



Annunciation Catholic School

65 Avonwick Gate,
Don Mills, ON, M3A 2M8
Tel.: 416-393-5299
Fax: 416-397-6089

Principal
Vernon Sweeney

Superintendent
Peter Aguiar
416-222-8282, ext. 2267

Trustee
Angela Kennedy, 416-512-3411

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

Enrollment: 342

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

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



November 2018

School News

Peacemaking Is Our Virtue of the Month Remembrance Day

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, Canadians are asked to pause and remember the thousands of men and women who sacrificed their lives fighting for freedom and democracy during the First World War, the Second World War, the Korean War and during peacekeeping missions.

We take this opportunity to celebrate, honour, thank, and remember the achievements and sacrifices made by those persons who have served and continue to serve our country.
(information shared from CBC News)

Many of us as Canadians are fortunate to have no experience of war. Let us remind one another to be peacemakers through the peaceful actions we share with one another. In so doing, we honour the sacrifices and achievements made by our Canadian Veterans to preserve and protect our way of life.

Family of Schools Community Mass

Our Family of Schools Community Mass (Annunciation CS, St. Isaac Jogues CS, Our Lady of Wisdom CS) will take place at **1:15 p.m.** on **Wednesday, November 21**. The Eucharistic celebration will take place at Annunciation Catholic Church. **Due to the large number of student parishioners**, grade 1 – 8 classes will attend the service.

ELP classes will remain at school.

Gratitude for Education Assistants

On behalf of the students and staff at Annunciation Catholic School, I would like to thank Mrs. C. Aquino and Mr. A. Ching who have been Education Assistants at our school. Mrs. Aquino and Mr. Ching will be working at a new school to support students in their learning success.

I wish continued student learning success for Mrs. Aquino and Mr. Ching in their new assignments.

Annunciation Cross Country

Congratulations to our Divisional, Regional, and City Cross Country participants. Everyone worked hard and your efforts paid off with success for all. Knowing that you did your best makes all of us proud!

Thank you to the Annunciation school coaches, school staff, and parent volunteers for your generous contributions to enable and support this extra-curricular activity for our students.

BOOK FAIR Not Available

For your awareness, with the Before and After School program using our school library, we do not have available space to conduct a secure Book Fair.

Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC)

Please note that our next CSPC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 28, 7:00 p.m.** in our school library. **All parents** are invited to participate in the Annunciation CSPC.

Report Cards Will Be Sent Home Monday, November 12

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent-teacher interviews are scheduled to take place on:

Wednesday, November 14, 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 15, 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Each interview is scheduled for ten minutes. However, if more time is necessary another appointment can be arranged with the teacher at a mutually convenient time.

PA Day Friday, November 16

Please be aware that Friday, November 16 is a Professional Activity Day (PA Day). Regular classes will resume on Monday, November 19.

Student Photo Retakes

Please note that **Tuesday, November 6** is **student photo retake** day for our school.

Photos will be taken in the **morning only between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m.** in our school library.

As a general guide, photo retakes are for students who were not at school on the original photo day, for students with eyes closed in the original photo, or for technical problems with the original photo. Thank you.

EpiPen Reminders

Parents are asked to replace expired EpiPens for home and school use. Students with anaphylaxis are to have a minimum of two (2) EpiPens at the school and with them on trips. It is advisable for a parent or other relative of an anaphylactic student to attend class trips.

LUNCH TIME SUPERVISORS NEEDED

Our school requires additional lunch time supervisors to assist with lunch supervision. We have need for **one full-time** (five days a week) supervisor.

This is a paid position for one hour per day during lunchtime, 11:15 – 12:15, Monday to Friday.

If you are interested in the position and able to complete the **hiring process**, please contact the school office at 416-393-5299 to share your name and contact phone number.

The **hiring process** takes time and requires the following documents:

TB test, Priest Reference Form, voided cheque, copy of the SIN card, proof of birth date, and a Police criminal reference check.

Angel Foundation Gratitude

I am pleased to announce that **The Angel Foundation for Learning**, the charitable organization devoted to assisting students within TCDSB schools, has approved our school's funding request in support of our excursion to Pioneer Camp Ontario.

Serving TCDSB students and making a positive difference, we thank The Angel Foundation for Learning for helping students since its inception in 1987.

Donations to the Foundation are welcome and can be sent to: The Angel Foundation for Learning, 80 Sheppard Avenue East, Toronto, ON M2N 6E8.

Tax receipts for donations of \$20.00 or more will be issued. For more information about the Foundation visit

www.angelfoundationforlearning.org

Trustees 2018 - 2019

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 |
- Taylor Dallin, Student Trustee Joel Ndongmi, Student Trustee





Monthly Update from the Board

November 2018

Don't Forget to Turn Your Clocks Back

Weekend of November 3-4, 2018. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep!

November's Virtue is Peacemaking

Find all the monthly resources associated with our virtues of the month online

<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/NurturingOurCatholicCommunity/VirtueoftheMonth/Pages/Default.aspx>

TCDSB Trustee Election Results

Congratulations to the newly elected and re-elected Trustees for the Toronto Catholic District School Board:

- **Ward 1** - Joseph Martino
- **Ward 2** - Markus de Domenico
- **Ward 3** - Ida Li Preti
- **Ward 4** - Teresa Lubinski
- **Ward 5** - Maria Rizzo
- **Ward 6** - Frank D'Amico
- **Ward 7** - Mike Del Grande
- **Ward 8** - Garry Tanuan
- **Ward 9** - Norm Di Pasquale
- **Ward 10** - Daniel Di Giorgio
- **Ward 11** - Angela Kennedy
- **Ward 12** - Nancy Crawford

The new Board of Trustees will be sworn in at the Inaugural Meeting on Monday, December 3, 2018.

Information About Cannabis

On Wednesday, October 17, 2018, cannabis became legal in Ontario and the rest of Canada.

The Toronto Catholic District School Board remains committed to maintaining safe school and work environments that are welcoming and support the Board's focus on excellence in education.

Although legislation permits the recreational use of cannabis, the vaping, smoking, or use of lighted tobacco, cannabis/marijuana, herbal material (or any other combustible material) and electronic smoking devices **is prohibited at all TCDSB schools and worksites.**

Current rules for ALL TCDSB and Ontario schools:

A positive school climate and a safe learning and teaching environment are critical for student success and central to our Board's goals as outlined in our Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

All current policies and regulations governing the use of cannabis remain in effect and include, but are not limited to:

- Possession of cannabis (except for medical purposes, if authorized by a health care practitioner such as a physician or a nurse practitioner) will not be permitted while in schools or at school-related activities, even after legalization of recreational cannabis.
- Suspension may be considered for a student under the influence or in possession of cannabis.
- Suspension will be required, and expulsion may be considered, if a student gives cannabis to a minor.

PLEASE NOTE:

Smoking or vaping cannabis is NOT permitted at schools and places where children gather

You are also not permitted to smoke or vape cannabis:

- At school, on school grounds, and all public areas within 20m of these grounds
- On children's playgrounds and public areas within 20m of playgrounds
- In child care centres, or where an early years program is provided
- In places where home child care is provided – even if children aren't present

Additional Resources about Cannabis

The following is the web page link to information from Toronto Public Health about Cannabis. <https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/health-programs-advice/cannabis/>

Other Resources

- [Government of Canada – Cannabis web page](#) (Portal - Information about health impacts, licensed producers, impaired driving, legalizing and regulating)
- [Ontario Government – Cannabis Legalization webpage](#) (what will be legal and won't be legal in Ontario)
- [Cannabis Talk Kit](#) – resource for parents, and can be helpful for all adult allies

Catholic Parent Involvement Committee

Congratulations to the new and returning CPIC committee members:

- Chair: John Del Grande, Ward 12
- Vice-Chair: Joe Fiorante, Ward 3
- Secretary: Geoffrey Feldman, Ward 2
- Treasurer: Gus Gikas, Ward 6
- Assistant Treasurer: Ruth Oliveros, Ward 8
- Communications Director: Desmond Alvares, Ward 11

Other Ward Reps:

- Ward 1: Alison Canning and Raul Tellez
- Ward 2: Natalia Marriott
- Ward 5: Melinda Hackett
- Ward 8: Wendell Labrador
- Ward 10: Annalisa Crudo-Perri
- Ward 11: Ben Xavier
- Ward 12: Anthony Antonucci

And the Parent and Community Representatives:

- Isabel Starck
- Karla Coto
- Patricia Buzzo, OAPCE Toronto
- Mary LaFramboise, Faith in Your Child

To connect with CPIC or your local representative, see <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/ParentInvolvement/Pages/CPIC-Representatives.aspx>

To learn more about parent engagement and the work of CPIC, see <https://www.tcdsb.org/FORPARENTS/ParentInvolvement/Pages/default.aspx>

For Gifted Congregated Programs Information Night

The Toronto Catholic District School Board offers Full Time/Congregated Elementary Gifted Programs for students in Grades 6 to 8 who have an exceptionality of Giftedness. These programs are integrated into the regular school community. Important aspects of the program are curriculum extensions in depth, breadth and pace, daily continuity of programming, collaboration with like-minded peers and leadership opportunities.

A Parent Information evening will be held for parents/guardians interested in exploring a full time elementary Gifted Program for their child with the exceptionality of Giftedness.

The Parent Information evening will take place at **St. Edward School, 1 Botham Rd., on November 22, 2018 at 7:00 pm.**

Opportunities for Students

Prime Minister's Youth Council: New Members Needed

The Prime Minister's Youth Council is accepting applications for the next cohort of members. Applicants must be 16-24 years old. The application deadline is **November 30, 2018**. [Click here for more information and to apply.](#)

House of Commons Page Program

Every year, House of Commons Pages are selected from high schools and CEGEPs across Canada to work in the House of Commons. While pursuing their studies at a university in the National Capital Region, these students gain valuable work experience and make friendships and memories that will last a lifetime. This year's application deadline is December 3, 2018. [Click here for more information and to submit an application.](#)

The RBC Black History Month Student Essay Competition 2018

The Competition is only open to grade 12 students who are: legal residents of Canada; applying to a Canadian post-secondary school; and plan to attend in the 2019/2020 academic year. In 750 words or less tell us how you think young people can learn from the achievements and contributions of Black Canadians. Submission deadline is **Friday, December 7, 2018**. [Click here for details](#).

The 2018-2019 TCDSB Awards Season Has Begun!

Nominations are now open for the following TCDSB Alumni Award, Award of Merit and Friends of Catholic Education Award which will be presented at Awards Night on May 6, 2019.

Deadline: third Friday in January (January 18).

- **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.
- **NEW Award: Sister Evanne Hunter Young Women in Leadership Award**
In honour of International Women's Day, the Sister Evanne Hunter Young Women in Leadership Award is a new award that will be given annually to two exceptional TCDSB female students in their graduating year (one grade 8 student and one grade 12 student) in recognition of their leadership qualities and involvement in social justice efforts in their school and community. **Beginning November 1**, all schools will be invited to nominate one female student in their graduating year for the award. [Click here for more information](#).

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

Province of Ontario Seeks Feedback on Education

The Province is consulting with parents across the province to address concerns and get feedback in several areas of the education system.

Feedback from these consultations will help shape decisions in the following areas:

1. Improving student performance in [Science, Technology, Engineering and Math \(STEM\)](#)
2. Preparing students with needed job skills, such as [skilled trades](#) and coding
3. Improving provincial [standardized testing](#)
4. Ensuring students graduate with important life skills, including [financial literacy](#)
5. Managing the use of technology in classrooms, such as cell phones
6. Building a new age-appropriate [Health and Physical Education curriculum](#) that includes subjects like mental health, sexual health education and the legalization of cannabis
7. Developing the first-ever [Parents' Bill of Rights](#)

How to participate

There are three ways to participate:

Open submission

Share your views on all or some of the 7 key consultation areas that are outlined above:

1. Use the private and confidential online [submission form](#), **or**
2. Email your written submission to fortheparents@ontario.ca and:
 - include your name or the name of your organization
 - add "provincial consultations" as the subject
 - attach your submission as a PDF or Word document

Deadline is December 15, 2018.

Metrolinx and Municipal Transit Agencies Host Accessibility Meetings

Metrolinx and municipal transit agencies are hosting Accessibility Public Meetings across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, and extend a personal invitation for everyone to participate. They want to hear from members of the public and other organizations about the accessibility of GO Transit, PRESTO, UP Express, and our new and upcoming Rapid Transit services and projects.

- **East – Whitby: Wednesday November 7, 6:30-8:30 PM**
Abilities Centre
55 Gordon Street
Theatre / Multi-Purpose Room (second floor)
* Note: this is a joint meeting with Durham Region Transit
- **Central – Toronto: Wednesday November 14, 6:30-8:30 PM**

Metro Hall

55 John Street

Rooms 308 & 309 (third floor)

- **Teleconference: Wednesday November 21, 5:00-6:30 PM**
RSVP required; please submit questions and comments in advance of meeting
Teleconference details will be provided to registrants
- **West – Hamilton: Thursday November 29, 6:00-8:00 PM**
Hamilton Public Library, Central Branch
55 York Street
Hamilton Room (main floor)

* Note: this is a joint meeting with the City of Hamilton

American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation, real-time captioning and attendant services will be provided at the in-person meetings. Alternative formats and other accommodations will be made available upon request. Interested individuals should pre-register. Those who are interested but can not attend, have other options for providing feedback.

Detailed information: Accessibility Public Meetings webpage

(http://www.metrolinx.com/en/aboutus/accessibility/accessibility_meetings.aspx).

TCDSB Staff Arts Presents Shakespeare on the Green

November 2,3,9,10, 2018

At Brebeuf College School

211 Steeles Avenue East, North York

Tickets on sale \$20

www.tcdsb.org/staffarts for more information or to order tickets

Angel Foundation for Learning Evening to Feed the Soul Gala

November 9th at Riviera Parque

For details and ticket information: https://www.angelfoundationforlearning.org/?page_id=6185

Help feed hungry children, and support a variety of opportunities for students who need assistance.

November Meetings

- November 1—Student Achievement Committee
- November 5—Governance and Policy Committee
- November 13—Corporate Services Committee
- November 14—SEAC
- November 15—Regular Board
- November 19—CPIC
- November 29—Caucus

The Inaugural Meeting of the Board will be held on December 3rd.

Agendas generally posted the weekend prior to the meeting at www.tcdsb.org

Other Dates to Note:

- November 1—All Saints' Day <https://www.tcdsb.org/Pages/All-Saints-Day.aspx>
- November 1-7—Canadian Down Syndrome Week <https://cdss.ca/community/events-activities/down-syndrome-awareness-week/>
- November 2—All Souls' Day <https://www.tcdsb.org/Pages/All-Souls-Day.aspx>
- November 3-8--Holocaust Education Week
- November 5-9--Treaties Recognition Week <http://www.chiefs-of-ontario.org/event/treaty-recognition-week-2/>
- November 6--OAPCE Commissioning and Awards Presentation <https://www.tcdsb.org/forparents/oapce-toronto/events/pages/oapce-toronto-commissioning-and-awards-presentation.aspx>
- November 7—A Catholic Call to Serve <https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/news/2018-2019/pages/catholic-call-to-serve.aspx>
- November 11--Remembrance Day (**Schools commemorate on November 9th**)
<https://www.tcdsb.org/pages/remembrance-day.aspx>
- November 14--Take Our Kids to Work Day <https://www.tcdsb.org/pages/take-our-kids-to-work-day.aspx>

- November 19-23—Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week
<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/safeschools/bullyingawarenessandprevention/pages/bullying-awareness-and-prevention.aspx>
- November 20—Memorial Mass to honour students and staff who have passed away. 7PM at the Catholic Education Centre
- November 21—World Day of Poor <https://www.tcdsb.org/board/nurturingourcatholiccommunity/news/2018-2019/pages/world-day-of-the-poor-.aspx>
- November 23—Holodomor Memorial Day <https://www.tcdsb.org/Pages/Holodomor-Memorial-Day.aspx>
- December 2—Advent Begins

Visit www.tcdsb.org to get more information about any of these events

And remember to subscribe to ENews to receive regular updates via email

<https://www.tcdsb.org/News/eNews/Pages/default.aspx>

And/or follow @TCDSB on Twitter to get all the latest news and information

International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program: November Update

IL Survey to Be Conducted in All TCDSB Elementary Schools

On July 12th, the Board of Trustees of the TCDSB approved a motion to survey parents in all TCDSB Elementary Schools to determine whether parents wish to continue or initiate an International Languages program at their child's school.

Process and Timelines:

- **One survey will be sent to each family with the Progress Report card with the oldest or only child in each family.**
- All surveys must be completed and returned in the sealed envelope provided, **to the school principal no later than November 27, 2018.**
- No survey will be accepted after November 27th.

Should parents wish to have a translated version to assist with the completion of the English survey, they can request a translated copy from the school principal or download a copy of the target language from:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SchoolProgramsK12/InternationalLanguages/International-Language-Survey/Pages/Default.aspx>. Translations are available in Spanish, Portuguese, Ukrainian, Arabic, Filipino, Chinese (Simplified and Traditional) Tamil, and Italian.

All parents are encouraged to participate to ensure that results reflect the individual and collective voice of the school community. Surveys from **67% of all families in the school must be completed and returned in order for the results to be considered viable**. In order to determine if the program is to be continued, using the Board approved model or to move the IL program to an alternative model, **the majority of 51%** should be attained for the preferred selection.

In January, a report will be submitted to the Board of Trustees. This report will include a list of results by school, including the response rates for each school. However, only schools with the required 67% response rate will receive a detailed summary of parent responses.

For updated information regarding the International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program please visit:

<https://www.tcdsb.org/programsservices/schoolprogramsk12/internationallanguages/pages/change-to-international-languages-program.aspx>