

School year begins Sept. 2 for 83,000 Catholic students in Peel and Dufferin

Summer vacation ends for approximately 83,000 Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board students Sept. 2, as the 2014-15 school year gets underway at the board's 149 schools.

"The beginning of the school year is an exciting time for students, parents and educators alike," commented John Kostoff, director of education. "Our schools consistently produce high levels of student achievement, and students are taught the virtues and values of the Catholic faith - including community, responsibility, accountability, collaboration, caring and family - making them not just good students, but good citizens."

This year, Dufferin-Peel will be offering the full-day kindergarten program in all of its 123 elementary schools. The completion of this expansion will bring the number of full-day kindergarten classes to more than 350, accommodating approximately 9,000 students.

"We are pleased to be able to complete our full-day kindergarten expansion on schedule," said Kostoff. "Our staff and contractors have been working tirelessly over the last few months to make sure renovations and additions were completed in time to welcome our youngest learners."

Schools will be accepting new registrations both at the elementary and secondary level this week. Parents/guardians should contact their local Catholic school directly to confirm office hours.

The following documents are required for registration: Proof of age of the child (birth certificate or passport); and an original Roman Catholic baptismal certificate (for child and/or parent/guardian) or baptismal certificate from an Eastern Church in full communion with the Holy See of Rome. If the child has not been baptized, and the parent/guardian is, the parent/guardian must bring their own baptismal certificate. Other required documents include updated immunization records (Immunization Card, Peel Health Form or Letter of Exemption); proof of Canadian citizenship (birth certificate/passport) or permanent resident status; proof of home address (tax bill, utility bill, bank statement); emergency rural address numbers, if applicable (for residents of Caledon and Dufferin); proof of English Separate School Support (may be done at the time of registration by completing an Application For the Direction of School Support and/or a Separate School Lease Agreement available at the school); and education records, if available

For more information about registration, parents/guardians should contact their local Catholic school, visit the board website at www.dpcdsb.org, or call the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board at 905-890-1221.