



YORK CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE



Supporting Parent Engagement for Student Achievement

**Monday, September 22, 2025
6:30 p.m.
Catholic Education Centre
Board Room (1st Floor)**

Watch the YCPIC Meeting
STREAM
event on our YCDSB TV Channel:
<http://bit.ly/YCDSB-TV>

- | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------|
| 1. WELCOME / PRAYER / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT | M. Saverino | |
| 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA | M. Saverino | |
| 3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – May 26, 2025 | M. Saverino | 3 |
| 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES | | |
| 5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT / UPDATE | J. De Faveri | |
| 6. CHAIR'S REPORT / UPDATE | M. Saverino | |
| 7. TREASURER'S REPORT | C. Gillison | 8 |
| 8. PRESENTATION: | | |
| a) Human Rights & Equity Office (15 min) | A. Driscoll | |
| b) Religious Education at YCDSB (15 min) | D. Pimentel | 9 |
| 9. ACTION ITEM(S): NIL | | |
| 10. DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEM(S): | | |
| a) CSC Connect Hub | J. Toma | |
| b) 2024-2025 YCPIC Annual Report | M. Saverino | 32 |
| c) October 15, 2025 – CSC Orientation | M. Saverino | |
| d) October 18, 2025 – YCPIC Fall Social | M. Saverino | |
| 12. ADJOURNMENT | | |

NEXT MEETING: November 24, 2025 at 6:30 pm

Trustee Membership: E. Crowe

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Martina Saverino, Chair
Jaclyn Toma, Vice-Chair
Christina Gillison, Treasurer
Robyn De Cicco, Secretary

320 Bloomington Rd. W.
Aurora, ON L4G 0M1
www.ycdsb.ca



YORK CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE



Supporting Parent Engagement for Student Achievement

Father in Heaven,

We thank You for giving us Lord Jesus on high and that we
are allowed to be with Him and find joy.

Grant that He may be with us as we continue our pilgrimage.

Grant us Your Spirit, for we are poor in spirit and in soul.

Give us Your Holy Spirit from on high.

Just in our weakness we come to know what strength and
victory you bring through the Lord Jesus, our Savior.

Amen

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*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.*

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York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
Monday May 26, 2025
MINUTES

A meeting of the York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (YCPIC) was held at the Catholic Education Centre commencing at 6:55 p.m. on Monday, May 26, 2025.

PRESENT:

Committee Member(s):

In Person: Olufisayo Bolarinwa, Robyn De Cicco, Christina Gillison, Maria Praveen, Martina Saverino

Virtual: Ashley Fruci, Karen Galeano, Binu S. George, Eby Ijeh, Marcos Paulino, Genevieve Simnett, Sarah Tjin-a-joe, Jaclyn Toma, Yan Zhou

Administration:

In Person: John De Faveri, Jennifer Sarna
Helena DiPanfilo
Anna Polisco, OECTA Rep

Virtual: N/A

Trustee(s):

In Person: Maria Iafrate

Virtual: N/A

Recording Secretary: Robyn De Cicco

REGRETS:

Committee Member(s): Josie Belluomini, Leilani Cabral, Melena Carrassi, Samantha Ferazzoli, Rina George-Alexander, Sahir Jamal, Rachel Sun, Florence Wang, Nicole Young

Administration(s): Dishni Kiriella

Trustee(s): Elizabeth Crowe

CALL TO ORDER

YCPIC Chair Martina Saverino called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

1.0 WELCOME / PRAYER / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Prayer led by YCPIC Chair Martina followed by the Land Acknowledgement.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

YCPIC Chair Martina Saverino put forward to motion the approval of the agenda for May 26th, 2025, YCPIC Meeting.

First: Binu George

Seconded: Christina Gillison

MOTION CARRIED

3.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – March 30th 2025

YCPIC Chair Martina Saverino put forward to motion the approval of the previous meeting minutes taken March 30th, 2025

First: Christina Gillison

Seconded: Binu George

MOTION CARRIED

4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES - NIL

5.0 DIRECTOR'S REPORT/UPDATE – John De Faveri

Catholic Education Week

Catholic Education Week was a huge success as we demonstrated how publicly-funded Catholic education enriches the lives of young people. One of the highlights of the week was the province-wide Mass, which was celebrated at the Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King in Hamilton and was live-streamed in classrooms across Ontario. All our elementary and secondary schools took part in Catholic Education Week activities.

Yes, I Can Awards

The Yes, I Can Awards were held Thursday, May 22 at Cardinal Carter CHS. The Council for Exceptional Children Chapter 543 applauded children with exceptionalities from the York Catholic District School Board and the York Region District School Board, as well as the adults who help them thrive. This is always a very special event for the YCDSB.

YCDSB Special Olympics

Our Lady Queen of the World Catholic Academy will host a very meaningful event on Thursday, May 29, 2025 - The YCDSB Secondary Special Olympics Track and Field meet. Every year, students with exceptionalities come together to participate in a fun day of sport as the YCDSB community cheers them on.

Luke 4:18 Symposium

Catholic education is at its best when we help young people put their faith into action. Every day, YCDSB students, staff and family members roll up their sleeves to make the world a better place, just as Jesus called us to do. To recognize some of the life-changing work done by the YCDSB's Luke 4:18 clubs, on Friday, May 30, there will be a symposium for student leaders at the CEC. More than 250 students from 50 schools will be in attendance, with secondary students leading various social justice breakout sessions during the day.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus

In the Catholic calendar, June is the Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus has a special place in the York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB). Last year, the Board of Trustees passed a motion proclaiming that June is devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in all YCDSB schools. At that time, we gratefully accepted framed portraits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus from local Knights of Columbus chapters from throughout York Region. These portraits are now displayed in all of our schools and in the Catholic Education Centre.

Thank You to YCPIC

The York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (YCPIC) has facilitated many excellent information sessions during this school year. Those who attended these sessions have learned a great deal, and we are thankful to the YCPIC for putting them together. The YCPIC's final information session for this school year is titled "Dismantling Ableism and Celebrating Neurodiversity," and it will occur on Saturday, May 31, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Catholic Education Centre. This session will explore challenging harmful stereotypes, promoting inclusivity and celebrating diverse cognitive experiences.

Wishing everyone a safe and restful summer break.

6.0 CHAIR'S REPORT/UPDATE – Chair Martina Saverino

Martina: No official report

YCPIC Chair Martina Saverino summarized the YCPIC events that had taken place so far this year and reminded everyone of the last event taking place on Saturday, May 31, 2025 and noted the low attendance.

7.0 TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Christina Gillison

A copy of the YCPIC Treasurer's Report was provided.

8.0 PRESENTATIONS - NIL

9.0 ACTION ITEMS – NIL

10.0 DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS(S):

a) 2025-2026 YCPIC Meeting Dates: J. De Faveri

A list of the YCPIC meeting dates for 2025-2026 were provided.

b) 2024-2025 Mileage Reimbursement: J. De Faveri

Mileage reimbursement (\$0.72 per km) will be provided to YCPIC members who attended YCPIC meetings in person, as per *Policy 808 Travel, Meals and Expense Reimbursement*. Reimbursement cheques will be mailed out during the month of July. YCPIC members will be sent an email by S. Greco with details.

c) Committee Member Participation in YCPIC Activities: R. De Cicco

R. De Cicco addressed the in person and virtual members asking for barriers to participate in the YCPIC engagement events? Robyn highlighted that only the executive members organized and participated and it was unfortunate, especially for those that voted for particular topics not to attend and show support. Robyn then asked why the YCPIC committee members couldn't or wouldn't attend and what recommendations do they have to draw in more engagement from the communities as well as how are they representing YCPIC at their respective schools to advertise and promote these events?

- a) Genevieve responded that she suspects the location may be a bit of a challenge.
- b) Jaclyn asked members of YCPIC to go back to their council and find out what's keeping them from attending.
- c) Martina responded that this also includes the YCPIC members and meeting attendance as well as desire for more committee commitment. She requested that each YCPIC member go back and ask their council and their school communities and share their thoughts as well so we are hearing from all the school communities.

d) Policy 220 Graduation Exercises in Elementary & Secondary Schools:

Genevieve raised community questions and concerns regarding the changes to naming awards and locations of graduations. The community is very concerned and it is upsetting that the efforts of students not acknowledged but other awards still exist like athletics etc. She shared knowledge of surveys and petitions now being circulated on these topics in the communities. Jennifer Sarna thanked Genevieve for bringing this forward and advised that there is a misconception about changes brought forward for approval on March 6th 2024. There was a Policy Review Committee Meeting, and they did speak to a lot of it and decided not to make any changes and will exist as it is on the website now as well as last year. There is no plan to move locations or force locations etc. as well as no restriction on honor roll. Policy as it stands. No change until March of 2028.

e) Follow up on Absence Dropdown Menu: Martina Saverino

YCPIC Chair Martina Saverino requested an update on her request to amend absence selections for students. Director De Faveri advised that the inquiry regarding the hover option is not a function that the IT Department can support at this time. They currently have no technical capacity. Two conversations with staff over the category with illness and stomach or respiratory has to remain as is as per Public Health requirement. Data is said to not be used for analytic purposes and we are not sure what that means around privacy issues. Therefore, we will have to keep the status quo.

f) YCPIC Repository Update: Jaclyn Toma

The Compass was introduced last meeting as a potential name for a repository that houses shared ideas around hot lunch, parent engagement and fund raising. There was a pause on delivering the survey until proper protocols and compliance were met. We can't use the name "Compass" as that name is already used for something else in the Board. Policy update – submitted the policy request form to Associate Director Sarna to see if we can get the surveys ready for September to share with CSC in September .

New motion put forward to vote on new repository name. "Council Connect Hub" received 6 total votes and the remainder votes were for alternative options that didn't receive more than 6 votes. Lastly Jaclyn reshared the intention of sharing successful ideas and resources to assist the councils seeking ideas that have worked or not worked to help in the efforts at other schools.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT – Martina Saverino

YCPIC Chair Martina Saverino asked if there were any questions before she brought the meeting to an end.

Olufisayo B. asked about renewing the YCPIC commitment and S. Greco advised it would all be done in the fall of 2025.

Sarah T. welcomed more parent members to join the Religious Education Advisory Committee as they are looking for members. Martina S. advised her to connect with S. Greco so that she can share the details with the entire committee.

Genevieve S. advised that getting a position on council is competitive and if you are not on council but are on a two year term for YCPIC then can you still remain part of YCPIC. Martina S. advised that this will be taken away for confirmation and someone will share the findings.

YCPIC Chair Martina Saverino thanked all the YCPIC members on a one-year term for their commitment, and bid farewell until September, to those on a two-year term.

YCPIC Chair Martina Saverino adjourned the meeting at 7:43 PM

First: Binu George

Seconded: Christina Gillison

MOTION CARRIED

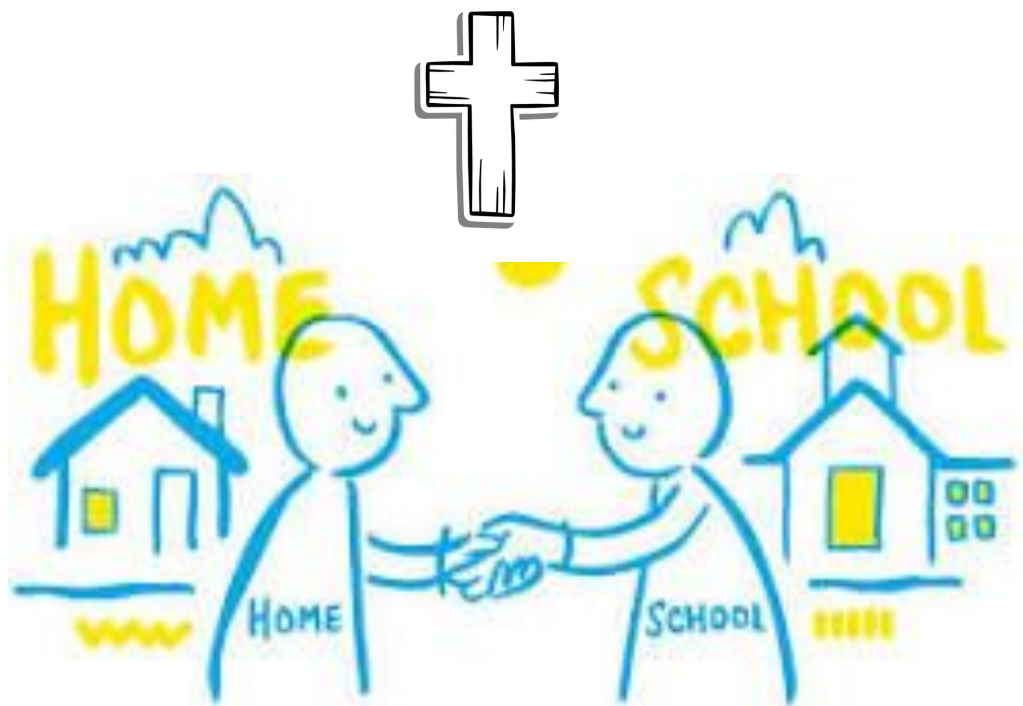
NEXT MEETING: September 22, 2025 @ 6:30pm

YCPIC YTD Report

2025-26	Amount \$
Budget:	
Parent Engagement Board Amount	5,000
Parent Engagement Per Pupil Amount:	8,316
Total Budget:	13,316
Spend:	
Total Spend:	-
Budget less Spend:	13,316

Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic DSB





Encouraging words for parents from the Bishops of Ontario

- God has gifted you with children and you are their first and most important educators...
- Your parish community and your Catholic school are there to support you in caring for and nurturing your children...
- Find strength in knowing that Jesus is always at your side, accompanying you, just as he walks alongside your children.

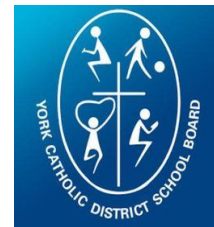
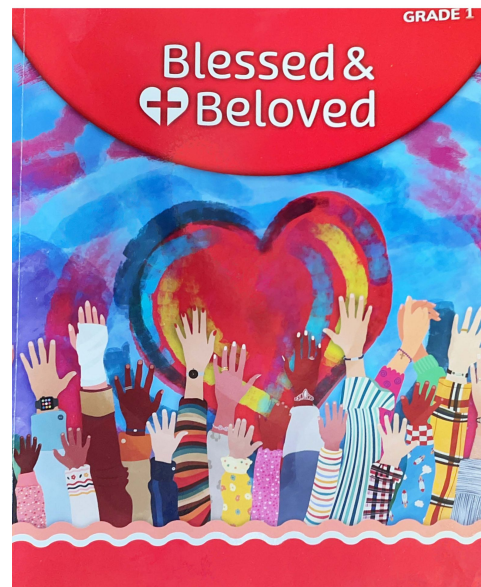


From *Renewing the Promise*, Pastoral Letter for Catholic Education



Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic

RESOURCES





GROWING IN FAITH

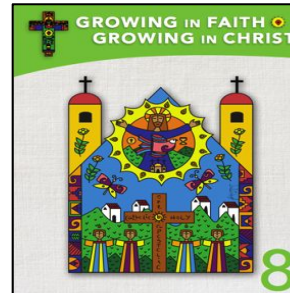
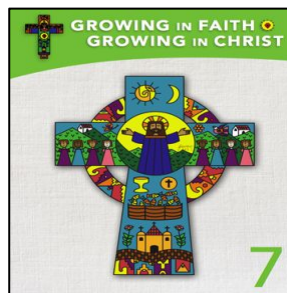
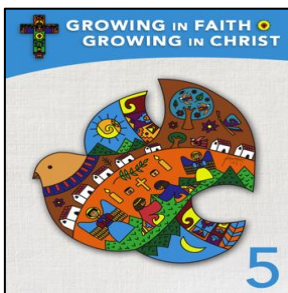
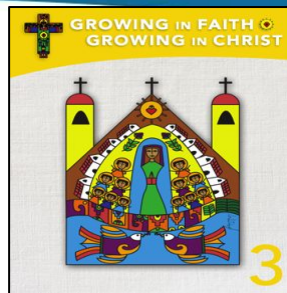
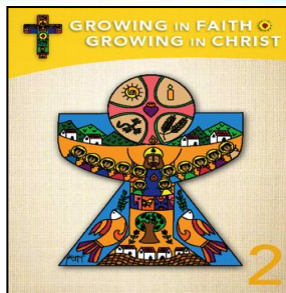
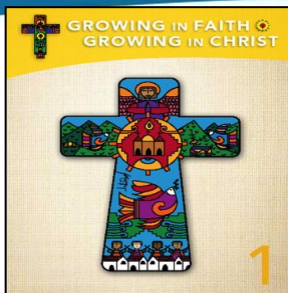
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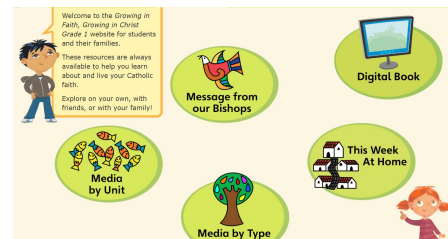
Resource Highlights

Parents have access to the digital elements through the student/home and parish websites:

Student/Home Website:

www.pearsoncanada.ca/growinginfaith/student-home

username: ycdsb password: Student99



Of particular interest: **This week at Home, Media, Digital Book, Media (songs and Videos)**

Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic: Family Life Programs

**New Program
now available
for Grades 1-3!**



Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic: Blessed & Beloved

New Program
now available
for Grades 1-3!



Faith on the Fridge
UNIT 1

A family resource for *Blessed & Beloved*

's Words

NAME _____

Circle your favourite faith word from Unit 1.

beloved
creation
gifts
talents

We Pray

Holy Spirit, guide me to share God's _____ with others. Amen.

Pope Quote

"[I]n the beauty of God's love, we also discover our own beauty, for we are beloved of God. In His eyes we are beautiful: not for what we do but for what we are."

—Pope Francis, social media, 2019

Holy Habits in the Home

Colour a star for each day you saw your child practise kindness.

Faith Focus

We are God's beloved.

Growing Together

Discuss the importance of identifying a trusted adult. Use the following to help:

- Every person needs a trusted adult to talk to at times.
- As a family, make a list of the adults you know who can be trusted.
- Write down their contact information.
- Post the contact information for each person where each family member can see it.
- In public, adults with children or an adult worker like a cashier or librarian could be another helpful person.

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Religious Education Advisory Committee (REAC)

**NEW
Virtue
Resources**



Religious Education, Family Life, & Adult Faith at York Catholic

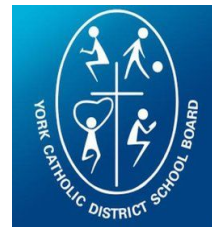
REAC & VIRTUES

3 subcommittees

Home-School-Parish

Elementary

Secondary



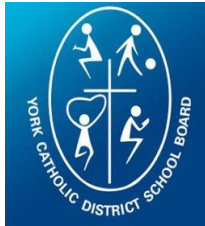
Religious Education Advisory Committee REAC



Celebrating our Faith throughout York Catholic



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



Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic Celebrating Our Faith

School Blessings and Special Celebrations

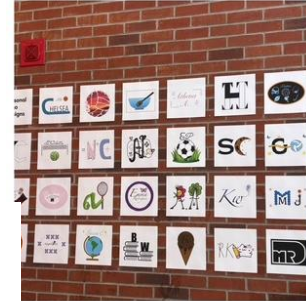
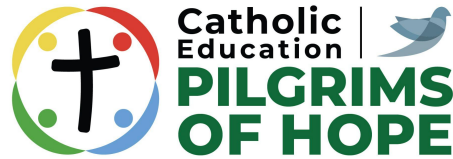


Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic Celebrating Our Faith

Luke 4:18 Social Justice Symposium



Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic *Catholic Education Week 2025*

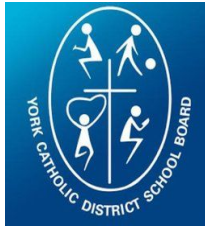
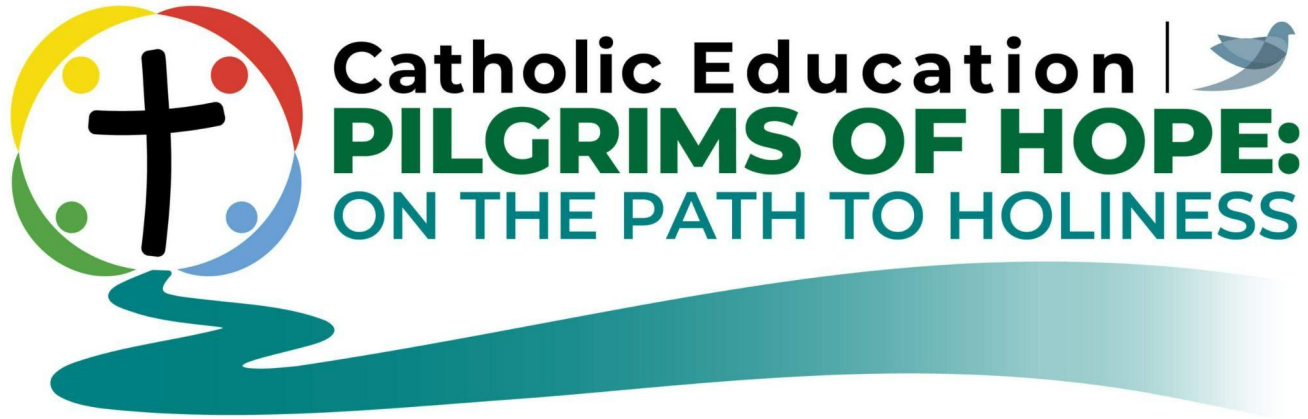


Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic: Celebrating Our Faith

Ordinandi



Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic *Catholic Education Week 2026*



Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2026: Monthly “Pilgrims of Hope Bulletin”



L'éducation catholique: Pèlerins de l'espérance ~ September 2025 Bulletin

On behalf of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association, we are pleased to welcome you back to the new school year and share with you a copy of the September edition of the Catholic Education: Together in Faith Bulletin. Through the leadership of Anne O'Brien and the faith filled service of the members of our Catholic Education Resource Committee, copies of the distinctly Catholic Bulletin will be distributed monthly throughout the 2025-2026 school year. Please be assured of our support and prayers as we continue to journey as Pilgrims of Hope on The Path to Holiness.

Michael Belmont, President & Patrick Day, Executive Director

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2026

Welcome back to the new school year! As we open the doors to our schools across the province of Ontario, we do so with hearts full of excitement, faith, and hope.

This year's Catholic Education Week theme is:

Catholic Education: Pilgrims of Hope: On the Path to Holiness
L'éducation catholique: Pèlerins d'espérance: sur le chemin de la sainteté



In our Catholic schools, we are more than just students and teachers—we are pilgrims walking together in faith. A pilgrim is someone who travels with purpose, with a destination in mind. For us, that destination is holiness—becoming the people God created us to be, filled with love, compassion, and integrity.

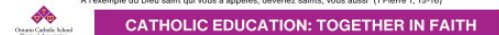
This theme reminds us that we are never alone on this journey. We walk with one another—supporting, encouraging, and listening. We also journey guided by hope and a deep trust that God is with us through every challenge, joy, and lesson.

As we begin this new school year, let us commit ourselves to walk together in faith and grow together in holiness. May this year be one of discovery, grace, and joyful learning. Together, as pilgrims of hope, let us take each step on the path to holiness with courage, joy, and faith.



Our scripture passage for Catholic Education 2026 is:

"As God who called you is holy, be holy yourselves." (1 Peter 1:15-16)
"À l'exemple du Dieu saint qui vous a appelés, devenez saints, vous aussi!" (1 Pierre 1, 15-16)



PILGRIMS OF HOPE: ON THE PATH TO HOLINESS



Catholic Education Week Resources



CEW Prayer Card



<https://goodnewsforall.ca>



CEW Poster

Resources to Celebrate New Saints

Brothers in Christ: Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati

10 Things You Should Know About Carlo Acutis

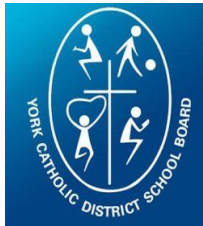
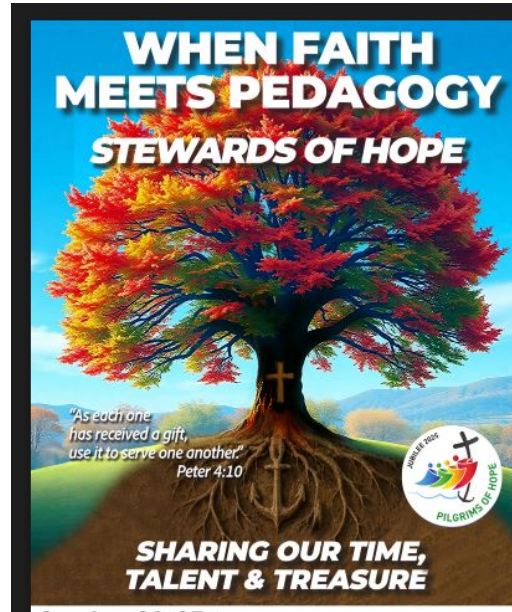


Honouring Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati at the Jubilee of Youth



Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic

When Faith Meets Pedagogy Youth Forum

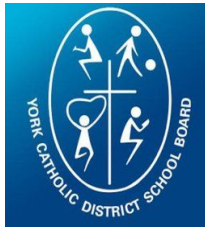


Religious and Family Life Education at York Catholic



**Thank you
YCDSB for
supporting
ShareLife!**

**Living the
Gospel**

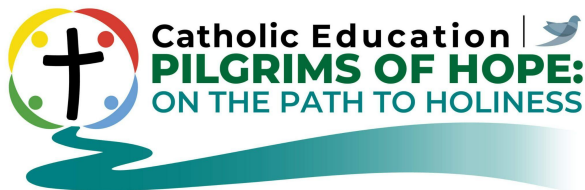


HOME, SCHOOL AND PARISH: A COMMON MISSION OF EVANGELIZATION

Daily Prayers and Reflections



Catholic Education Week



**Faith Day
September 26, 2025**



Religious Education, Family Life, & Adult Faith at York Catholic

On behalf of the Religious Education team and
Superintendent Arcadi...

Thank you!





YORK CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE



Supporting Parent Engagement for Student Achievement

June 2025

Dear York Catholic DSB Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

My name is Martina Saverino, and I am honoured to serve as the Chair of the York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (YCPIC) for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 terms. As a parent advisory body to our Director of Education, our primary purpose of the YCPIC is to promote effective parent involvement, enabling parents to play a stronger role in supporting student achievement. The Director of Education and the Board are responsible for considering the recommendations made by the members of the YCPIC and for informing us of the actions taken in response to these recommendations. Agendas, minutes of meetings held and financial records are available for public perusal on the YCDSB's website, under the YCPIC page.

The YCPIC has had a very busy and rewarding 2024-2025. The YCPIC held five meetings this year on September 23rd, November 25th, January 20th, March 31st and May 20th. We worked on various issues during the year, including:

- Procuring supplies for refugee students in the YCDSB
- Creation of a digital repository for Council documents
- Providing Input on School Messenger student absence choices
- Selecting engaging conference topics for our school community
- Requesting resources to support parents in leveraging artificial intelligence

These meetings were open to the public so as to encourage input from parents and other members of our school board community. The primary purpose of the YCPIC is to promote effective parent involvement, enabling parents to play a stronger role in supporting student achievement. During this scholastic year, the YCPIC hosted the following workshops and conferences aimed at providing our school communities with increased awareness and knowledge of important topics so they can better support our student body:

- 2025 New CSC Treasurers Workshop
- 2025 Orientation Workshop for New Catholic School Council Executive Members
- Winter Social (January 25, 2025)
- Spring Social (March 22, 2025)
- Beyond the Worry: Raising Resilient Kids in an Anxious World (April 5, 2025)
- Raising Financially Savvy Families (April 26, 2025)
- Financial Literacy Virtual Presentation - How to Teach Your Kids About Money (May 10, 2025)
- Dismantling Ableism and Celebrating Neurodiversity (May 31, 2025)

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

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YORK CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE



Supporting Parent Engagement for Student Achievement

The New CSC Treasurers Workshop and Orientation Workshop for New Catholic School Council Executive members, held every year, were held with the purpose of introducing new Executive Council members to the function of their roles, providing them with the opportunity to learn from experienced members, as well as having the opportunity to ask questions.

The Winter and Spring Socials were organized to provide parents and guardians with opportunities to network, share fundraising challenges, discuss what strategies worked or didn't, and explore other activities to better engage the parent community. Both events were well attended and featured many productive conversations and exchanges of ideas.

The conferences we hosted were based on topics presented by our YCPIC members, who allowed the democratic process to prevail and voted on which topics would be presented. These were topics that all members felt strongly about presenting to our school parent communities.

In an effort to be financially responsible, all our activities were carried out staying well within our budget. Our financial documents can be found within our meeting minutes, located on our page, on the YCDSB website.

As this year's term comes to an end, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our YCPIC members for taking the time out of their busy schedules to attend meetings, as well as support our YCPIC events by attending and assisting. Your support and assistance did not go unnoticed.

To this term's Executive members, Jaclyn Toma, Vice-Chair; Christina Gillison, Treasurer; Robyn De Cicco, Secretary, I'd like to extend my most sincere appreciation for your value, insight, and time.

Appreciation is extended to John De Faveri, Director of Education, Jennifer Sarna, Associate Director, and the Board Staff. We would like to thank you for your continuous, steadfast support, as well as the opportunity to voice our opinions openly and without judgment. Thank you to Chair Elizabeth Crowe for your consistent participation and vast knowledge, and most importantly, thank you for having the best interests of our students and families at heart.

As this year ends, I wish all of you a restful yet enjoyable summer and hope to see you back in September with a renewed sense of motivation to make our next term even better than this one.

"The power of one, if fearless and focused, is formidable, but the power of many working together is better." ~ Gloria Macapagal Arroyo

Sincerely yours,

Chair, YCPIC, 2024-2026

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Martina Saverino, Chair
Jaclyn Toma, Vice-Chair
Christina Gillison, Treasurer
Robyn De Cicco, Secretary

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