

**OUR MISSION**

*The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.  
We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.*

**OUR VISION**

*At Toronto Catholic we transform the world  
through witness, faith, innovation and action.*



**AGENDA ADDENDUM  
THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

7:00 P.M.

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## Parent/Guardian Voice Survey 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are inviting you to provide feedback about your child’s school and overall satisfaction with the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) by answering the following survey questions. We will use the information to tell us about those areas we are doing well and those areas where we need to improve. The survey will be available between **June 3 to June 14, 2019**, and should only take about 15 minutes to complete.

Please complete a survey for only **one child per school**. If you have children in more than one school, you are welcome to complete one survey per school.

All data will be confidential and anonymous. Responses will be summarized and reported at the Board level. Thank you.

a. Which school does your child attend?

**SCHOOL NAME:**           **drop down menu**          

b. My child is in grade: **(MYSP A1.3 – Next Steps: separate elementary and secondary responses)**

JK-Grade 3       Grade 4-6       Grade 7-8       Grade 9-12

c. **My child is identified as special needs and receives special education based on Ministry exceptionalality. (Linda / Dan)**

Yes  No

d. **If YES, what is the exceptionality? Include list of exceptionalities.**

e. How many children do you have attending this school?

1    2    3    4    5    more than 5

Looking at your child’s school as a whole, how much do you agree or disagree with the following? **(Scale is as follows... This will be formatted)**

<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don’t Know</b>
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### LIVING OUR CATHOLIC VALUES

1. My child’s school promotes Catholic values and practices. **(BLIP A)**

2. ~~My child talks to me about the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations learned at school.~~  
**My child’s school teaches to a curriculum that is rooted and informed by the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations.**

3. I feel my child is growing in faith and how to live it.

4. My child’s school is working closely with the parish. **(BLIP A, MYSP A1.3)**

### WELCOMING SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

5. My child enjoys attending school.

6. My child’s school is a welcoming place in which to learn. **(BLIP D)**

7. I feel welcomed in my child’s school.
8. My child feels safe at school. (BLIP D)
9. My child’s school is responsive to the needs of children from all cultural backgrounds and abilities.

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT & WELL-BEING**

10. There are high expectations for my child to achieve in literacy, numeracy, and all other subjects.
11. My child’s learning needs are met at school. (MYSP B4.2)
12. My child’s school provides useful information to me regarding his/her achievement and well-being.
13. The school engages my child in activities that support learning in literacy and numeracy, including assessments such as Education Quality Accountability Office (EQAO).
14. The school engages my child in activities that supports learning in all other subject areas.
15. My child’s school <del>promotes practices that</del> supports the spiritual, social, physical and mental well-being of students. (MYSP B4.2)
16. I have seen evidence of classroom strategies that support my child’s learning (e.g., learning goals, success criteria). (MYSP B2.4)
17. My child has access to books, learning materials and other resources to support learning.
18. My child has access to technology that supports learning (e.g., computers, laptops, chrome books, tablets, software, applications, etc.)
19. My child’s school provides parents with information regarding evaluation and assessment practices. (MYSP B2.4)

**HOME, SCHOOL, PARISH AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

20. There is a strong connection between the school, home and parish. (BLIP A, MYSP A1.3)
21. There are opportunities for parents to attend information sessions and get involved in the life of the school.
22. I know about the Catholic School Parent Council (CSPC) at the school.
23. My child’s school talks to me about factors that affect my child’s education.
24. Our school regularly provides communications in a variety of formats (newsletters, twitter, email, website, <b>Synrevoice/SchoolMessenger</b> in secondary schools etc.).
25. I know about the Board’s communications to parents available through the TCDSB website (e.g., the <i>Director’s Voice</i> , <i>Highlights from the Board</i> , and Committee Meetings).

**SERVICE EXCELLENCE**

26. My child’s school provides adequate notification about school events and activities.
27. Open and timely communication occurs between parents and the school.
28. At my child’s school, parents have the opportunity to provide feedback and input.
29. I am satisfied with the amount of communication I receive from my child’s school.

~~Translations of materials are available for parents whose first language is not English.~~

30. a) Are you comfortable communicating with your child’s school in the English language?

- Yes       No

b) If NO, are translations of school communications available to you?

- Yes       No       Don’t know

~~30. Do you know the name of the Superintendent of your child’s school?~~

- ~~Yes    No    Never needed to know~~

31. Do you know the role of the Superintendent of your child's school?  
 Yes       No

**Shazia / Dan – Q31 - is this what you had in mind? Do we want to add a Q on SO accessibility or is Q32 sufficient?**

32. In the past year, have you had an opportunity to see or meet the Superintendent of your child's school? (e.g., visiting classrooms, or at a school event such as, school Mass, community barbecue, CSPC meeting, curriculum night, school production/concert, etc.).  
 Yes     No       I have not attended

33. In the past year, have you contacted the school Superintendent to ask any questions and/or present concerns?  Yes     No **[If you answered NO, skip to question 33] (MYSP C5.2)**

- i. If you answered "yes", were you contacted in a timely manner? (2 business days)  
 Yes       No
- ii. Through your communication, were your questions and/or concerns addressed in a professional manner?  
 Yes     No     The issue/concern was not addressed
- iii. Was the matter resolved?     Yes     No

34. In the past year have you had any communication with other members of the **Senior team**:

**a) Director of Education?**  Yes  No **[If you answered NO, skip to question b]**

- i. If you answered "yes", were you contacted in a timely manner? (2 business days)  
 Yes       No
- ii. Through your communication, were your questions and/or concerns addressed in a professional manner?     Yes     No     The issue/concern was not addressed.
- iii. Was the matter resolved?     Yes     No

**b) Associate Director of Education, Academic Affairs?**  Yes  No **[If you answered NO, skip to question c]**

- i. If you answered "yes", were you contacted in a timely manner? (2 business days)  
 Yes     No
- ii. Through your communication, were your questions and/or concerns addressed in a professional manner?     Yes     No     The issue/concern was not addressed.
- iii. Was the matter resolved?     Yes     No

**c) Associate Director of Planning and Facilities/Chief Financial Officer?**  Yes  No  
**[If you answered NO, skip to question d]**

- i. If you answered “yes”, were you contacted in a timely manner? (2 business days)  
 Yes  No
- ii. Through your communication, were your questions and/or concerns addressed in a professional manner?  Yes  No  The issue/concern was not addressed.
- iii. Was the matter resolved?  Yes  No

**d) Legal Counsel?**  Yes  No **[If you answered NO, skip to question f]**

- i. If you answered “yes”, were you contacted in a timely manner? (2 business days)  
 Yes  No
- ii. Through your communication, were your questions and/or concerns addressed in a professional manner?  Yes  No  The issue/concern was not addressed.
- iii. Was the matter resolved?  Yes  No

**e) Other Superintendents?** (Business Services, Equity & Indigenous Education, Facilities & Operations, Human Resources, Planning, Curriculum & Learning, Student Success, Special Education, Safe Schools)  Yes  No **[If you answered NO, skip to question 34]**

- i. If you answered “yes”, were you contacted in a timely manner? (2 business days)  
 Yes  No
- ii. Through your communication, were your questions and/or concerns addressed in a professional manner?  Yes  No  The issue/concern was not addressed.
- iii. Was the matter resolved?  Yes  No

35. Please include any additional comments below:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your input is greatly appreciated.



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Toronto, Ontario, March 21, 2019

### **Autism Ontario Responds to Ministry Announcement “Ontario Enhancing Support for Children with Autism”**

**The enhancements to the proposed Ontario Autism Program reflect a shift in programming as families across Ontario are fighting to be heard**

Today’s announcement by the Ministry of Children Community and Social Services announced several developments to the proposed Ontario Autism Program after weeks of protests, social media campaigns, and public outcry from parents and professionals. This announcement tells us that the Ontario Government is paying attention to what families have to say.

Gone from the proposed Ontario Autism Program is the income testing for childhood budgets. While the age cap remains, families will no longer experience a reduction in funding based on household income. Children under the age of six will receive \$20,000 annually in direct funding, while those six and over will receive \$5,000 annually. Since funding will no longer be impacted by family income it is still important to note that the childhood budgets are far below what many families have already personally invested. The funding a family receives is also still based on age, as opposed to needs, something families and professionals have pointed to as a critical flaw in the program.

Families will have access to a larger range of eligible services through the childhood budgets now. Families have been vocal in asking for Occupational and Speech and Language Pathology services and their inclusion in the eligible services reflects the Ministry is paying attention. Giving families access to a broader range of services is a step in the right direction.

What is most encouraging from this announcement is that the Ministry is committed to exploring how best to provide additional supports to families based on the diagnosed needs of their child. Autism Ontario believes in the importance of broad consultation, and hopes these meetings don’t include a select few, but a diverse range of perspectives, including the voices of Autistic adults, families, scientists, clinicians, community members, educators, and thought leaders. Let’s get this right. To get this right, we need to have a wholistic perspective which also addresses inclusion, education, employment, health, mental health and supportive communities - everything our province needs to support people on the spectrum at all ages and all stages of development and life.

**About Autism Ontario:** Autism Ontario has a 46 year history of representing thousands of families and people with ASD across Ontario. We are the only organization in Ontario that has formal parent representation in all areas of the province through our 25 Chapters. We advocate on behalf of all people with ASD and their families – at all ages and stages of life, reflecting a wide range of expression and abilities. To connect with us, visit [www.autismontario.com](http://www.autismontario.com)

**Vision:** Acceptance and Opportunities for all people with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

**Mission:** To ensure that each individual with ASD is provided the means to achieve quality of life as a respected member of society.

New to Autism? Find help for navigating the system after a diagnosis, school issues, and other ASD information; please contact your local **Family Support Coordinator** [here](#).

**CONTACT:**

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