



Dear Parents,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024-2025 school year with the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic School Board, in my role as your OAPCE (Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education) Director.

For those of you who do not yet know me, I am the mother of three boys—two in elementary school and one starting his first year of secondary school. I am also a teacher at MSB, where I lead the choir, and I am an active member of Holy Name of Jesus Church.

As we transition from summer into the routines of the new school year, I hope you've comfortably settled into your roles within your Catholic School Advisory Committees (CSAC). I encourage each parent council to nominate an OAPCE representative, with whom I will connect directly to share updates and news from OAPCE. If OAPCE is still a new item on your agenda, I would be happy to attend your council meeting to provide more information about OAPCE, its role in parent advocacy for Catholic education, and the resources we offer to support parents like you.

In June, I had the pleasure of presenting at our School Board meeting, where I shared an overview of the many activities and accomplishments that OAPCE undertook during the 2023-2024 school year. Some highlights included our conference commemorating OAPCE's 85 years, our active political advocacy with our Executive Director team representing OAPCE at Queen's Park, and my own visit - as part of our Director's team - to Queen's Park. While there I had the opportunity to meet the then Minister of Education Stephen Lecce, Premier Ford, and had a serendipitous meeting with our local MP, Vic Fedeli.

I look forward to reconnecting with familiar faces and meeting new members at our upcoming CSAC Round Table Event this fall, where parent councils will come together to share best practices. Be sure to stop by the OAPCE table, where I will have copies of our newsletter for you to take back to your school.

Also, please visit our website at www.oapce.org to access a digital copy of our October newsletter. I'm especially excited to share our recent blog, which includes an article I wrote about the power of music in nurturing faith in children, as well as additional resources to support your child's faith development at home.

Warm regards,
Dianne Pawlowski

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OAPCE Director
Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic School Board