York Catholic District School Board
GIFTED SCREENING PROCESS FOR ENTRY INTO THE
PROGRAM FOR ACADEMIC AND CREATIVE EXTENSION (PACE) ELEMENTARY

Learning Together in Christ

Students Currently Registered and Attending a York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) School

Each academic school year, YCDSB screens grade four students for identification of Giftedness. This screening involves a **three stage** process. Occasionally, students who are new to YCDSB and did not participate in this screening process, may be considered upon consultation with board level staff.

Stage One:

Board-Wide Screening takes place in the fall, which involves the group administration of the **Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test** (CCAT-7) to all Grade 4 students. The completed CCAT-7 tests are forwarded to the test publishers to be scored. The CCAT-7 criteria for students to move forward to Stage 2 is as follows: **Verbal, Quantitative, and Nonverbal subtest scores must all be at or above the 92nd percentile OR a Composite Score must be at or above the 98th percentile.** Parents of students who meet this criteria will be notified by the school Principal. All parents can obtain their child's results by contacting the school Principal.

Stage Two:

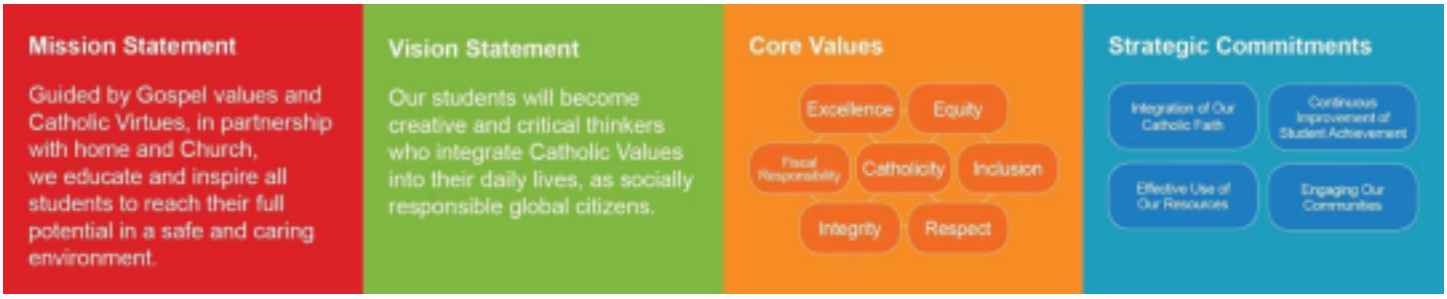
Individual Screening of Intellectual Ability takes place in late fall/winter**.** Principals will be notified which students meet criteria for an individual screening and the **Questionnaire for Grade 4 Candidates for PACE Program** is completed by the Classroom Teachers in consultation with the Special Education Teacher (if applicable). Once parent permission is provided, the individual screening is completed by, or supervised by, a Registered Psychologist or Psychological Associate. Students are typically screened using the General Abilities Index (GAI) score of the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children - Fifth Edition (WISC-V). A report of the results is given to the parents and a copy is placed in the OSR. Students whose score on the GAI is **at or above the 98th percentile will be considered for the PACE program. PACE schools are determined based on the home address and can be confirmed using** the YCDSB school locator **(http://locator.ycdsb.ca/schoollocator/).** Parents/guardians of students who meet criteria for the PACE Program are invited to a Parent Information Night prior to accepting placement.

Stage Three:

Identification, Program and Placement takes place during the months of **May through to June.** Parents/guardians will receive an invitation to an Identification Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) meeting. See **Parent's Guide to Special Education** for more information. *All identified gifted students in the fully self contained PACE Program will receive an* ***Individual Education Plan (IEP)*** *for extensions in the area of* ***English and Mathematics. Students identified as gifted, who choose to remain in a regular classroom placement, will receive an IEP with accommodations only.***

Transportation for Elementary Students:

All eligible students identified as gifted **living further than 1.6 km** from the PACE school have access to transportation to the nearest Elementary PACE school. All gifted students living within 1.6 km distance to the nearest PACE school are not eligible for transportation. Please refer to **YCDSB Policy 203** for further details.



Students With an Assessment Not Completed at York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB)

Current YCDSB Students: In order for consideration for placement in September, all documentation must be received by April 1st. Documentation submitted after April 1st may be considered, but placement is subject to availability and is not guaranteed.

Students not currently attending a YCDSB School: All students must be registered at their home school in YCDSB prior to the review of their documentation and consideration for identification/placement. In order for consideration for placement in September, all documentation must be received by April 1st. Placement is subject to availability and is not guaranteed. Students who have been deemed eligible for gifted identification in other school boards MUST meet the criteria for YCDSB. **Please note, this program is available to domestic students only. YCDSB does not accelerate PACE students, and PACE placement is always age-grade appropriate.**

Note: In order to register at a YCDSB school, students must have a valid YCDSB address and provide proof of their address (MPAC). The school locator **(http://locator.ycdsb.ca/schoollocator/)** can identify the home school based on the home address. A baptismal certificate must also be provided. Please refer to the **YCDSB Admission and Registration Policy 226A** for further details at **(http://www.ycdsb.ca/admissions/)**

Stage One:

Sharing of Documentation: Students new to YCDSB must be registered at their home school. A Consent for Exchange of Information form (S7) is required to allow the Psychology Department staff to review the documents. **These S7 forms are generated by and returned to the home school.**

The following documentation is required:

- **Provincial Report Card**
- a Psychological Assessment that:
  - was completed by a Psychologist or Psychological Associate who is registered with the College of Psychologists of Ontario (CPO)
  - was completed when the student's age was chronologically appropriate for grade 3 or later, or when the student was at least 8 years old
  - Contains a standardized, individual measure of **intellectual functioning (IQ test)** that indicates overall thinking and reasoning ability that meets criteria for consideration as gifted (98th percentile)

Stage Two:

Review of Documentation: The documentation is reviewed by the Psychological Services staff who notifies the parents/guardians if the student meets criteria. Overall thinking and reasoning skills must be at the 98th percentile on a standardized, individual measure of intellectual ability. Students who meet criteria will be notified of identification/placement options.

Stage Three:

Identification, Program and Placement Committee (IPRC): Parents/guardians will receive an invitation to an IPRC meeting. See Parent's Guide to Special Education for more information. *All identified gifted students in the fully self contained PACE Program will receive an **Individual Education Plan (IEP)** for extensions in the area of **English and Mathematics. Students identified as gifted, who choose to remain in a regular classroom placement, will receive an IEP with accommodations only.***

Transportation for Elementary Students:

All students identified as gifted **living further than 1.6 km** from the PACE school have access to transportation to the nearest Elementary PACE school. All gifted students living within 1.6 km distance to the nearest PACE school are not eligible for transportation. Please refer to YCDSB Policy 203 for further details.