



**Durham Catholic
District School Board**

**2023-2024
Budget and
Priorities Report**

Listening, Learning, and Living in Faith



**DURHAM CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
Learning and Living in Faith

OUR MISSION To be an inclusive Catholic learning community that inspires every student to achieve their full potential through faith and education.

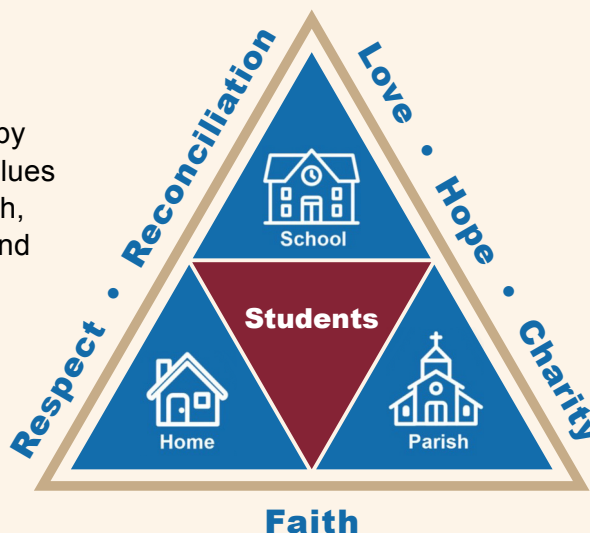
VISION

By fostering positive relationships with home, school, parish, and community, students and staff will learn and work in a Catholic environment where every person is:

- Safe and welcomed
- Accepted and valued
- Heard and engaged
- Supported and prepared

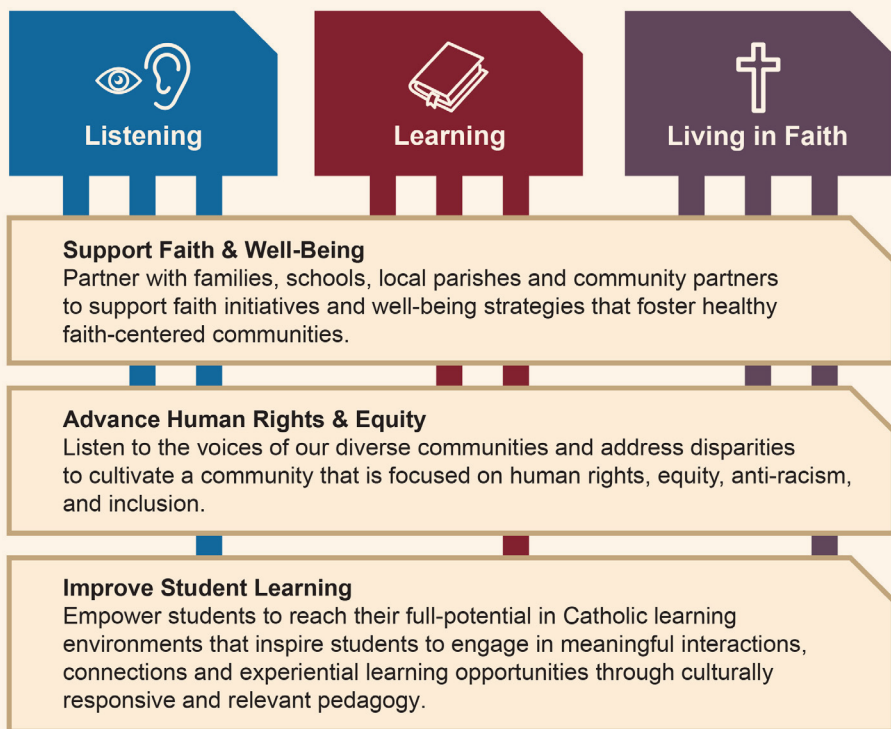
VALUES

We live our faith by demonstrating values of love, hope, faith, charity, respect and reconciliation.



INSPIRE 2026

Our *Inspire 2026* Strategic Plan will set the board’s direction and guide decision-making for the next three years from 2023-2026. The new strategic plan includes the board’s new mission, vision, values and strategic priorities that reflect the collective voice of our Catholic learning community.



Listening, Learning and Living in Faith are the foundational processes that form the core of the *Inspire 2026* Strategic Plan. Through the implementation of these processes, staff will develop annual goals identified for the strategic priorities of:

- Supporting Faith and Well-Being;
- Advancing Human Rights and Equity; and
- Improving Student Learning.

*“Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established.”*

—PROVERBS 16:3

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We, here in the Durham Region, respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island.

Message from the Chair of the Finance Committee



As the Chair of the Finance Committee, I am pleased to present the 2023-2024 Budget and Priorities Report.

The report presents a summary of the board's budget and highlights the strategic goals and areas of focus for the upcoming year. This budget reflects our priorities and supports our key objectives, while also ensuring fiscal responsibility.

I want to thank students, staff, families and community members for engaging in open and constructive dialogue throughout the budget consultation process. The feedback received helped to inform our budget process and will ensure we support the needs of all students as they listen, learn and live in faith.

I look forward to working with each of you to ensure a successful budget implementation for the upcoming fiscal year.

Yours in Catholic Education,

Richard Damianopoulos

Chair of the Finance Committee and Trustee for the Townships of Scugog, Uxbridge and Brock

Message from the Chief Financial Officer



I am pleased to present the budget report for the upcoming fiscal year as the Chief Financial Officer of our organization. This report reflects the efforts of our finance team and Senior Administration to ensure that we have a comprehensive and accurate budget that aligns with our *Inspire 2026* multi-year strategic plan.

Our budget report includes details of our revenue projections, expenses, and investments for the next fiscal year. We have taken steps to ensure we remain financially sustainable while investing in key areas to support our students.

I would like to thank the Finance Committee, Board of Trustees and Senior Administration for their hard work and dedication in preparing the 2023-2024 budget.

We look forward to implementing the strategic goals in the upcoming school year and are pleased to support these goals through a balanced budget.

Yours in Faith,

Marie Hammond

Chief Financial Officer



Listening: Stakeholder Engagement

Engagement is essential to an effective budget process. Throughout March and April of 2023, staff conducted budget consultations with parents/guardians/caregivers, students, board staff, and the broader Catholic community through the ThoughtExchange platform. Participants were asked for their feedback on what they felt was being done well, and what could be improved under the strategic priorities identified in the *Inspire 2026* Multi-Year Strategic Plan:

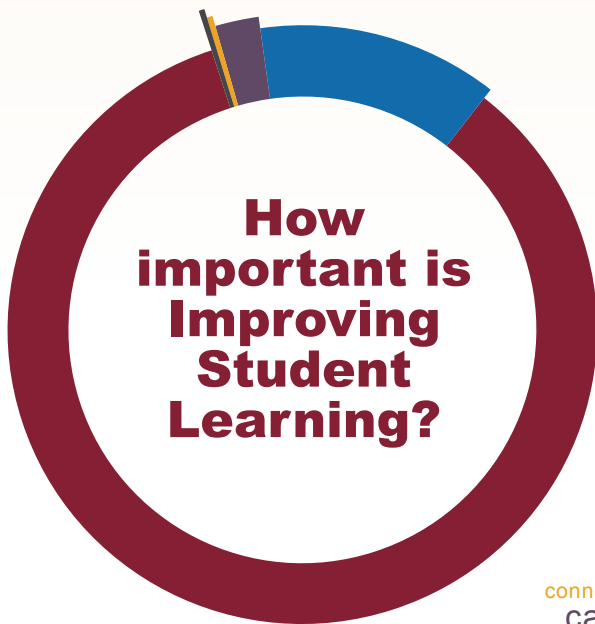
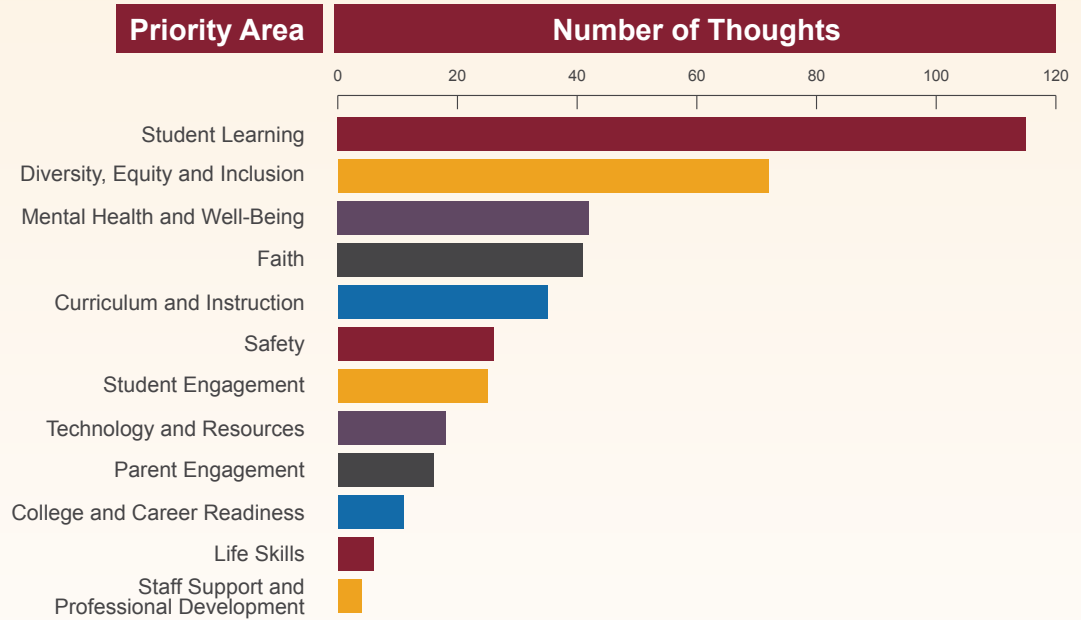
- Support Faith & Well-Being
- Advance Human Rights & Equity
- Improve Student Learning

There was a strong participation rate in the ThoughtExchange with 967 participants sharing their thoughts and suggestions. In addition, engagement opportunities were provided through committee meetings and delegations to the Finance Committee.

What did we hear?

Participants feedback centered on the following areas:

- Student Learning
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Mental Health and Well-Being
- Faith



	%	Participants	Answer
■	1%	3	Not Important
■	0%	2	Somewhat important
■	2%	12	Neutral
■	13%	78	Important
■	84%	512	Very Important



Learning: Budget Process

Led by the Chief Financial Officer, the formal budget process begins each year in January. Actions taken to reach a final budget include:

- Senior Administration – weekly meetings January to June
- Finance Committee – meetings in February, April, May and June
- Board of Trustees – monthly updates January to June
- Human Resources – staffing and enrolment processes March to June
- Finance – ongoing analysis, quarterly reports, Ministry packages

The Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees were kept informed throughout the budget development process through reports and meeting updates. This facilitated timely management review of community feedback, ministry funding announcements and allowed for amendments as required.

Ministry Funding

The majority of funding received by Ontario school boards is from the Ministry of Education through the Grants for Student Needs (GSN). For the most part, the grants are enrolment driven and modelled based on class sizes, program offerings, accommodation needs and administrative infrastructure.

The Ministry of Education announced the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) and the Priorities and Partnership Funding (PPF) for the 2023-2024 school year on April 17, 2023. Total funding for the sector is estimated to be \$27.1 billion, which represents a 2.7% increase over 2022-2023.

The GSN contained several targeted investments or adjustments for 2023-2024 as follows:

- New Student Transportation Framework focused on transparency, equity and reliability.
- Funding to support remote learning administration.
- Introduction of the Safe and Clean Schools Supplement to provide funding to support additional staff in the area of Professional/Paraprofessionals, Educational Assistants and Custodial staff.
- Realignment of Indigenous Education Grants to reflect provincial priorities.
- Further adjustments to secondary pupil grant funding for the continued roll out of e-learning requirements for graduation.
- Benchmark increases to the non-staff portion of school operations allocations to combat commodity price increases.
- Financial support for centrally negotiated collective agreements.
- Removal of the Covid-19 Learning Recovery Fund

Priorities and Partnership Funding (PPF) are time-limited investments that are supplemental to the GSN. Within the PPF announcement, the Ministry identified key investments for the upcoming school year:

- Supporting Student Potential
 - De-Streaming – Funding for additional teachers in Grades 7 – 10 to work directly with students to provide transition supports for entry into high school and for students transitioning from Grades 9 – 10.
 - Reading – Investments in ministry-approved early reading screening tools as well as funding for additional teachers to provide one-on-one or small group reading support to students in Kindergarten to Grade 3.
- Math Recovery Plan – Funding to support a board math lead and school math facilitators to work with students in priority schools.
- Mental Health and Well-Being – Supporting summer mental health initiatives and training on current and emerging health and safety issues.

Living: Budget & Priorities

The 2023-2024 budget is compliant with all Ministry reporting requirements and is considered a balanced budget whereby planned expenses equal anticipated revenue.

Senior administration has developed system goals for the upcoming school year that align with the *Inspire 2026* strategic plan, stakeholder feedback and government funded initiatives.

2023-2024 Projected Enrolment

Panel	Estimates (May 2023)	Revised Estimates (Dec 2022)	Difference
Elementary ¹	15,169	15,225	(56)
Secondary	6,699	6,599	100
Total	21,868	21,824	44

Operating Accumulated Surplus

Anticipated 2022-2023 Operating Accumulated Surplus	\$266,064
2023-2024 Provision	NIL
Anticipated Balance, August 31, 2024	<u>\$266,064</u>

Note 1: Enrolment and staffing is based on actual registrations as of May 2023 and will continue to be updated throughout the summer. The decrease in elementary enrolment is directly attributable to the normal delay in Kindergarten registration and is anticipated to increase to prior year levels by September 2023.

2023-2024 Anticipated Operating Revenue

Category	Estimates (May 2023)	Revised Estimates (Dec 2022)
Ministry – Grants for Student Needs (GSN)	\$264,263,676	\$258,135,456
Ministry – Priorities and Partnerships Funding (PPF)	2,937,270	4,925,990
Recoveries – Secondments	1,223,801	1,171,981
Government of Canada	992,908	721,599
Other Provincial Agencies	996,901	1,049,208
Community Use of Schools	575,000	750,000
Continuing Education Fees	200,000	200,000
International Students	701,000	816,675
Child Care and Partnerships	1,475,000	926,500
Incentive Revenue	119,865	115,322
School Generated Funds	5,000,000	5,000,000
	<u>\$278,485,421</u>	<u>\$273,812,731</u>





2023-2024 Planned Operating Expenses

Category	Estimates (May 2023)	Revised Estimates (Dec 2022)
Salaries, Benefits and Supply Costs	\$241,941,932	\$233,240,071
Student Transportation	9,040,058	7,950,639
Facilities Services	9,209,807	10,009,871
School Budgets	2,302,764	2,299,050
Information and Communication Technology	3,828,232	3,427,967
Academic Services	5,121,430	9,312,466
Business Services	173,000	186,000
Human Resources, Health and Safety	372,400	708,972
Mileage and Travel Allowances	533,738	483,738
Director's Office and Board Administration	261,276	221,000
Legal and Professional Services	354,000	360,109
Trustees and Student Representatives	225,084	225,084
Corporate Communications	121,700	121,700
School Generated Funds	5,000,000	5,000,000
Provision to Operating Accumulated Surplus	NIL	266,064
	<u>\$278,485,421</u>	<u>\$273,812,731</u>

Note: Not all Priorities and Partnership Funding (PPF) have been allocated to specific positions at this time and consequently any amounts not allocated are not reflected on the Staffing Summary schedule.

2023-2024 Staffing Summary by Position

Employee Group	Estimates (May 2023)	Revised Estimates (Dec 2022)	Difference
Elementary Teachers ¹	900.34	909.68	(9.34)
Secondary Teachers ^{1,4}	430.83	435.16	(4.33)
Coordinators and Consultants ^{2,4}	27.50	34.50	(7.00)
Principals and Vice-Principals ^{1,4}	76.00	77.67	(1.67)
Secondments (External/Capital) ³	9.33	9.83	(0.50)
Senior Administration	12.00	12.00	0.00
Middle Management/Non-Union ⁴	63.00	64.00	(1.00)
Faith Formation	8.00	8.00	0.00
Student Services ⁴	44.70	46.30	(1.60)
Educational Assistants ⁴	313.00	321.00	(8.00)
Early Childhood Educators ¹	94.00	97.00	(3.00)
Custodial and Maintenance	169.00	169.00	0
Secretarial/Clerical/Technical ^{1,4}	108.00	112.50	(4.50)
Trustees	8.00	8.00	0.00
Total	2,263.70	2,304.64	(40.94)

Note 1: Staffing levels have an enrolment component to the annual allocation.

Note 2: Centralized Teachers include Consultants, Coordinators and Resource Teachers.

Note 3: Positions on secondment are fully recoverable from the external agency or capital fund.

Note 4: 2022-2023 staffing levels included positions made available through one-time Covid-19 Learning Recovery Funds or Priorities and Partnerships Funds.

2023-2024 Non-Operating Budget

Revenue Sources

Capital Priorities Funding ¹	\$20,240,309
School Renewal ²	3,152,145
School Condition Allocation ²	5,297,165
Multi-Year Technology Program ³	380,000
Ministry Funded Debenture Payments	6,683,107
Educational Development Charges ⁴	9,000,000
	<u>\$44,752,726</u>

Planned Expenses

Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School Replacement	\$11,762,251
Unnamed North Pickering Elementary School	8,478,058
School Renewal Program ²	3,152,145
School Condition Program ²	5,297,165
Multi-year Technology Program ³	380,000
Debenture Principal Payments	5,640,021
Debenture Interest Payments	1,043,086
Transfer to Educational Development Charges Reserve ⁴	9,000,000
	<u>\$44,752,726</u>

Note 1: Budgeted amounts for ministry funded Capital Priority Projects reflect the estimated completion of the projects during the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Note 2: School Renewal and School Condition funding is included in the Board's Multi-Year Capital Program which utilizes funding over a rolling three-year program to support various expenditure items such as roofing, paving, windows, lighting, heating and ventilation.

Note 3: The Multi-Year Technology Plan is supported by an internal repayment system that allows for investment of a rolling five-year period to enable purchases as required and renewal of equipment on an appropriate refresh cycle. Key components of the plan include: Technology Equalization Strategy; Instructional and Administrative Computers; Core IT Infrastructure; and the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project.

Note 4: Educational Development Charges (EDC) are collected by municipalities for future site development costs associated with new residential development. The funds are held in the EDC reserve to finance the purchase of land for future school sites in growth areas.

2023-2024 PRIORITIES

Support Faith & Well-Being



Partner with families, schools, local parishes and community partners to support faith initiatives and well-being strategies that foster healthy faith-centered communities.

The DCDSB is inspired by the following message from Pope Francis on the 57th World Day of Social Communications:

“Listening without prejudice, attentively and openly, gives rise to speaking according to God’s style, nurtured by closeness, compassion and tenderness.”

Pope Francis has encouraged us all to consider “Speaking with the Heart”. This will be the DCDSB’s spiritual theme during the 2023-2024 school year as we serve all of God’s children.

The DCDSB is guided by the Ontario Bishops' pastoral letter, *Renewing the Promise*, in supporting faith formation in the 2023-2024 school year so that a "true encounter with Jesus can and does take place, each and every day, within our Catholic schools." A focus on our Catholic identity will enable our system to name and notice the distinctive aspects, beliefs, and practices essential in our Catholic schools. According to our Bishops, "The more we foster and nurture Catholic identity, the more we promote the expression of that identity in service and witness to the world." Part of this distinct identity is the recognition that "the cooperation that exists between the home, parish, and school is an integral part of Catholic education." A renewed focus on building and sustaining meaningful relationships with home, school, parish, and community partners will ensure that Catholic education remains healthy and strong. Finally, our Ontario Bishops call upon the Catholic education community "to support opportunities for faith formation for all members of the community in ways that are inviting, engaging, and purposeful." To that end, we will focus on nurturing the relationship between faith and well-being by creating opportunities for retreat, reflection, and Christian spiritual practices that will enhance student and staff readiness to learn and to work.

The DCDSB wellness focus is on student participation in full school life with a strong emphasis on relationships, connections and support, as well as student voice and leadership. This will help mitigate the mental health impacts experienced by many students and the disproportionate struggles experienced by some.

Our students and families come from diverse backgrounds, and at DCDSB we work to ensure that all members of our school community are given equitable opportunities for success within a culture of high expectations for learning. We will learn more about available and needed identity-affirming mental health supports to amplify perspectives of young people and communities who are marginalized. Additionally, we will respond to student mental health needs through identity-affirming and culturally responsive approaches.

Staff well-being is also a priority for the 2023-2024 school year. Supporting our staff in building their own social-emotional competencies and resilience is a first step in ensuring their wellness, and equipping them to build these competencies in our students.



Advance Human Rights & Equity

Listen to the voices of our diverse communities and address disparities to cultivate a community that is focused on human rights, equity, anti-racism, and inclusion.

Committed to upholding the inherent dignity of every student, staff and family in Durham Catholic District School Board, we will continue our focus on whole-school approaches that promote safe, equitable, inclusive and welcoming schools that enable students to reach their full potential. DCDSB will actively seek engagement with historically marginalized families and community members to build trust, set priorities and resolve concerns. The board will collaborate with communities to interrogate our policies, procedures, processes and practices, to identify and remove barriers, especially for equity-deserving groups.

Improve Student Learning

Empower students to reach their full-potential in Catholic learning environments that inspire students to engage in meaningful interactions, connections and experiential learning opportunities through culturally responsive and relevant pedagogy.

Key priorities in Improve Student Learning include:

- Indigenous Education
- Math
- Literacy
- De-streaming
- Student Pathways

In the 2023-2024 school year, the DCDSB will be focusing on the following to support student learning.





Indigenous Education

To support the academic success and well-being of Indigenous students, as well as build the knowledge of all students and educators on Indigenous histories, cultures, perspectives and contributions.

Math

To support students in meeting provincial math standards, Durham Catholic District School Board will hire a Board Math Lead to guide the continued implementation of the Mathematics curriculum. In addition, the Math Lead will support the implementation of high-impact instructional practices, develop parent/guardian/caregiver math resources and facilitate job-embedded educator professional learning opportunities in math. The Board will hire School Math Facilitators to work in priority schools, often directly in classrooms, to strengthen math teacher knowledge and support high-impact instructional practices and early intervention strategies.

Reading

To ensure that all young learners receive the necessary foundational skills and early reading interventions critical to future success, DCDSB will implement evidence-based screening tools for students in Year 2 Kindergarten through to Grade 2. DCDSB will hire Reading Intervention Teachers to work one-on-one or in small groups with students in Kindergarten through to Grade 3 who would benefit from more support in reading.

De-Streaming Supports

DCDSB will continue to provide supports for students to be successful in de-streamed learning environments by hiring Transition Intervention Teachers to provide targeted support for students in Grades 7, 8 and 9. The Transition Intervention Teachers will enhance culturally-responsive planning, instruction, assessment and evaluation practices and offer student and family information workshops on school pathways and the de-streamed Grade 9 program.

Student Pathways

New this year, the Ministry is expanding Entrepreneurship education. Board-level, local and regional events to promote students' development of entrepreneurial skills will be planned in partnership with local third-party organizations with expertise in entrepreneurship.



Corporate Supports and Resources

Maximizing Effectiveness and Efficiencies

Corporate departments at the Durham Catholic District School Board include:

- Business Services
- Communications Services
- Facilities Services
- Human Resource Services
- Information and Communications Technology
- Transportation Services

Corporate services provide the supports and resources to further the strategic priorities and goals of the board. These departments work to maximize effectiveness and efficiencies, while providing the infrastructure and services required to support students, staff and families.

Corporate departments build capacity for the board through a skilled and engaged workforce, and through modern and sustainable technologies and programming. These departments work to modernize the delivery of services by focusing on incorporating new technologies and business models while aligning services and processes to create value for the board.

Corporate departments will explore new partnerships, materials, and avenues to optimize planning and programming. In addition, they will work to provide system-wide support through training and resource management, in accordance with relevant Ministry and Board policies, procedures and requirements. Corporate departments will continue to reflect best practices through innovative and continuous improvement measures.

Corporate services work to create a positive learning and working environment that directly support faith and well-being, advance human rights and equity, and improve student learning.

Board of Trustees

Monique Forster
Chair of the Board and
Trustee, Town of Ajax



Morgan Ste. Marie
Vice-Chair of the Board and
Trustee, City of Oshawa



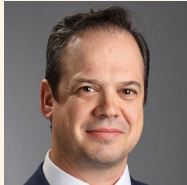
Kim Beatty
Trustee, City of Oshawa



Richard Damianopoulos
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Scugog, Uxbridge and Brock



Robert De Souza
Trustee, Town of Whitby



Janelle Emanuel
Trustee, Town of Whitby



Marisa Hall
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Jim McCafferty
Trustee, City of Pickering



Senior Administration

Tracy Barill
Director of Education



Kayode Akomolafe
Human Rights and Equity Advisor



Scott Grieve
Superintendent of Business,
Finance and Facilities Services



Marie Hammond
Chief Financial Officer



Mike O'Neill
Superintendent of Education



Paula Sorhaitz
Superintendent of Education



Daniel Stargratt
Assistant Superintendent
of Indigenous Education



Katharine Stevenson
Superintendent of Education



Ronald Rodriguez
Chief Information Officer – Freedom
of Information and Privacy



Jim Wilson
Superintendent of Education



Gerard Winn
Superintendent of Education

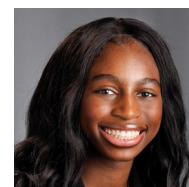


Student Trustees for 2022-2023



Sophie Nwaoha
Father Leo J. Austin Catholic
Secondary School

Moyin Esan
Monsignor Paul Dwyer
Catholic High School





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Learning and Living in Faith



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