



REPORT TO

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

TCDSB BOARD LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN – ANNUAL REPORT

*"Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance."
Proverbs 1:5*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
November 6, 2015	December 3, 2015	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 rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity



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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Toronto Catholic District School Board Learning and Improvement Plan K-12 is a commitment to improve success for each student in our care. This annual report on the Board Learning and Improvement Plan reports on our progress to date and highlights plans for improvement for 2015-2016.

B. PURPOSE

Annual report on the Board Learning and Improvement Plan.

C. BACKGROUND

1. The Toronto Catholic District School Board's Mission is to educate "students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity." Our mission is grounded in Catholic Social teaching and works in partnership with the Provincial goals:
 - Achieving Excellence
 - Ensuring Equity
 - Promoting Well-Being
 - Enhancing Public Confidence
2. At the Toronto Catholic District School Board, *fostering student achievement and well-being* is one of six strategic directions that define our Multi-Year Strategic Plan. As stated in our plan, it is our priority *to support our students in meeting the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, to support our students ability to apply critical and innovative thinking in all subjects, to create equitable learning environments* and to achieve the following goals:
 - Students will exceed the provincial average in literacy and numeracy as measured in Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) assessments.
 - Students will exceed the provincial average in credit accumulation and graduation rate.
 - Students, staff and parents will share a common understanding of the learning goals and related success criteria.
3. The Toronto Catholic District School Board Learning and Improvement Plan K-12 spans the 4 years, 2014-2018. It is a commitment to improve the success of each student entrusted to our care. The plan has 8 areas of focus,

two are foundational to our Catholic school communities: *Nurturing Our Catholic Community* and *Staff Engagement*, and the remaining six are derived from the Ministry of Education's School Effectiveness Framework.

- *Assessment for, as and of Learning*
- *School and Classroom Leadership*
- *Student Engagement*
- *Curriculum, Teaching and Learning*
- *Pathways, Planning and Programming*
- *Home, School and Community Partnerships*

Together, when put into action, effective strategies in these 8 areas can serve to create optimal learning conditions for all our students to experience success.

4. There are a number of foundational documents that have informed our Board Learning Improvement Plan K-12.

- Catholic Social Teachings
- The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations
- TCDSB Documents:
 - Multi-Year Strategic Plan
 - Annual Report of the Director of Education
 - Three Year Pastoral Plan
- The Catholic Leadership Framework
- Ontario Ministry of Education Documents:
 - School Effectiveness Framework
 - Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario
 - Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting in Ontario Schools
 - Learning for All – A Guide to Effective Assessment and Instruction for All Students, Kindergarten to Grade 12
 - Open Minds, Healthy Minds

The Board Learning Improvement Plan K-12 details targeted evidence-based strategies, professional learning opportunities and resources, indicators of success (measures), aligned to inform our goals and the achievement of excellence. The complete Board Learning Improvement Plan may be accessed on the TCDSB website. (<https://www.tcdsb.org/Board/BoardLearningImprovementPlan/Pages/default.aspx>)

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

Graduation rate, credit accumulation and literacy scores indicate much growth and success; mathematics scores remain an area of need, particularly in Grade 6 and Grade 9 Applied.

Graduation Rate:

The Province published graduation rates for each Board for the first time, in the spring of 2015. The 5-year graduation rate for TCDSB is 86%. The graduation rate for Ontario is 84%.

Credit Accumulation:

The TCDSB focus on improving student achievement is evident in consistent growth over the last 5 years in Grade 9 and Grade 10 Credit Accumulation.

Grade 9 (8 or more credits) – in the last five years, the percentage of students completing 8 or more credits by the end of Grade 9 increased from 79% to 85%.

Grade 10 (16 or more credits) – in the last five years, the percentage of students completing 16 or more credits by the end of Grade 10 increased from 69% to 78%.

EQAO:

Grade 3 and Grade 6

All literacy scores exceed or approach the provincial goal of 75%.

Scores in mathematics remain low at 64% for Grade 3 and 52% for Grade 6. Mathematics will continue to be a focus for all professional learning and school improvement initiatives.

OSSLT and Grade 9

Scores in literacy and Grade 9 Academic mathematics remain consistently high (83% and 82% respectively).

Scores in Grade 9 Applied mathematics remain low at 44%. Mathematics will continue to be a focus for all professional learning and school improvement initiatives.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The TCDSB has a solid foundation from which to reflect on the past year and upon which to build for the next cycle of our Board Learning Improvement Plan and refine it on an annual basis.

For the 2015-2016 school year, the following actions are planned in support of continued improvement:

- a) During the fall of 2015, staff brought three reports to the Board's Student Achievement and Well Being Committee, each focused on the newly released EQAO results and each highlighting actions to address the achievement of excellence for all our students. Additionally, in November 2015, *The TCDSB K-12 Professional Development Plan* was presented. The Board Learning Improvement Plan will be updated to reflect the actions and strategies included in all of these reports.
- b) The Director and Academic Senior Team prepare and present monitoring reports to the Student Achievement Division Ministry team in the fall and spring. The fall Ministry visit takes place on November 25, 2015. The Ministry team has highlighted many positive aspects of our plan and identified areas that require further refinement. The feedback from the Ministry will be incorporated in the next version of our Board Learning Improvement Plan. For example, further refinement is needed in addressing requirements that flow from *Ontario's Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy (Open Minds, Healthy Minds)*.
- c) Refinements to the Board Learning Improvement Plan in the areas of targeted evidence-based strategies, professional learning opportunities, resources and indicators of success (measures) will be communicated by Superintendents to each School Improvement Team to inform school visits which take place twice per year and to support their ongoing work. The updated Board Learning Improvement Plan will be posted on the TCDSB website in the spring of 2016.
- d) In the spring of 2016, there will be refinement of our School Learning Improvement Plans to support alignment with changes in our Board Learning Improvement Plan and Multi Year Strategic Plan.

F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the consideration of the Board.