



YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

STUDENT SUCCESS & PATHWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Monday, October 27, 2025

2:00 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre

320 Bloomington Rd. West, Aurora, ON. L4G 0M1

Watch the Student Success & Pathways Committee Meeting STREAM event on our YCDSB TV Channel: <http://bit.ly/YCDSB-TV>

* Indicates Addendum

Pages

1. OPENING PRAYER/LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Creator God, as we journey through this world, give us the grace to allow your Holy Spirit to work through us. Help us to speak, think and work with honesty, and compassion, to celebrate all that is life-giving, to restore hope where It has been lost, and to bring about change where it is needed. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our companion.

Amen

We are gathered on the ancestral lands and waters of all Indigenous Peoples, who have left their footprints on Mother Earth before us. We respectfully acknowledge, those who have walked on it, those who walk on it now, and future generations who have yet to walk upon it. We pray to the Creator for strength and wisdom that all may continue to serve as stewards of the earth.

2. CALL TO ORDER

3. ROLL CALL

4. APPROVAL OF NEW MATERIAL

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

6. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

3

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

8. PRESENTATIONS

8.a	Religion Department Updates	David Pimentel	5
8.b	Continuing Education	Anthony Pasquini	12
8.c	Diploma in French Language Studies (DELF)	Tanya Giovinazzo	17

9. ACTION ITEM(S)
10. DISCUSSION ITEM(S)
11. INFORMATION ITEM(S)
12. NOTICES OF MOTION
13. FUTURE ITEM(S)
14. ADJOURNMENT

York Catholic District School Board
MINUTES
STUDENT SUCCESS & PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

Monday, May 12, 2025

A meeting of the Student Success & Pathways Committee was held on Monday, May 12, 2025 at the Catholic Education Centre starting at 4:00 pm.

PRESENT:

Trustee Committee Members: In Person: F. Alexander, M. Iafrate, A. Saggese
Virtual: M. Barbieri, T. McNicol

Other Trustees: In Person: E. Crowe

Absent with Notice: All Present.

Administration: In Person: J. De Faveri, J. Sarna, A. Arcadi, J. Chiutsi,
J. Powers, R. Ball, M. Benakis, N. Galatianos,
N. Gencarelli, T. Giovinazzo, M. Perry,
M. Schniering
Virtual: T. Laliberte

Recording: S. Greco

Presiding Chair: A. Saggese, Committee Chair

1. OPENING PRAYER (The Land Acknowledgement was recited after the Prayer)

2. ROLL CALL: All Committee Members Present.

3. APPROVAL OF NEW MATERIAL: NIL

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Iafrate/Alexander

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

5. APPROVAL OF UPDATED TERMS OF REFERENCE

MOTION: Iafrate/Alexander

THAT the Terms of Reference for the Student Success & Pathways Committee be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

6. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOTION: Iafrate/Barbieri

THAT the Minutes of the Student Success & Pathways Committee Minutes of February 24, 2025 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM the MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: NIL

8. PRESENTATION(S):

a) EQAO Support Resources

A. Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment introduced Marlene Perry (K-12 Literacy Consultant), Robert Ball (Math Strategy Consultant) and Maria Rosa Schniering (Gr 7-12 Math Consultant). Their presentation provided an overview of the comprehensive supports in place to help YCDSB students excel in EQAO assessments. The insights shared were invaluable, particularly the emphasis on targeted literacy and numeracy resources that align with both the provincial curriculum expectations and the Board's MYSP priorities.

The Committee had the opportunity to ask questions for clarification and commended staff for their dedication to ensuring the potential of every student.

b) eSTIM de soi Project

A. Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment introduced Marisa Benakis (STREAM Consultant) and Tanya Giovinazzo (FSL Consultant). Their presentation highlighted the exciting initiative that focuses on building self-esteem in STEM learning, integrating hands-on, technology-rich experiences like LEGO robotics to spark curiosity and deepen engagement in French Immersion students. This initiative took place across Grades 7 - 9 in both Core French and French Immersion classes. The project is aligned with the Board's goals of cultivating global citizens who are confident in their communication skills and technologically proficient. Students will develop critical thinking, problem solving and technology skills needed to participate as responsible global citizens.

The Committee indicated that this coding project being done in French would be beneficial to attract French Immersion students to our Board. This information would be helpful to share at Grade 9 French Immersion open houses.

c) Pathways Update

A. Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment introduced Nat Gencarelli (Program & Pathways Consultant) and Nicholas Galatianos (Student Success Specialist and Principal of Indigenous Education). They showcased the ongoing work in expanding pathways to post-secondary success, including innovative partnerships that provide students with authentic hands-on learning experiences in the skilled trades. This aligns closely with the Board's commitment to preparing students for the future through meaningful, real-world learning opportunities.

All the presentations represented a cross-section of the efforts to support every student's journey from early literacy to specialized career pathways.

9. ACTION ITEMS: NIL

10. DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS: NIL

11. NOTICE OF MOTION: NIL

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S): NIL

13. NEXT MEETING DATE: November 2025

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: lafrate/Alexander

THAT the Student Success & Pathways Committee meeting adjourns at 5:19 pm

MOTION CARRIED

REV Nov. 2024



MONTH	CATHOLIC VIRTUE	I WILL STATEMENTS	SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	EXAMPLES OF PEOPLE WHO MODEL THIS VIRTUE	OTHER VIRTUOUS FIGURES	QUOTATION
OCTOBER <i>Our Lenten Liturgical Season</i>			Key Word (a) Stomach on the Water (Matthew 14: 22-27) fortitude	All the martyrs (such as Saint Augustine or Saint Jerome) who died because of their faith in Jesus! Saint Margaret of Youville	those who act in courage for the rights and dignity of others	"We shall once again triumph over sin and evil, because we are united, O my brothers and sisters."
SEPTEMBER	Courage	- I will stand up for what I know is right and just based on the word of God. - I will face challenges, fears and difficulties with fortitude. - I will trust God.	The Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-36) empathy, suffering with	Saint Vincent de Paul Saint Teresa of Calcutta	those who care for people who are ill or dying	"Compassion is like the salt of the heart"
OCTOBER	Compassion	- I will seek to understand others by listening. - I will be willing to forgive others. - I will give of my resources to help those in need.				Pope Francis
NOVEMBER	Justice	- I will treat others in a just, equitable and loving manner. - I will play by the rules, take turns and share. - I will be open-minded, listen to others and acknowledge other voices.	The Laborers in the Vineyard (Matthew 20: 1-16) harmony, right relationship	Saint Josephine Bakhita Saint Martin de Porres	those who work for truth and reconciliation	"Justice is love, serving only God who is its object..."
DECEMBER	Hope	- I will trust in God's love. - I will maintain a positive attitude and look for the brighter side of situations. - I will rely on the grace of the Holy Spirit for guidance and strength.	The Annunciation (Luke 1: 26-38) trust in God	Mother Mary, Mother of Jesus	those who participate in missions work	"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."



Religious Education Update: VIRTUES (cont'd)

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
CATHOLIC VIRTUES
At York Catholic District School Board, we focus on one virtue each month.

A PRAYER FOR UNITY
God of harmony and unity,
You want us all to work together to build
your kingdom.
May our ears hear your voice clearly.
May our eyes see your beauty in all.
May our understanding break down walls
of fear and ignorance.
May we make our schools and workplaces
places of belonging, places of welcome,
places of caring,
where everyone feels safe,
where all are united in You,
dear God. Amen.

MONTH JANUARY
VIRTUE UNITY

Unity as a virtue means joining together
as one community that accepts and
appreciates the gifts and contributions
that each person has to offer. Unity is one
of the four marks of the Catholic Church,
which means that it is a clear sign that
defines who we are as a Church.

*"To me, being many, are one
body in Christ, and every one
members of one another."
St. Paul, (Rom 12:5)*

MODELS OF UNITY
Who Models this Virtue:
• Catholic teachers
Some Saints Who Model this Virtue:
• Saint John Baptist Scalabrini
• Saint John XXIII

*Scripture Passage: Jesus prays for
His Disciples (John 17: 21)*

**WHEN WE MIGHT
NEED THIS VIRTUE:**

- When meeting new people.
- When we have different ideas on how
to reach a common goal.
- When participating in activities
involving teamwork (e.g.
extracurricular activities).

"I WILL" STATEMENTS

- I will make everyone feel welcomed and appreciated as members of
God's Family.
- I will take some time to learn about the similarities and differences
in my community.
- I will use words that build people up, not put them down.

UNITY

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
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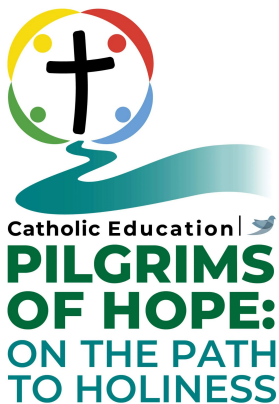
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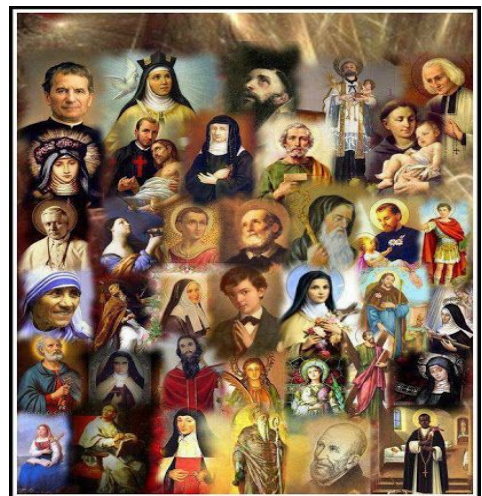
UNITY



Religious Education Update: REAC 2025-26

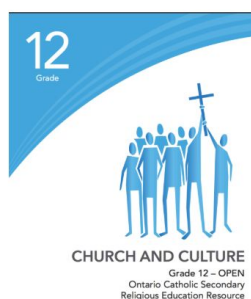


The Saints of York Catholic

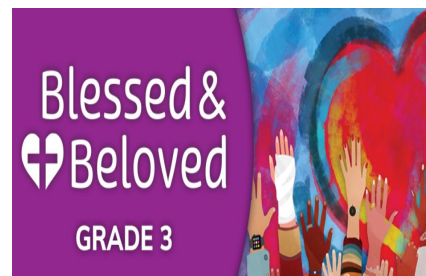
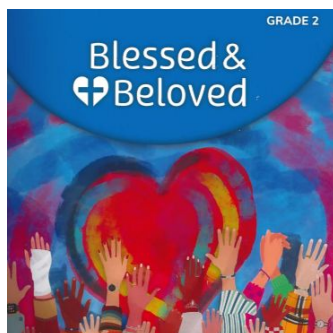
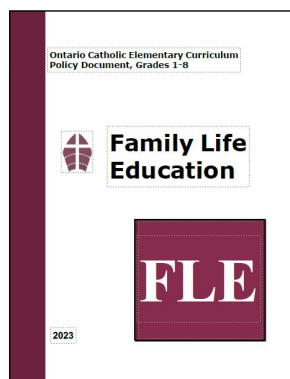


Religious Education Update: REAC 2025-26 (Cont'd)

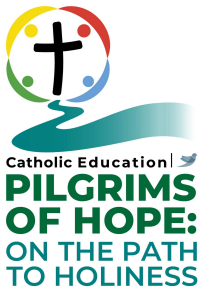
Enhancing the Delivery of HRE40: Supplemental Resources Chart



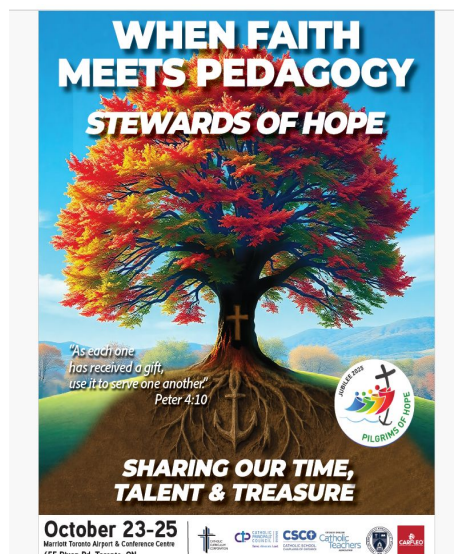
Religious Education Update: Elementary Family Life Education Curriculum



Religious Education Update: FAITH DAY 2025



Religious Education Update: *When Faith Meets Pedagogy Conference: Youth & Adult*



Religious Education Update: FAITH AMBASSADORS



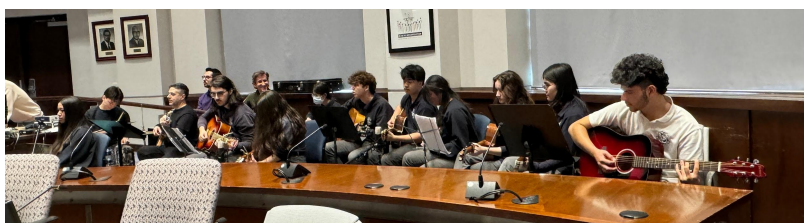
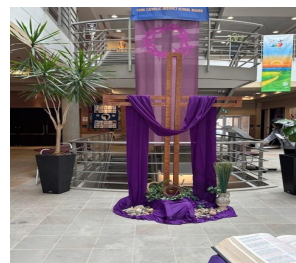
Faith Ambassador events take place
throughout the school year.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

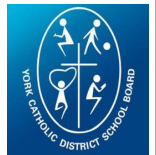
*"We are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making an appeal
through us ...See now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of
goodness!" Corinthians 5:20, 6:22*



Religious Education Update: Boardwide Lenten Mass of Reconciliation and Renewal: March 12, 2026



Religious Education Update: ORDINANDI 2026



Religious Education Update: LUKE 4:18 SOCIAL JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM



Religious Education Update: YCDSB DASHBOARD & WEBSITE REFRESH



Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic



ShareLife

**Thank you
YCDSB for
supporting
ShareLife!**



**Living the
Gospel**



Continuing Education Updates



Elementary Programs



Program	Fall 2024	Fall 2025
International Language - Remote and in-person classes	2,627 (8 sites)	2,590 (8 sites)
Elementary Band at St. Elizabeth CHS	27	33
Hoopstars Basketball Program	N/A	10
Young Rembrandts Visual Art Program	N/A	20

Helping to shape your future



MPP Billy Pang Visit



Helping to shape your future



Secondary Programs



Program	Fall 2024-25	Fall 2025-26
Night School Credit (Semester 1)	1073	1328
Saturday International Language Credit	281	410
After School Remedial Grade 9 and 10 Literacy & Numeracy Non Credit Program (Remote)	872	1184
Yearbook, percussion, high performance athlete, and International Baccalaureate courses	187	151

Helping to shape your future



NEW AND INNOVATING PROGRAMS

After School Remedial Literacy and Numeracy Program for Grade 9 and 10 students

1184 students are currently registered for semester 1. These programs focus on the preparation for the Grade 9 EQAO and Grade 10 OSSLT assessments.

ONLINE **NUMERACY & LITERACY CLASSES**

NEW!

For Grade 9 & 10 Students ONLY

Session 1

Numeracy Mondays
October 6 to December 15
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
10 classes

Literacy Wednesdays
October 15 to December 17
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
10 classes

This program helps students improve their literacy and numeracy skills, offering ideal preparation for the Grade 9 EQAO or Grade 10 OSSLT. It is most effective when students are taking Math or English in the first semester.

Register: ce.ycdsb.ca

All classes are run based on sufficient enrollment.
Registration closes on September 26.

NEW AND INNOVATING PROGRAMS

Travel For Credit – March Break

Approximately 400 people were in attendance (in person and virtual) for the parent information evening on September 17, 2025. We look forward to our destinations of Italy and Japan over the March Break.

 **YCDSB CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Travel for Credit

March Break 2026

SIGN UP HERE

13 Saturday REMOTE classes in total

7 classes Pre-trip

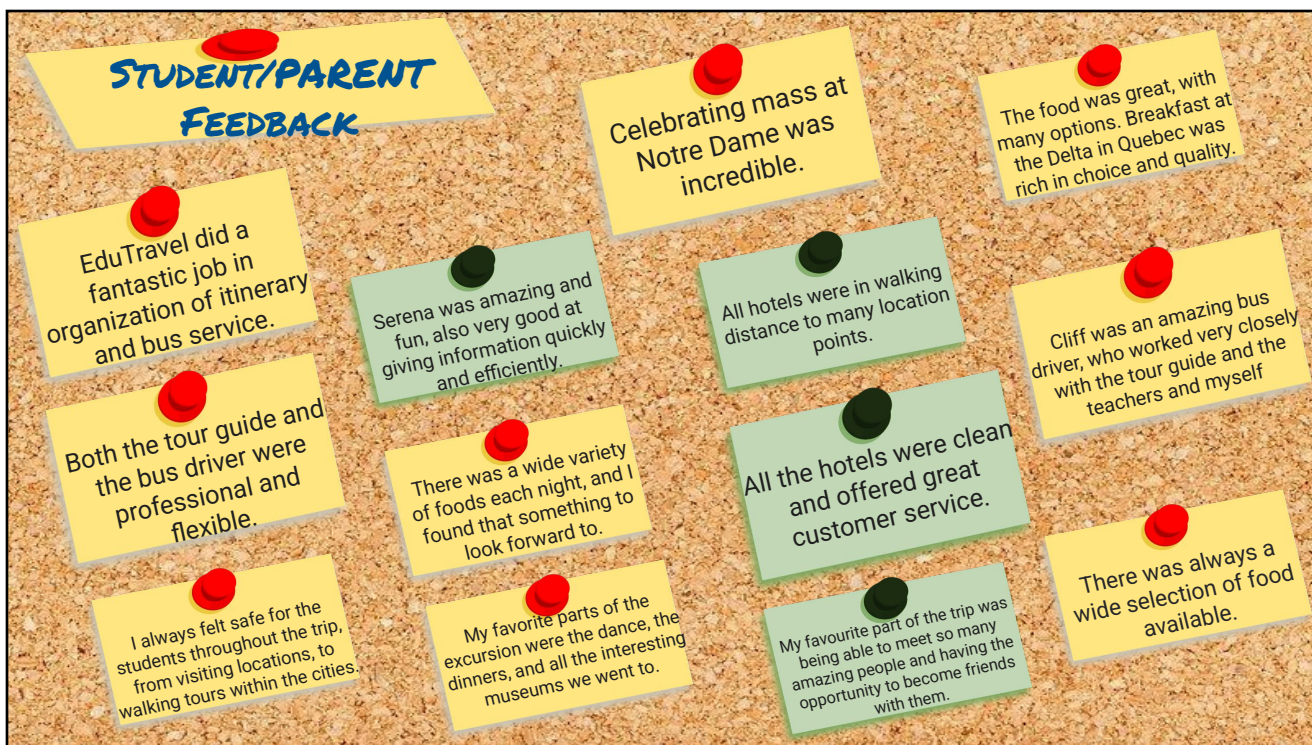
1 AMAZING trip during March Break & Post trip classes Equals = 1 credit and a once in a lifetime experience!

**Spain**

**Italy**

**Japan**

CE.YCDSB.CA



NEW AND INNOVATING PROGRAMS

We have expanded our Aquatic leadership course (PAQ20) to Markham at Milliken Mills Pool. Adding community partners across York Region is a priority for the Continuing Education department.

AQUATICS CREDIT PROGRAM PART 1

Monday, September 29, 2025 to Monday, January 26, 2026

- Ⓢ** Mondays & Wednesdays
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
(Including Saturday Dec.6th)
Inperson classes and Online classes
- 📍** Milliken Mills Community Centre
Town of Markham
- \$** \$200 payable to the Community Centre
after successful completion of swim test
- 🏅** **Course Achievements Upon Completion:**
 - Healthy Living and Aquatic Activities Credit (PAQ20)
 - The Lifesaving Society's:
 - 🏅 Bronze Medallion
 - 🏅 Bronze Cross
 - 🏅 Standard First Aid with CPR-C

Follow us! @ycdsbconed

Register and view the course schedule here: ce.ycdsb.ca



Pathways

The Continuing Education department assists all students in the YCDSB and the broader community. For example,

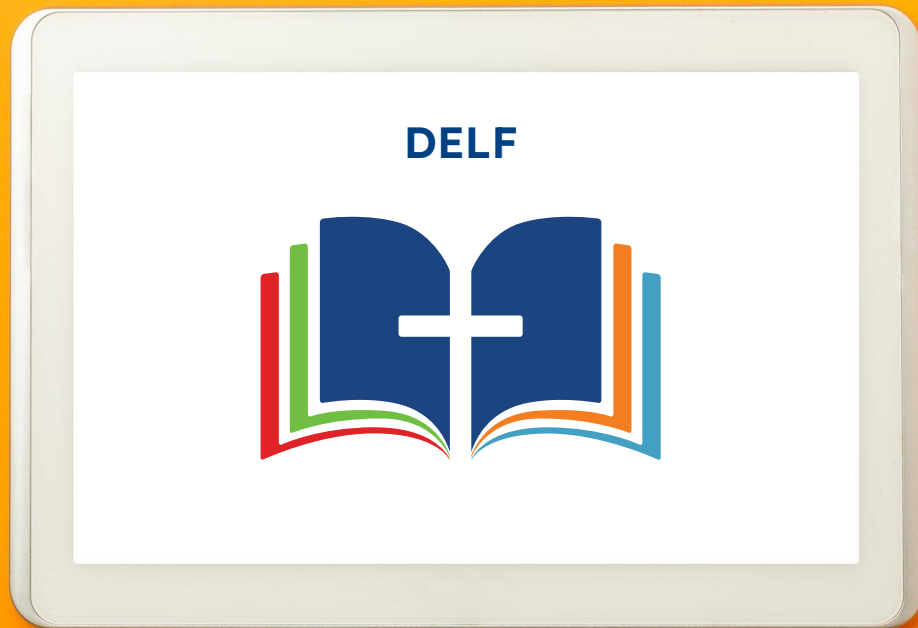
AWQ2O - Introduction to Photography - 50 students

The Continuing Education department - where we strengthen our commitment to lifelong learning and community empowerment.

Helping to shape your future



Thank you



What is DELF?

The DELF is an internationally recognized certification issued by the French Ministry of National Education, validating levels of competence in French for non-French speakers.



FRANCE
EDUCATION
INTERNATIONAL

DELF
DALF

Students' French skills are measured across four areas: listening, speaking, reading and writing.



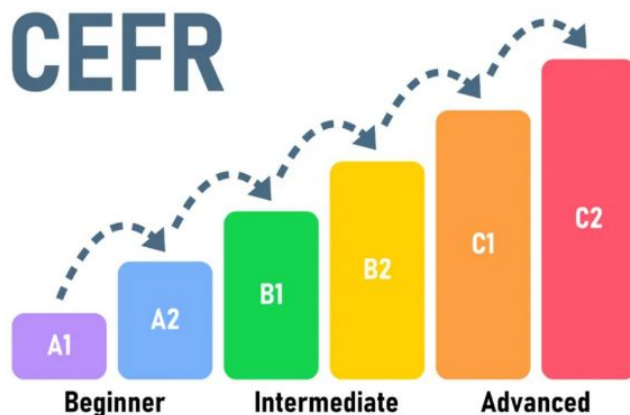
DELf and the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)

ÉPREUVES COLLECTIVES		DURÉE	NOTE SUR
1. Compréhension de l'oral	Répondre à des questionnaires de compréhension portant sur plusieurs courts documents enregistrés ayant trait à des situations de la vie quotidienne (deux écoutes). Avec ou sans support visuel. 1 écoute	25 minutes écoute	/25
2. Compréhension des écrits	Répondre à des questionnaires de compréhension portant sur plusieurs courts documents écrits ayant trait à des situations de la vie quotidienne.	30 minutes	/25
3. Production écrite	Rédaction de 2 brèves productions écrites (lettre amicale ou message): - décrire un événement ou des expériences personnelles; - écrire pour inviter, expliquer, s'excuser, demander, informer, féliciter...	45 minutes	/25
ÉPREUVE INDIVIDUELLE		DURÉE	NOTE SUR
4. Production orale	Exposé en 10/15 parties: - introduction dirigée; - monologue suivi; - entretien en interaction.	6 à 8 minutes Préparation: 10 minutes	/25
NOTE TOTALE			/100

Travail de recherche pour obtenir le diplôme: 100/100
Note minimale requise par épreuve: 12,5
Durée totale des épreuves collectives: 1 heure 40 minutes

Photocopier, photocopier ou scanner les copies du DELF est interdit et constitue une sanction à l'usage légal.

CODE CANDIDAT:



There is a DELF exam for each level of the CEFR.



DELf at YCDSB

- Grade 12 students enrolled in a French course are invited to write the exam.
- The exam is optional.
- Levels A2, B1, and B2 are offered.
- Approx. 150 students participate each session (Core French & FI).
- The session takes place in May at the CEC.
- 30 Trained YCDSB teachers volunteer and participate as examiners-correctors.



DELf at YCDSB Website

- Support for Students who are planning to write the DELF
- Support for Teachers who prepare students to write the DELF
- Access to student application portal



Catholic Education with Jesus Christ as our model

Inclusion, Excellence and Innovation | Socially Responsible Global Citizens

Benefits of DELF for Students

- Recognized internationally and in Canada by universities and the Canadian federal government
- Valid for life and helps students set future language goals
- Promotes student engagement in FSL programs at YCDSB
- Opens doors for bilingual Careers



Additional Resources to Support Students & Teachers

The Curriculum Department has procured **ABC DELF practice books** for all elementary & secondary schools.

Goals:

- Help FSL teachers integrate CEFR-based and DELF type activities into the classroom
- Improve student engagement in French
- Encourage students to pursue French beyond grade 9
- Prepare Grade 12 students for the DELF exam

**York Catholic District School Board
Curriculum & Assessment**

Memo To: Elementary and Secondary Vice-Principals and Principals
Elementary & Secondary Core French & French Immersion Teachers
Elementary & Secondary Teacher Librarians

CC: Tanya Giovannazzo, FSL Consultant: Curriculum & Assessment
Daniel La Gamba, Coordinator of Elementary Programs: Curriculum & Assessment

From: Anthony Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment

Date: October 23, 2025

Re: New Interactive DELF Practice Books (Elementary & Secondary)

Reference #: C:2025-155

The Curriculum Department is providing each elementary and secondary school with a set of new DELF practice books. These resources are designed to inspire and integrate CEFR-based activities into FSL classrooms across both levels, supporting increased student proficiency and achievement in French. In addition, it will assist FSL teachers in preparing Grade 12 students who will be voluntarily writing the DELF exam during the next exam session.

Each book includes an interactive digital version. The activation codes for the digital versions are on the inside cover of each title. Please note that codes are valid for one year from the date of activation and are for teacher use only.

The ABC DELF Junior Scolaire series covers four levels —A1, A2, B1, and B2—and one book for each level.



Cataloguing is available in the M3 UNICH database. Once catalogued, please house these books in the professional resource section of the school library. These books will be delivered to schools in the weeks following this memo.

If you have any questions regarding these resources, please contact tanya.giovannazzo@ycdsb.ca.

New Interactive DELF Practice Books (Elementary & Secondary) - System Memo: October 23, 2025

Catholic Education with Jesus Christ as our model

Inclusion, Excellence and Innovation | Socially Responsible Global Citizens

DELF Professional Development for YCDSB Teachers

Focused on:

- FSL Curriculum Connections
- Strategies & Resources for student success
- Opportunities for DELF Teacher Certification
- Supplementary supports to complement lessons

**York Catholic District School Board
Curriculum & Assessment**

Memo To: Elementary & Secondary Principals and Vice-Principals
Elementary & Secondary Teachers

CC: Daniel La Gamba, Coordinator of Elementary Programs: Curriculum & Assessment

From: Anthony Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment

Date: October 9, 2025

Re: October 24 PA Day: Curriculum Sessions

Reference #: C:2025-129

Schools will be working on their school improvement planning (SIP) on the afternoon of October 24, 2025. The PA Day presentation will be available that morning through the Curriculum & Assessment website (see [link](#)).

Specialized teachers in elementary will address Board-prioritized topics and are to register online via [Professional Learning](#). If you require registration support, please contact the Cal Centre at 1-888-767-4776, Option #3.

Date	Time	Location	PL #
Friday, October 24, 2025	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Virtual Session	42467

Core French (Elementary): This virtual session will explore the DELF and its connections to the CEFR and the FSL Elementary Curriculum. If you have any questions about this session, contact tanya.giovannazzo@ycdsb.ca.

ESL/ELL (Elementary): This in-person session will address Progress Reports for ELLs and accessing Multilingual Services (interpreters, translators, and first language assessments). If you have any questions, contact carole.colson@ycdsb.ca.

Date	Time	Location	PL #
Friday, October 24, 2025	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	CEC - KGC Meeting Room (Lower Level)	42468

HPE (Elementary): This in-person session will focus on Curriculum Standards and C (e.g., themes and creative movement). An interactive movement activity led by CPOM will be included. Following the presentation, teachers new to HPE will have a chance to connect. If you have any questions, contact joan.mccall@ycdsb.ca.

Date	Time	Location	PL #
Friday, October 24, 2025	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	St. Joseph, Aurora - Gymnasium	42469

Music (Elementary): This in-person session will address artificial intelligence (as a creative tool for songwriting, for supporting diverse musical genres, and for supporting teacher planning). If you have any questions, contact marisa.benard@ycdsb.ca, robert.cannon@ycdsb.ca, and christopher.mcdonald@ycdsb.ca.

Date	Time	Location	PL #
Friday, October 24, 2025	1:00 pm - 3:30 pm	CEC - Room 100	42470

October 24 PA Day: Curriculum Sessions - System Memo: October 9, 2025

