

Student-produced posters part of board's Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week in Ontario schools runs from Nov. 17 to 23.

The Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board and its 149 schools have planned a wide range of events, activities and actions to highlight greater awareness of and promote a culture of care, respect and inclusion for all through efforts to eliminate bullying.

As part of Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week, a wide range of board-level initiatives and school events and activities are taking place. These included a minute of silence Monday in recognition of all victims of bullying, including bystanders; a poster campaign, featuring a series of posters created by Dufferin-Peel students which are being distributed to all schools. Each poster incorporates the header, "Stand Up Against Bullying," as well the scripture verse, "Be kind to one another" (Ephesians 4:32). The posters can be viewed on the board website at www.dpcdsb.org/CEC/News/Events/Bullying+Awareness+Week.htm

And an online reporting pilot project, which the board will continue to expand with select elementary and secondary schools to determine the feasibility of an online reporting format for incidents of bullying. If this proves to be a useful tool, the goal will be to roll it out board-wide in the future.

"We recognize the impact that bullying has on individuals, families and communities," said Director of Education John Kostoff.

"Dufferin-Peel schools work hard to nurture and maintain a culture of care, respect and inclusion for all. We do that through practical, creative and thought-provoking means as part of our ongoing efforts to educate and effect change in attitudes and actions. Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week gives us another platform in which to promote positive messages, not only to our students, but beyond the walls of our schools as well."