



REPORT TO

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

*To the sensible person education is like a golden ornament, and like a bracelet on the right arm.
Sirach 21:21*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
February 10, 2020	March 5, 2020	Click here to enter a date.

Lori DiMarco, Superintendent of Curriculum Leadership & Innovation; Academic ICT

RECOMMENDATION REPORT

Vision:

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

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.



Rory McGuckin
Director of Education

D. Koenig
Associate Director
of Academic Affairs

L. Noronha
Associate Director of Facilities,
Business and Community
Development, and
Chief Financial Officer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The school year calendar is prepared and submitted annually to the Ministry of Education, in accordance with the Education Act and Ont. Regulation 304, School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days. The 2020-2021 school year calendar must be submitted to the MOE by May 1, 2020. This report recommends that trustees adopt the attached school year calendar in **Appendix A** for the 2020-2021 school year, and that this information be communicated as outlined in Section E of this report. The calendar aligns with that of the Toronto District School Board and the alignment will minimize additional transportation costs for both boards.

In the 2020-2021 school year, there are a possible 192 of the required school days from September 8, 2020 (day after Labour Day) to June 30, 2021.

The Education Act defines the school year as occurring between September 1 and June 30. In order to meet the requirement of 194 school days for the 2020-2021 school year, 2 days for TCDSB staff must occur prior to Labour Day. These days will be designated as PA days and no students will need to attend school before Labour Day. The first day of classes for students will be September 8, 2020.

Secondary schools, in consultation with their Local School Staffing Advisory Committee (LSSAC), may schedule a Professional Activity Day to align with the day following one of the Parent-Teacher Interview nights.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 20 hours.

B. PURPOSE

1. To provide information on what governs the development of the school year calendar.
2. To outline a communication plan that encompasses the TCDSB community.
3. To present the 2020-2021 school year calendar as agreed to, through a consensus process, by the Academic/Business Advisory Committee (AcBac) members.

C. BACKGROUND

1. Annually the Board establishes the school year calendar in accordance with the Education Act and Ont. Regulation 304.
2. The TCDSB must approve a school year calendar that includes a minimum of 194 school days, of which no more than seven (7) will be professional activity (PA) days and at least 187 will be instructional days. Three (3) of the seven PA Days must be devoted to provincial education priorities as set out by the Ministry of Education. In the case of secondary schools, no more than ten (10) instructional days can be designated as exam days.
3. In the 2020-2021 school year, there are a possible 192 of the required school days from September 8, 2020 (day after Labour Day) to June 30, 2021.
4. The Education Act defines the school year as occurring between September 1 and June 30. In order to meet the requirement of 194 school days for the 2020-2021 school year, 2 school days must occur prior to Labour Day. These days will be designated as PA days.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

Elementary Schools:

1. For the purposes of the 2020-2021 school year calendar, please note the following for **elementary schools**:
 - Two PA days are to be used for parent-teacher conferences, as per the Collective Agreement.
 - Two PA days are to be used for assessment and completion of report cards, as per the Collective Agreement.
 - Three PA days are to be used for Provincial Education Priorities of which one half day will be devoted to Faith Development.

Secondary Schools:

2. For the purposes of the 2020-2021 school year calendar, please note the following for **secondary schools**:

- Three PA days devoted to Provincial Education Priorities and supporting Article 19 (Joint Professional Development Committee) of the Collective Agreement
 - One PA day devoted to Faith Development.
 - One PA day devoted to numeracy across the curriculum.
 - The remaining two PA days will be devoted to system priorities, annual learning plans and local goals articulated in the School Learning Improvement Plan.
3. The remaining school days shall be instructional days, which for secondary schools will include ten (10) exam days.
 4. Each school year calendar must be accompanied by a general outline of the activities to be conducted on PA days, as per Ministry Policy/Program Memorandum 151, “*Professional Activity Days Devoted to Provincial Education Priorities*” (PPM151).
 5. The selection of the PA days for 2020-2021 school year has been in consultation with our Academic/Business Advisory Committee (AcBac) Committee members.
 6. The AcBac Committee consists of members of Senior Staff and representatives from each union, association and various board departments (including Transportation, Payroll, Communications and Human Resources).
 7. PA days have been aligned with the TDSB to minimize any additional transportation costs.

E. COMMUNICATIONS

Communication Plan:

To bring awareness to the TCDSB community and its stakeholders, the school year calendar for the 2020-2021 school year will be communicated in the following ways:

1. Information letter for distribution to parents, students and staff

2. Insert for school newsletters
3. TCDSB website
4. Email to principals, copy to CSPC chairs and CPIC reps, Education Council and Trustees
5. School Websites
6. News release will be issued to announce Board's school year calendar for 2019-2020
7. Twitter
8. E-News subscribers
9. Director's Bulletin announcement
10. Trustee Newsletters
11. The calendar anomaly of requiring 2 days to occur outside of the days between Labour Day and June 30, was previously communicated to all staff. An update including the approved dates will be shared through the appropriate communication channels to all staff and other stakeholders.

Audiences:

Primary Audiences: TCDSB students, staff and parents; CSPC Chairs/CPIC Representatives; OAPCE Representatives, SEAC Members, TCDSB Staff.

Secondary Audiences: Parishes, Other GTA Boards, Archdiocese of Toronto, Catholic Supporters and Media.

F. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Trustees approve:

1. The school year calendar for the 2020-2021 school year in Appendix A.
2. The communication plan outlined in this report; and that Principals share the 2020-2021 school year calendar and the plans for professional activity days with their CSPC members and their school communities.