



# York Catholic District School Board

Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1

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## Media Release

July 31, 2020

For Immediate Release

## Board of Trustees Approves 2020-2021 Budget for York Catholic District School Board

*Balanced budget includes key investments and expense reductions*

At a Special Board Meeting held on Wednesday, July 29, 2020, the Board of Trustees approved the 2020-2021 Budget for the York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB).

The focus of the 2020-2021 Budget is to support and promote high academic achievement and well-being of YCDSB students, in a faith-filled environment. The Budget supports the [YCDSB's Multi-Year Strategic Plan](#), and was informed by the Ministry of Education's funding model, and community/family/stakeholder engagement.

Highlights of the YCDSB 2020-2021 Budget include:

- YCDSB Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STREAM) Centres of Excellence will be developed in selected schools and accessible to all students from FDK-12 to enhance the Board's ability to equip students with a diverse set of 21st century skills and ways of thinking, applying and solving the problems that we all face as global Catholic disciples
- Five additional high school Chaplains to promote Catholic faith and mental health and well-being of students
- An additional \$175,500 to support the YCDSB's Human Rights and Equity Office and the work of the Human Rights, Equity, Inclusion & Diversity Advisory Committee
- Increased school financial audits in support of the Effective Use of Our Resources strategic commitment within the Multi-Year Strategic Plan
- An \$800,000 reduction in departmental expenses

The Budget document also identifies potential financial stressors related to the COVID-19 pandemic. These include travel/quarantine restrictions which could negatively affect international students studying in Canada; expenses related to the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE); and increased cleaning/sanitizing costs.

"On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am pleased the 2020-2021 Budget allows us to reinvest in initiatives that will improve student success and well-being and be fiscally prudent with the public money entrusted to our Board. The Board is also pleased that yesterday's announcement from the Minister of Education included funding to address some of our additional financial pressures," said Maria Marchese, Chair of the Board of Trustees. "This comprehensive Budget will help guide us into another successful, yet unique, school year, as we continue our mission to educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment."



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“I would like to congratulate the Board of Trustees for approving the YCDSB 2020-2021 Budget. I would also like to thank our group of dedicated staff who worked diligently to put this extensive Budget together. This Budget will provide families with the confidence to know that the health and safety of students remain our top priority, and our tradition of academic excellence will continue,” said Ab Falconi, Director of Education.

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The York Catholic District School Board is one of the top-performing school boards in Ontario. It delivers educational programming to approximately 53,000 students in 101 schools throughout York Region. For more information, visit [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca) or follow us on Twitter at [@YCDSB](https://twitter.com/YCDSB).

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