
DURHAM CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

CHAIR'S REPORT

TO: DCPIC, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, SCHOOL CHAIRS, STAFF AND PARENTS
FROM: ROXANNE HORWITZ
SUBJECT: JANUARY 2014 REPORT
DATE: JANUARY 9, 2014

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas celebration with your families. December was a busy and productive month as we launched the DCPIC newsletter! Every family in our school board received a paper copy of this first issue – which is also posted online on our website. Thank you to the many people, who helped with the newsletter, in particular, Kim Beatty, Paulette Palumbo, Monique Forster, Nancy Carpenter, Tricia Chapman, Beth Hawkins, Patti Ritchie and Karen Ulrich. One of our goals is to increase our communication methods, and to reach out to more parents. I think this was accomplished as I have heard good feedback, and from parents who didn't necessarily know about the DCPIC.

The DCPIC also celebrated a spiritual retreat at Manresa on December 4. As part of our faith formation goals, we invited Patrick Sullivan to lead our group and school chairs in discussing ways we can build on our faith.

As we begin this new year, we have many more events in the upcoming months. For this month, on January 22 we have Dr. Jean Clinton presenting on the developing brain and how it affects children's behaviour. Please check our website for more details.

The DCPIC also wish to congratulate Trustee Valentine and Trustee LeFort as they have been elected in December as the Chair of the Board, and Vice-Chair of the Board respectively. We also wish to welcome new trustee representation to our committee. Welcome to Trustee Stack and Trustee Oldman.

The DCPIC wants to hear from our parents, school councils, teachers, principals, and partners in education about how we can effectively support student achievement and well-being. We invite you to visit our website at www.dcpic.ca where you can find our contact information along with other information you may find useful.

Here is the update for this month:

January Report

- Conferences
 - a) Ministry of Education's Annual PIC Symposium – April 2014
- OAPCE (Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education)
 - a) OAPCE is celebrating their 75th Anniversary with conference on May 23-24 in Mississauga. Cardinal Collins will be officiating mass.
 - b) Regional Updates
 - Next regional update in February, as I will be attending the quarterly meeting on January 11
- Subcommittees
 - a) Report from each subcommittee and discussion items pertaining to those subcommittees will be discussed at each meeting

- Revised Format of DCPIC meetings
 - a) Welcome and courtesies will also include a brief update from each DCPIC member about their schools. Everyone will have 2-3 minutes to share any events, suggestions, etc. We are moving this to beginning as we have not had the opportunity to include this at the end of the meeting
 - b) Presentations will now move to the end of the meeting to allow time for discussion items

- Upcoming Events
 - a) January 22 – Dr. Jean Clinton Presentation at St. Mary C.S.S in Pickering. She will discuss the developing brain in children with section on the teen brain. Registration is open and can be done online at: <http://drclinton-dcpic.eventbrite.ca/>
 - b) February – Literacy Fair – details to follow shortly
 - c) March 19 – Boys and Girls Learn Differently by Michael Reist
 - d) April 1 – Kevin Cameron
 - e) May 13 – Barbara Coloroso

For more details on these events, please refer to our website at www.dcpic.ca

- Presentations at DCPIC Meeting:
 - a) January 9 – EQAO , Margaret Fler, Principal, School Support & Outreach
 - b) February – Policy and Procedures, Superintendent Bob Camozzi