



2019-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

Rooted in Faith: Excellence | Equity | Engagement



**DURHAM CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
Learning and Living in Faith



OUR MISSION

We are called to celebrate and nurture the God-given talents of each student as we serve with excellence in the light of Christ.

OUR VISION

Each student in our Catholic learning community embodies excellence and equity by embracing our Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations — to be:

- A discerning believer
- An effective communicator
- A reflective, creative and holistic thinker
- A self-directed, responsible lifelong learner
- A collaborative contributor
- A caring family member
- A responsible citizen

OUR VALUES

- Faith
- Hope
- Love
- Peace
- Wisdom
- Inclusion
- Excellence
- Creativity
- Service
- Stewardship
- Responsibility
- Justice



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Witnessing Faith

“You have faith; I have deeds.” Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.” (James 2:18)

Essential Practices

Witnessing faith embodies a Catholic worldview informed by the Catholic Social Teachings in the lifelong pursuit of the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations.

Our Catholic learning communities:

- Demonstrate a relationship with Christ in both word and deed.
- Engage and promote social justice and service to our broader communities.
- Support the rich delivery of our religious education curriculum and programs.

Goals

We will:

- Increase opportunities to support a culture of teaching and learning which is rooted in the Gospel values and supports the attainment of the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations across all curriculum.
- Increase inviting, engaging and purposeful opportunities to support faith formation for all members of the community.
- Foster the relationship between the home, school and parish through pastoral planning for all students and staff.





STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

Celebrating Inclusion and Well-Being

“Peace begins with a smile.” – St. Teresa of Calcutta

Essential Practices

Well-being is built upon a sense of belonging and the development of the whole person, social, emotional, academic, spiritual and physical.

Our Catholic learning communities:

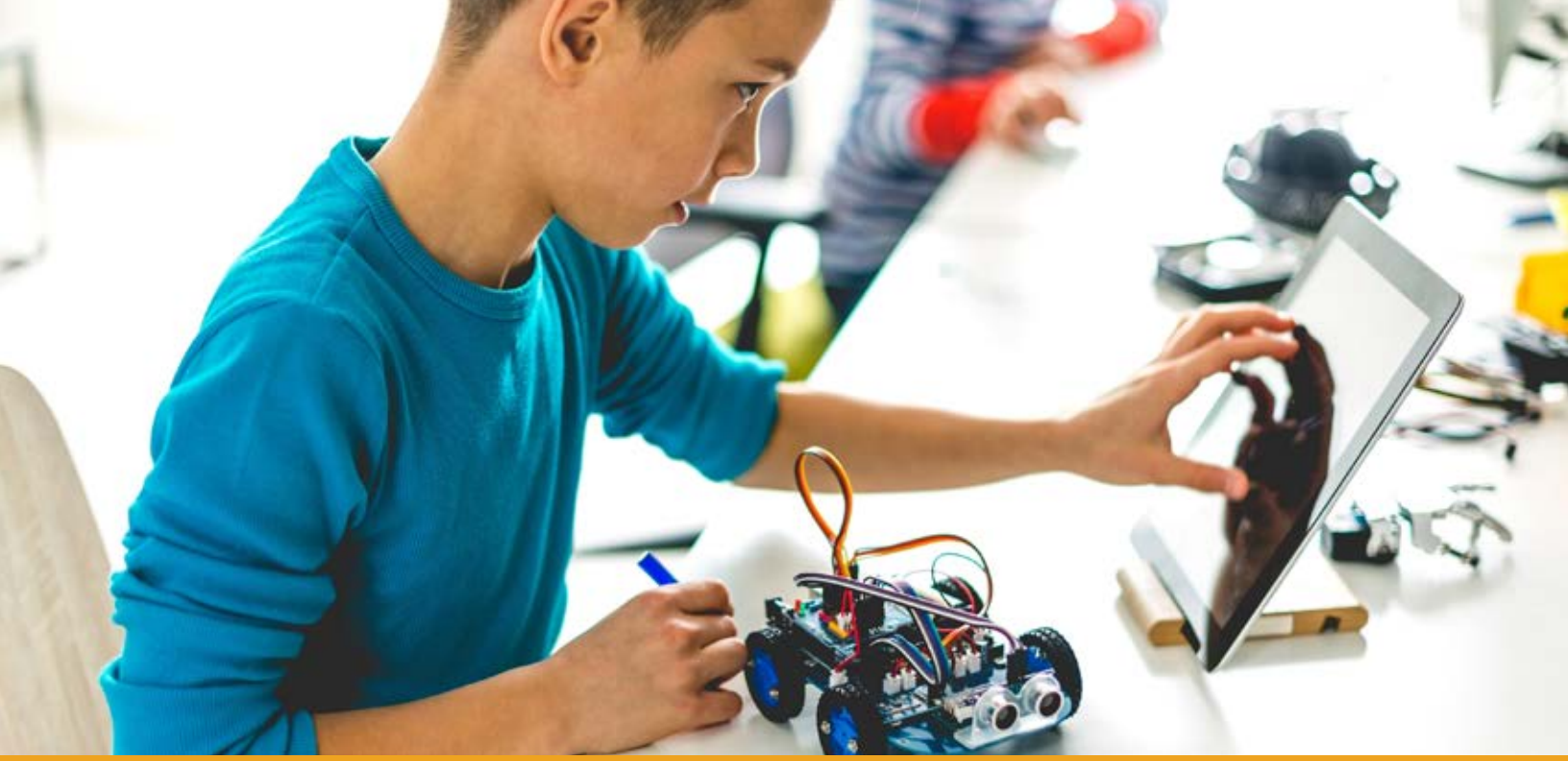
- Apply the principles of Equity and Inclusion.
- Commit to the principles of Restorative Practice with a focus on building positive relationships and a culture of caring.
- Ensure that all staff understand their role in supporting student well-being.

Goals

We will:

- Build school communities where students feel a sense of belonging and safety.
- Provide training in Mental Health, Equity and Inclusive Education, Safe and Accepting Schools and Healthy Schools for all members of the DCDSB community.
- Ensure consistent use of evidence-informed practices, strategies and programs.





STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

Teaching and Learning

“Catholic schools, which always strive to join their work of education with the explicit proclamation of the Gospel, are a most valuable resource for the evangelization of culture.” – *Evangelii Gaudium*, 134

Essential Practices

Innovative and engaging experiences are built upon the foundation of Literacy, Numeracy and Faith across the curriculum.

Our Catholic learning communities:

- ▶ Emphasize high expectations for Literacy and Numeracy that will be evident throughout each school.
- ▶ Use a variety of research-based strategies and assessments to address students’ interests, learning styles and readiness.
- ▶ Plan and reflect upon the relevant and meaningful inclusion of our Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations and Social Teachings throughout all subject areas.

Goals

We will:

- ▶ Ensure that meaningful assessments are used to improve student learning, and determine next steps for positive results and outcomes.
- ▶ Build learning environments which engage students and honour Indigenous peoples, and a variety of cultural perspectives.
- ▶ Ensure equitable access to experiential learning opportunities for all students.





STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

Expanding Pathways

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you. And not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” – Jeremiah 29:11

Essential Practices

A pathways planning mindset ensures that all students from Kindergarten to adulthood develop the knowledge and skills they require to make informed education and career/life choices.

Our Catholic learning communities:

- Focus on students’ strengths and personalized growth plans.
- Ensure that all students have an honourable pathway.
- Promote student engagement and success by listening to and learning from students.

Goals

We will:

- Promote comprehensive education and career/life planning programs that meet the learning needs, interests and aspirations of all students.
- Enhance opportunities for authentic learning experiences and experiential learning in all classrooms and programs.
- Promote relevant and meaningful student inquiry for a deeper learning experience.





STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5

Managing Resources

“In the end, everything has been entrusted to our protection, and all of us are responsible for it. Be protectors of God’s gifts!” – Pope Francis

Essential Practices

Managing resources is essential for system alignment, financial stewardship, risk management, and effective use of board assets.

Our Catholic learning communities:

- Establish sustainable priorities and raise stakeholder confidence.
- Utilize emerging technology to support innovation, communications, learning and efficacy, and accelerate student achievement.
- Build partnerships and connections to enhance Catholic education.

Goals

We will:

- Allocate resources to reflect the principles of equity and financial stewardship.
- Modernize processes for increased engagement, improved efficiency and enhanced effectiveness.
- Develop staff at all levels of the organization to improve outcomes, develop future leaders and plan for succession.





Rooted in Faith

Excellence | Equity | Engagement



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