



Dear Parents in Catholic Education,

Welcome to the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education Family!

I am Joey Stephen, the OAPCE Director for Waterloo CDSB which includes Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge. In addition, I am an active member of Holy Spirit Elementary Parent Council, a CPIC Representative, and a member of the FACE sub-committee. My wife and I have one child attending Holy Spirit Elementary in Cambridge, ON.

OAPCE serves as the voice for parents and guardians of children enrolled in publicly funded Catholic Education in Ontario. In my role as OAPCE Director, I represent your interests within the Waterloo District Catholic School Board at both the regional and provincial levels of our organization.

OAPCE Liaison Representatives play a crucial role in facilitating information exchange between Parent Councils and OAPCE. This role is mandated through the Education Act, specifically in Regulation 612. These representatives are also voting members that are part of the Parent Council. I will be forwarding essential information for you to share with your councils, aiming to establish effective two-way communication to better represent your interests.

The first important step is to ensure you sign up for emails from OAPCE. This will grant parents access to the Ministry of Education and Catholic Parent communications, as well as surveys, resources, and valuable information.

We will also host regional committee meetings, where you can connect with other OAPCE representatives from our school board. These meetings provide a platform for all OAPCE representatives to come together, receive pertinent information about Catholic Education, and connect with fellow parents in our region. OAPCE meetings are always informative, enjoyable, and an excellent opportunity to learn from other parents. A thank you to those who joined our first virtual meeting on December 7, 2023. I will notify you as soon as we confirm the next meeting date.

Thank you for your time. If you have any questions you can reach me at waterloo@oapce.org

Sincerely,

Joey Stephen
OAPCE Director, Waterloo CDSB