



REPORT TO

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

STUDENT VOICE IN HELPING TO CREATE SAFER SCHOOLS

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

Timothy 4:12

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
November 20, 2017	December 7, 2017	Click here to enter a date.

Vincent Burzotta, Superintendent Safe Schools
 Nadia Adragna, Principal Msgr. Fraser St. Martin Campus

INFORMATION REPORT

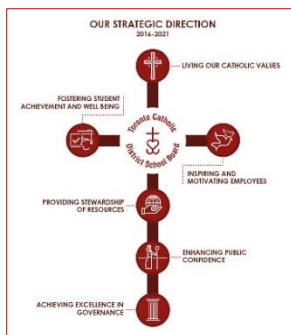
Vision:

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.



Rory McGuckin
 Director of Education

D. Koenig
 Associate Director
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 Associate Director
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T.B.D.
 Executive Superintendent
 of Business Services and
 Chief Financial Officer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The annual Safe School Report provides behavioural and perceptual data which identifies how school communities are ensuring that they remain, safe, caring and accepting. The data gathered from the Safe School report helps identify trends and yearly action plans to address areas of need. Although students are surveyed on numerous Safe School issues they have never been asked to specifically propose solutions to increase the level of safety in schools.

Beginning in the 2017-2018 academic year, the annual Safe School Surveys administered to both elementary and secondary students will be expanded to allow students to provide input about ideas, practices and strategies that will make their school safer and improve the school climate.

Specific focus group discussions will be held with CSLIT and ECSLIT to receive feedback and suggestions about improving school safety.

A new section titled *Student Voice* will be included in the annual Safe School Report and will summarize student suggestions on how to increase level of safety in schools. A report back on student input will be available in the 2017-2018 Safe School Report and subsequent annual reports.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 3 hours

B. PURPOSE

At the October 19th Committee of the Board Meeting staff was directed to follow up with a report to provide student input on proposed solutions to increase the level of safety in schools; and that a member of CSLIT in addition to the Student Trustees serve on the Safe Schools Committee.

C. BACKGROUND

Currently, students are surveyed annually on numerous issues that impact safety in schools. Although their perceptions are gathered at the local level and shared system wide in the annual Safe School Report, student input on proposed solutions to increase the level of safety in schools have never been formally reported in this report. New and existing opportunities to gather

student voice will be summarized and included in the annual Safe School Report.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. For the purposes of gathering student voice, existing mechanisms and new mechanisms as identified below will be used to inform 2017-18 annual Safe School Report and subsequent reports thereafter.
2. The following existing opportunities to engage student voice include:
 - i. Safe Schools Student ambassador forums;
 - ii. Student participation on each school's Safe and Accepting School team to determine the bullying prevention plan, progressive discipline plan and emergency response plan;
3. The following new opportunities to engage student voice will be implemented:
 - i. Add a member of CSLIT to the composition of the Safe Schools Advisory team, in addition to the Student Trustee;
 - ii. Beginning this school year, the annual Safe School Survey (secondary) and Safe and Caring Catholic school climate Survey (elementary), students will be provided an opportunity to offer feedback about strategies that could make their school safer;
 - iii. Initiate a CSLIT and ECSLIT forum to address issues of school safety and gather feedback on how to address safe school issues.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. A new section titled *Student Voice* will be included in the annual Safe School Report and will summarize student suggestions on how to increase level of safety in schools. A report back on student input will be available in the 2017-2018 Safe School Report and subsequent annual reports.

F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the consideration of the Board.