



REPORT TO

**REGULAR BOARD****SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR 2017-2018**

*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 23, 2017	March 30, 2017	Click here to enter a date.
L. DiMarco Superintendent of Curriculum Leadership & Innovation; ICT N. D'Avella Superintendent of Student Success		

**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.*

**R. McGuckin**

Associate Director of Academic Affairs

**A. Sangiorgio**

Associate Director of Planning and Facilities

**C. Jackson**

Executive Superintendent of Business Services and Chief Financial Officer

**Angela Gauthier**

Director of Education

## **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 2017-2018 school year calendar must be submitted to the MOE by May 1, 2017. This report recommends that trustees adopt the attached school year calendar (Appendix A) for the 2017-2018 school year and that this information be communicated as outlined in Section D of this report. The calendar aligns with that of the Toronto District School Board, in order to minimize additional transportation costs.

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

## **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 2017-2018 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 of the seven PA Days must be devoted to provincial education priorities as set out by the Ministry of Education.
3. In the 2017-2018 school year, there are a possible 194 instructional days from September 5, 2017 to June 29, 2018. The requirement of 194 instructional

days would be achieved if the first school day was Tuesday, September 5, 2017 and the last school day was Friday, June 30, 2018.

4. For the purposes of the 2017-2018 school year calendar, please note the following for elementary schools:
  - Two PA days are to be used for parent-teacher conferences.
  - Two PA days are to be used for assessment and completion of report cards.
  - Three PA days are to be used for Provincial Education Priorities of which one day will be devoted to Faith Development.

And for secondary schools:

- Three PA days devoted to Provincial Education Priorities and supporting Article 19 of the Collective Agreement.
- One PA day devoted to Faith Development.
- The remaining three PA days will be devoted to system priorities, annual learning plans and local goals articulated in the School Learning Improvement Plan.
- The remaining school days shall be instructional days.

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 2017-2018 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 federation, association and various board departments (including Transportation and Communications and Human Resources)
7. We have aligned our PA days with the TDSB to minimize any additional transportation costs.

## **D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS**

### **Communication Plan:**

To bring awareness to the TCDSB community and its stakeholders, the school year calendar for the 2017-2018 school year will be communicated in the following ways:

Methods to be used:

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. News release will be issued to announce Board's school year calendar for 2017-2018
6. Twitter
7. E-News subscribers
8. Director's Bulletin announcement
9. Trustee newsletters

**Audiences:**

Primary Audiences: TCDSB students and parents; CSPC Chairs/CPIC Representatives; TCDSB Staff

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

## **E. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the following:

- i) That the attached (Appendix A) school year calendar for the 2017-2018 school year be adopted;
- ii) that the communication plan outlined in this report be implemented; and that Principals share the 2017-2018 school year calendar and the plans for professional activity days with their CSPC's and their school communities.