



Spring Regional Report

Region: Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board

Regional Director: Dianne Pawlowski
Spring 2026

Regional Report – Spring 2026

This winter marked a transition for OAPCE, as the Chair position was vacated following the retirement of *Denise Garell-Teti*. Director Pawlowski was honoured to be elected to this role and looks forward to representing both NPSC and OAPCE.

Regional Involvement

Director Pawlowski continues to contribute to the *Parents4Parents Press* newsletter and OAPCE Blog. She highlighted the NPSC *Pilgrimage of the Cross*, where students carried the cross along the North Bay waterfront—an inspiring witness of faith.

[OAPCE February Newsletter \(Pilgrimage Feature\)](#)
[NPSC Catholic Education Week – Pilgrimage of the Cross](#)

Monthly OAPCE updates continue to be shared with school representatives.

OAPCE Leadership & Contributions

In the role as Chair, Director Pawlowski participates in Executive meetings and provincial planning. She supported the 87th Annual Conference through preparation of presentation



materials, slide development, and the parent feedback survey, along with general coordination of conference resources.

Professional Learning

On February 19, Director Pawlowski attended a virtual presentation by Dr. Anne Jamieson, focused on hope in Catholic education.

[Reflection on Hope – OAPCE Blog](#)

The session emphasized modelling hope and faith as guiding principles within school and family life.

Provincial Update: OAPCE Conference

The 87th Annual Conference was held at St. Francis Xavier Secondary School, Mississauga (Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board) and focused on being a genuine shepherd in an AI world..

Opening remarks from Bishop Mathieu highlighted the value of Catholic education and the role of parents as primary educators.

[Bishop Mathieu Conference Message](#)

Conference Highlights

Keynotes from Lucy Colangelo and GianCarlo Brotto emphasized:

- Intentional use of technology
- The importance of forming the whole child
- The need for balance, boundaries, and faith-based decision-making



Echoing Pope Francis, the message reinforced that technology must be guided by a strong moral compass.

Conference Highlights:

<https://oapce.org/oapce-2026-conference-highlights/>

Catholic Education Week – NPSC

Catholic Education Week (May 4–8) included school open houses, faith celebrations, and family engagement events across the board, strengthening home-school-parish connections. If you have a highlight to share, please let me know!

NPSC PIC Event – May 20

PIC Presents: *Wired Too Young: Online Crime and the Foundational Harms of Smart Device Use*

St. Joseph-Scollard Hall Catholic Secondary School

May 20 | 🕒 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Led by Detective Constable Carleton, this session supports parents in understanding online risks and building safer digital habits.

[Event Details & Registration](#)



NPSC PIC Meeting

Director Pawlowski will present an OAPCE year-end update at the PIC meeting on May 11 at the Board Office, sharing key provincial insights and parent resources.

Parish Faith-Based Summer Opportunity

Vacation Bible School at Holy Name of Jesus Parish:
[VBS Information](#)

OAPCE Parent Voice Survey

Parents are encouraged to complete the OAPCE Parent Voice Survey:

[OAPCE Parent Voice Survey](#)

This survey gathers parent perspectives across Ontario and helps inform OAPCE advocacy efforts, ensuring that the parent voice remains central in decisions impacting Catholic education.

Provincial Advocacy

OAPCE recently issued an open letter to Paul Calandra. Key points include:

- Protecting publicly funded Catholic education
- Recognizing parents as primary educators
- Ensuring transparency and consultation in decision-making
- Supporting student well-being in an evolving educational landscape



[OAPCE Open Letter to the Minister](#)

Next Steps

School communities are encouraged to:

- Share OAPCE updates at Parent Council meetings
- Promote participation in the Parent Voice Survey
- Stay informed through OAPCE resources

Key OAPCE Links to share with your Parent Council:

[OAPCE Website](#)

[OAPCE Blog & Newsletter](#)

[Reflection on Hope](#)

Together, through strong partnerships and faith-centred leadership, parents and educators continue to guide students in an ever-evolving world.

D. Pawlowski
OAPCE Chair and Regional Director
Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic DSB