal Property Assessment Office at 1.866.296.6722, or visit www.mpac.ca. One can also obtain an Application for Direction of School Support at your local school, by calling our Admissions Office at 905.713.2711, ext. 12434, or by visiting www.ycdsb.ca/admissions.

Board Policies

New Policies: Policy 228B Attendance- Secondary; Policy 430 Right to Disconnect: Fostering a Healthy Workplace

Updated Policies: Policy 106 Delegations to the Board; Policy 117 Code of Conduct; Policy 201 Healthy Schools, Policy 201A Healthy Schools - Eating & Nutrition, Policy 201B Healthy Schools - Physical Activity, Policy 202 Safe Schools – Student Discipline; Policy 204 Child Protection and Abuse; Policy 206 Supporting Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions – Asthma, Policy 208 Student Disability Accommodation; Policy 219B Student Dress and School Uniform - Secondary; Policy 223 Bullying Prevention and Intervention; Policy 308 Textbooks; Policy 310 Retention and Acceleration of Elementary Students; Policy 316 Secondary School Post-Examination Review; Policy 319 Supplementary Learning Resources, Policy 403 Education Workers – Recruitment and Promotion; Policy 405A Appointments to Supervisory Officer Positions; Policy 405C Appointments to Principal and Vice Principal Positions; Policy 408 Digital Discipleship: Acceptable Use of Technology; Policy 412 Progressive Discipline of Employees; Policy 413 Attendance Support Program; Policy 415 Accessibility Standards for Employment; Policy 427 Workplace Violence; Policy 608 Volunteers in Schools; Policy 614 Whistleblower; Policy 706 Alternative Accommodation Arrangements; Policy 707 Acquisition and Development of School Sites; Policy 708 Outdoor Activity Equipment and procedure; Policy 710 Environmental Education: Our Sacred Earth, Policy 712 Flag Display on Board Premises; Policy 808 Travel, Meals and Expense Reimbursement; Policy 811 Investment of Board Funds; Policy 812 Fair Labour Practices for School Uniforms.

For more information, please visit the Board website at www.ycdsb.ca and Follow us on Twitter @YCD SB

Mission Statement

Guided by Gospel values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

Vision Statement

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

Core Values



Strategic Commitments

