



Annunciation Catholic School

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Principal
Vernon Sweeney

Superintendent
John Shanahan
416-222-8282, ext. 5371

Trustee
Angela Kennedy, 416-512-3411

Parish
Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Pastor: Fr. Jude Coyle
416-445-1760

Enrollment: 346

Hours of Operation
Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Lunch Hour
11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.



Catch the spirit!

January School News

Happy New Year!

While January sees the beginning of the New Year, many of us also regard it as the true beginning of the long, hard winter. In this sense it is apt that the virtue for January is COURAGE. The quote for this month is Isaiah 41:10, “*Do not be afraid; I am with You*” “*Be not afraid!*” is also what the angel tells Mary at the annunciation. (Lk 1:30) and at the resurrection, another angel uses the same words to tell the women at the tomb that Christ has risen. (Mt 28:5) Jesus himself uses these words to strengthen his apostles. (Jn 6:20) It takes a lot of courage to practice and be true to our Catholic faith.

Let us help one another and build upon our courage to be true to our Catholic faith.

As we begin this New Year...

Thank you to the Annunciation Catholic School staff and central resource staff for their on-going efforts and dedication to our students.

Thank you to our Parent Council (CSPC) and Parent Volunteers for their generous volunteer contributions to our school community.

Thank you to our families for your tremendous generosity and support of our school and community.

Thank you to our Church for your spiritual guidance and loving care.

Vern Sweeney

Kindergarten Registration 2018

For September 2018, all children born in 2014 are eligible to attend Kindergarten.

Kindergarten registration begins on January 17th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

We welcome parents to register January 17th and throughout the coming weeks and months. Additionally, Annunciation Catholic School will have **extended Kindergarten Registration hours on Wednesday, February 7th from 4 - 7:00 p.m.**

The following documents are required for registration:

- Child's Birth Certificate (Certificate of Citizenship or Landed Immigrant Status)
- Child's Catholic Baptismal Certificate (or other proof of Catholicity)
- Child's Immunization Record
- Proof of residency in Toronto

SOAR

The TCDSB uses the **Student Online Registration Form** for student registration.

SOAR is available for JK/SK registration which begins on January 17th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. **SOAR** allows a family to complete an application for registration from the comfort of home, the office, a public library, or anywhere there is internet access! The online application offers access to translations in many different languages with built-in help functions and features. Parents are also able to schedule their appointment for registration with the elementary school online. If you have children that are eligible for JK/SK beginning September 2018, registration is to be completed by visiting the **SOAR** site to complete the application for registration online:

<http://soar.tcdsb.org>

CSPC Meeting

The CSPC invites all parents to join us at our next **CSPC meeting starting at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 16th in the school library.**

All School Visitors Are To Report To The School Office

To help maintain security of our building and the safety of our children, all visitors are to report to the school office upon arrival.

Mrs. Andrade, our school secretary, can assist visitors with their inquiries.

Parents wishing to meet with a teacher and/or principal are welcome to arrange a mutually convenient meeting time.

Appropriate Dress School Uniform

Our students and families are reminded of the Appropriate Dress Code. Students are to wear any combination of white and navy blue garments (e.g. plain white top, navy blue bottom or, navy blue top and bottom, no denim). Families can purchase uniform clothing through our new vendor, **Hemera Branding**. Their contact number is 416-423-4520, and their website www.hemerabranding.com.

Student Winter Outdoor Reminders

Parents/Guardians are asked to review student reminders with your child/ren:

- 1. Students are to dress for the weather.**
- 2. Students are encouraged to work together to construct snow structures/creations when wearing proper clothing. Students are to always respect the structures/creations made by other students - do not destroy – and be helpful, not hurtful.**
- 3. The safety of all children is paramount.**
 - Please do not throw snow/snowballs/ice.**
 - Please do not kick snow/ice at other children.**
 - Please do not slide on ice.**

Student Winter Outdoor Reminders cont'd

- 4. Children are encouraged to construct snow structures/creations when wearing proper clothing. Always respect the structures/creations made by other students - please do not destroy.**

Advent Mass, Dance Performances and Christmas Concert

Thank you to all student performers who helped us celebrate Christmas at our Advent Mass, Dance Performances, and the Christmas Play.

Thank you to all persons who supported our students in their preparations.

Merry Christmas to everyone!

Allergy Care

Please remember that Annunciation Catholic School seeks to be a **PEANUT & NUT FREE SCHOOL**. **Let's all do our best to keep our students with allergies safe.**

School Bus, Staff Parking Lot, and Student Safety

All community members are reminded that our school buses drop off and pick up students in front of our school. Please do not park in the bus zone.

Please be courteous and remember that our staff parking lot is for staff parking. **Please do not park in the staff parking lot from 8 – 8:30 a.m. and 2:45 – 3:00 p.m.** Persons dropping off and picking up children should arrange to park on a local street and walk to the school yard.

Additionally, children are not to walk through the school parking lot.

Please help us to maintain student safety.

Monitor Students Online Communication

A large variety of electronic computer tools provide many means of communication. With the ease of access with electronic communication, **it is important to understand the expectation that privacy does not exist when using computers at school or home.** In other words, **nothing is private**, and students must understand this when using the internet.

The school educates students on the safe use of computers. Please take the time to talk with your child about the safe use of electronic communication tools, and the importance of never disclosing private personal, family, or school information on the internet.

Parents are reminded to monitor their child's computer use, and help your child understand your expectations for using electronic communication tools.

PA Day Friday, January 19

Please be aware that Friday, January 19 is a Professional Activity Day (PA Day). There will not be classes for students. Regular classes will resume on Monday, January 22.

Tips for Getting a Good Night's Sleep

- ✓ Encourage children to go to bed and wake up at the same time everyday
- ✓ Don't use a child's bedroom for punishment
- ✓ Relax before going to bed. Having quiet time before going to bed will help prepare the brain for sleep (i.e., use of relaxation exercises or a hot bath)
- ✓ Avoid eating large meals before bedtime
- ✓ Enjoy time outside everyday
- ✓ Engage in physical exercise
- ✓ Minimize distractions in your child's bedroom i.e. bright lights, TV, computer, noises.

(information obtained from: www.nhibi.nih.gov)

Healthy Brain Function:

A good night's sleep helps form and strengthen the pathways in the brain that relate to learning, memory, and the ability to focus and pay attention. "Some experts believe sleep gives neurons used while we are awake a chance to shut down and repair themselves." Studies also suggest that sleeping helps strengthen memories you've formed throughout the day and link new memories to older ones.

Mental Health:

Sleep impacts on your emotional well-being and ability to control your emotions, behavior, and coping skills. Remember to get lots of sleep!

Parents Urged to Check Their Liability Insurance Coverage

At the October 19, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Board resolved that all parents of the Board should be advised to consider contacting their home insurance providers to determine the adequacy of their home insurance coverage to cover claims arising out of injuries caused by their child at school.

The reason for the Board of Trustee direction is that there have been a few instances recently where legal action has been initiated for personal injury or other harm to a student allegedly caused by another child.

A brief consultation by parents with their insurance provider is advised so parents can assess the adequacy of their insurance coverage if they are sued for personal injury or other harm allegedly caused by their child at school.

Trustees 2017 - 2018

Wards

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Martino | 5. Maria Rizzo, Vice Chair | 9. Jo-Ann Davis |
| 2. Ann Andrachuk | 6. Frank D'Amico | 10. Barbara Poplawski, Chair |
| 3. Sal Piccininni | 7. Michael Del Grande | 11. Angela Kennedy |
| 4. Patrizia Bottoni | 8. Garry Tanuan | 12. Nancy Crawford |
- Rhea Carlisle, Student Trustee Joel Ndongmi, Student Trustee





Monthly Update from the Board January 2018

Kindergarten Registration Begins January 17th at 10 a.m.

Visit www.tcdsb.org for details.

New French Immersion Programs Coming September 2018

We are pleased to share that following the successful community consultation, the Toronto Catholic District School Board is moving forward with the implementation of French Immersion Programming for September 2018 at the following schools:

- [St. Mary Catholic School](#)
- [St. Alphonsus Catholic School](#)
- [St. Brigid Catholic School](#)
- [St. Louis Catholic School](#)
- [St. Rita Catholic School](#)

Registration for elementary school programs will begin in January 2018.

Visit www.tcdsb.org for information about further expansions of the French Immersion program.

Registration for Second Semester of Night School and eClass

Toronto Catholic District School Board invites students to register for night school and eClass beginning **January 11th**. Students may register for a maximum of two courses, which may consist of eClass Online or in-class evening courses. Classes begin February 20th and 21st.

School	Evenings	Start Date	End Date	Times
Bishop Marrocco/ Thomas Merton	Monday and Wednesday	Feb 21	June 13	6 pm - 9:15 pm
Francis Libermann	Monday and Wednesday	Feb 21	June 13	6 pm - 9:15 pm
Jean Vanier	Tuesday and Thursday	Feb 20	June 7	6 pm - 9:15 pm
Msgr. Percy Johnson	Tuesday and Thursday	Feb 20	June 7	6 pm - 9:15 pm
eClass - Online Learning		Feb 21	June 13	

Visit the continuing education website for further information: www.tcdsb.org/continuinged or www.tcdsb.org/eclass

January's Virtue is Courage

Find all the resources related to the monthly virtue, as well as other resources to support faith development and Religion and Family Life on our website here: <https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/Pages/Default.aspx>

Opportunities for Students

Check here <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORSTUDENTS/OpportunitiesForStudents/Pages/default.aspx> for the latest updates about scholarships, community service opportunities, student employment and more.

Barbara Poplawski Named Chair of Toronto Catholic District School Board

Barbara Poplawski, Trustee for Ward 10, was elected as Chair of the Toronto Catholic District School Board at the annual Caucus/Inaugural meeting held this evening.

The longest serving TCDSB Trustee, Ms. Poplawski was first elected to the Board in 1978, and has served on almost every committee during her political career, including terms as both chair and vice-chair on Board standing committees.

Committed to the goals of the Board's multi-year strategic plan, she says the Board's responsibilities are to serve students first and foremost, but also to be transparent and accountable to those stakeholders who do not have children in the system

Maria Rizzo, Trustee for Ward 5, was elected as Vice-Chair of the Board. Ms. Rizzo has been trustee since 2003.

Appointments to Statutory and Standing Committees included:

- Supervised Alternative Learning: Nancy Crawford, Jo-Ann Davis (alternate)
- Student Achievement and Well Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee: Chair-Nancy Crawford; Vice-Chair-Angela Kennedy
- Corporate Services, Strategic Planning and Property Committee: Chair-Jo-Ann Davis; Vice-Chair-Garry Tanuan
- Catholic Parent Involvement Committee: Garry Tanuan, Angela Kennedy (alternate)
- Governance and Policy: Chair-Angela Kennedy; Vice-Chair-Jo-Ann Davis

Calendar of Board and Committees

The new calendar of meetings for 2018 has been added to our website. Visit <https://www.tcdsb.org/Calendar/Pages/annual-calendar-and-committee-meetings.aspx> for details.

Audited Financial Statements—2017

Click here to view approved financial statements for 2016-2017 www.tcdsb.org/financialstatement

Other Important Reminders:

Inclement Weather Protocol

With the approach of winter and the associated ice and snow, there is always a possibility of school bus cancellations or delays, as well as cancellation of programs and services such as evening classes or permits. Your best source of information is via Twitter @TCDSB. For those who are not on Twitter, please tune in to local television and radio networks for updates. Other good sources of information are:

- TCDSB's website www.tcdsb.org
- Toronto Student Transportation Group website <https://www.torontoschoolbus.org>
- TCDSB 24-hour Telephone Information Line: 416-222-8282 ext. 2873
- Or if you wish to receive updates right to your email, subscribe to enews: <https://web1.tcdsb.org/InterestSubscription/subscription.aspx>

TCDSB 2017-2018 Awards Season has begun!

Nominations are welcome for the annual TCDSB Alumni Award, Award of Merit and Friends of Catholic Education Award which will be presented at Awards Night on May 7, 2018.

Deadline: third Friday in January (January 20).

- **TCDSB Alumni Award:** Open to TCDSB alumni who are still active in the Catholic community and who have distinguished themselves in their career or accomplishments.
- **TCDSB Award of Merit:** Open to former staff, parents and trustees who have made outstanding contributions to the TCDSB and to Catholic education (can only be considered for award after a three-year period has passed since departure from the TCDSB)
- **Friends of Catholic Education Award:** Open to members of the general public (individuals or organizations) who have accomplished extraordinary service to Catholic Education but who may not be Catholic.

For nomination forms and information, visit: www.tcdsb.org/awardsnight

One Month until Deadline for Submissions: Spotlight On Your School

Submissions of short videos and original songs to celebrate your local school are due **February 23rd**. Details for this *Year of the School* activity can be found online <https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/Year-of-the-School/Spotlight-on-your-school/Pages/default.aspx>