



REPORT TO

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

ENROLMENT STATUS REPORT 2020/2021 ALL WARDS

Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it...Proverbs 13:11

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
October 27, 2020	November 4, 2020	Click here to enter a date.

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INFORMATION REPORT

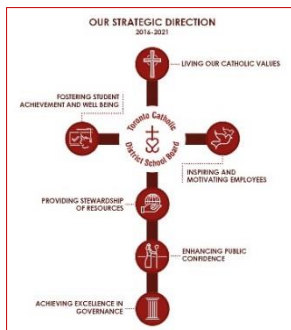
Vision:

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.



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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a comparison of the preliminary Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) enrolment figures as of October 19, 2020 with the March 2020 Board approved projected enrolment anticipated in schools for October 31, 2020.

At this time, elementary enrolment is within -2.4% of the projected number, while secondary enrolment is within -1.5% of the projection. Waitlisted students continue to be accommodated where schools have available space, however have been held in areas of enrolment pressure as spaces must be maintained for virtual students that may choose to return to in person learning. Schools and central staff continue efforts to admit as many students as is feasible given the current restrictions on class sizes and efforts to maintain physical distancing in classrooms as much as possible.

A reorganization of in person and virtual classes is in process to accommodate changes between learning streams for the next term/quadrimester. Please note that fluctuations in these reported numbers will continue as families opt to switch between in person and virtual learning models.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 15 hours

B. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees with preliminary enrolment statistics and analysis in relation to Board approved enrolment projections for the 2020-2021 school year.

C. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. Elementary Panel Enrolment

	JK	SK	Gr1	Gr2	Gr3	Gr4	Gr5	Gr6	Gr7	Gr8	Total
In Person	3,508	3,824	4,204	4,183	4,321	4,218	4,330	4,324	4,356	4,634	41,902
Virtual	1,751	1,996	1,923	1,917	1,985	1,942	2,016	2,054	2,122	1,927	19,633
Total	5,259	5,820	6,127	6,100	6,306	6,160	6,346	6,378	6,478	6,561	61,535

	JK	SK	Gr1	Gr2	Gr3	Gr4	Gr5	Gr6	Gr7	Gr8	Total
Actual	5,259	5,820	6,127	6,100	6,306	6,160	6,346	6,378	6,478	6,561	61,535
Proj.	5,951	5,825	6,254	6,262	6,446	6,323	6,298	6,496	6,601	6,642	63,097
Diff.	-692	-5	-127	-162	-140	-163	48	-118	-123	-81	-1,562

- *Actual elementary enrolment is within -2.4% of the projected enrolment numbers approved in March 2020.*
- *Staff have communicated with other school boards throughout the province and all have confirmed similar declines in both elementary and secondary enrolment.*
- *The largest discrepancy between projections and actual enrolment is in JK. Elementary principals with lower than anticipated JK enrolment were contacted to comment on local rationale for this decline.* Principals at schools within Toronto Public Health designated COVID areas of highest need have confirmed that some families have chosen not to enrol their children for this school year due to risks associated with COVID-19 and the uncertainty of learning models. Elementary schools with the largest discrepancies between projected enrolment and actual enrolment such as St Charles Garnier, St Rene Goupil, St Francis de Sales and St Martin de Porres all share the same commonality in that they are located in high-density areas.
- Preliminary Elementary enrolment numbers are lower than at the same point of October 2019, which is also somewhat attributable to the later and staggered start to the school year due to COVID-19. Traditionally, the same trend of lower numbers is experienced at the start of the school year in September with actual enrolment aligning with projected numbers in October. *Alignment may not occur for the 2020-2021 school year as families continue to switch between virtual and in person learning.* Families are currently being offered an option to change their learning model for a November effective date.

- *Immigration levels in Toronto have declined throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. This has contributed to enrolment challenges in areas that typically accommodate newcomers to the country.* The borders were closed to non-essential travel on March 21, 2020 and have remained closed through to November, 2020. Immigration Offices were closed for a significant amount of time and are reportedly working through resulting backlogs and delays in the application process. TCDSB has seen less enrolment from newcomers than in previous years.
- *Elementary students participating in virtual learning currently comprise 31% of the total Elementary student population.*

2. Secondary Panel Enrolment

	Gr 9	Gr 10	Gr 11	Gr 12	Total
In Person	4,965	4,566	4,670	6,200	20,401
Virtual	1,514	1,990	1,969	2,074	7,547
Total	6,479	6,556	6,639	8,274	27,948

	Gr 9	Gr 10	Gr 11	Gr 12	Total
Actual	6,479	6,556	6,639	8,274	27,948
Projected	6,471	6,783	6,872	8,253	28,379
Difference	8	-227	-233	21	-431

- *Actual secondary enrolment is within -1.5% of the projected enrolment numbers approved in March 2020.*
- Secondary students participating in fully virtual classes currently make up 27% of the total Secondary panel enrolment.

- *The quadmester adaptive model of secondary class delivery involves smaller cohorted classes with students actually in school buildings for one class a day.* The remainder of the day is delivered through synchronous and asynchronous learning methods.
- *As of October 28th 2020, elementary and secondary schools in Ontario are prohibited from admitting international students not already within the country at this time.* The International and Continuing Education department has only seen 572 of the 1,204 projected secondary international students enrolled at this time due to the travel restrictions in place by the Federal government.

3. Total Enrolment (FTE)

	Total	% Diff.
Actual FTE	89,483	-2%
Projected FTE	91,476	
Difference	-1,993	

- *Enrolment statistics will continue to fluctuate as students return from extended leave, transfers occur and waitlists are cleared.*

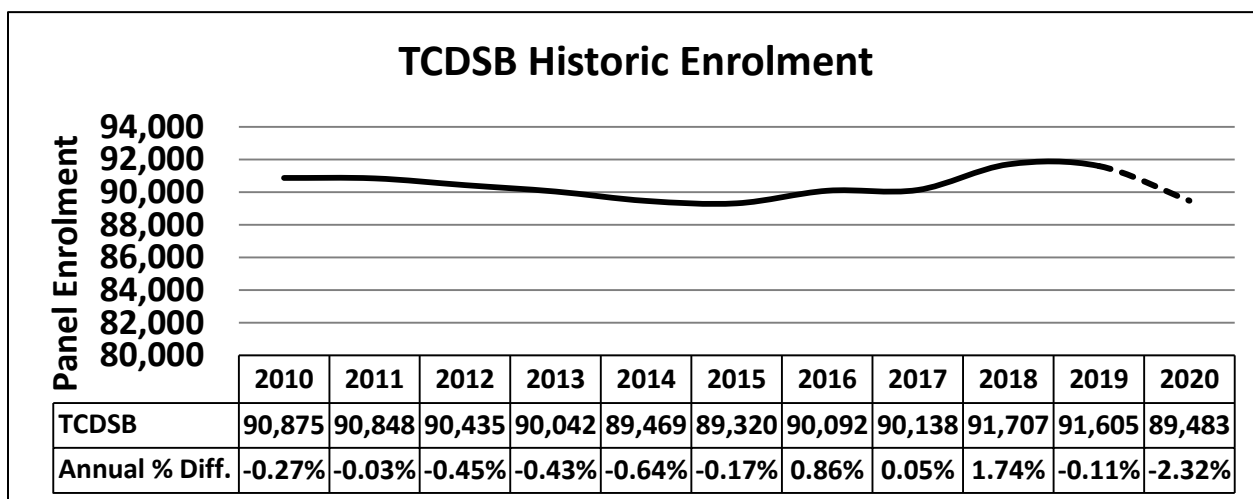
4. Comparison of Actuals

	Total	% Diff.
2019 Actual FTE	91,605	-2.3%
2020 Actual FTE	89,483	
Difference	-2,122	

- Enrolment projections have their basis in October 31st student counts, as such staff expect enrolment to approach projected numbers in the coming weeks as the October 31st count date nears.

5. Historical Projection Information

- *Although this year is different than any other, recent historical trends indicate that the TCDSB can expect the trend of slow but steady year over year elementary enrolment growth to continue into the near future.*



- Elementary enrolment had been in decline since 2008, however; as of 2015 sustained growth has been observed. *Over the coming years, it is anticipated that elementary enrolment will continue to grow at a moderate pace due to strong residential housing forecasts. Staff will continue to monitor enrolment anomalies associated with COVID-19 for consideration in future enrolment projections.*
- Secondary enrolment had been in decline since 2011. For the 2020-2021 School year, secondary growth has levelled off. *Planning staff anticipate a future period of slight growth and levelling off at approximately 30,000 FTE as recent growth experienced in the Elementary panel moves through the Secondary Panel.*
- Enrolment growth has been exhibited board-wide since 2015. Although growth has not yet been realized in the current year, *this period of growth is expected to continue into the foreseeable future as a result of strong residential housing forecasts for the City of Toronto.*

D. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. Staff will continue to monitor and track enrolment as it relates to 2020-2021 Board approved enrolment projections. COVID-19 has presented challenges to reporting on enrolment. Staff will continue to observe and adjust to this constantly changing environment.

E. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the consideration of the Board.