

# Kenora Catholic District School Board

We are a Roman Catholic school system dedicated to excellence in education, the Christian formation of youth, and meaningful partnerships with family, community and Church.

## MINUTES OF MEETING

February 7, 2024

MEETING DATE:	Wednesday, February 7, 2024
LOCATION OF MEETING	Board Room at CEC and Microsoft Teams
SUBJECT OF MEETING:	Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
TIME OF MEETING:	11:45 AM – Meeting 12:23 PM
NEXT MEETING:	Wednesday, May 15, 2024

### ATTENDED BY:

	ATTENDANCE	PERSON	TITLE
1.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Janet Paulson	École Ste-Marguerite Bourgeys Representative
2.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jenn Myshrall	St. Louis School Parent Representative
3.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gianna Poltronetti	St. John School Parent Representative
4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crystal Wilson	St. John Paul II School Representative
5.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sue Devlin	Mental Health Clinical Supervisor
6.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Erin Hercun	St. Louis School – Elementary Principal
7.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jared Ralko	St. Thomas Aquinas High School – Vice Principal
8.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Randi Casey	Northwestern Health Unit Community Representative
9.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Kurtz	Director of Education
10.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maureen Frankcom	Assistant to the Director
11.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Theresa Gallik	Chair – KCDSB Trustee
12.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Landry	Vice Chair – KCDSB Trustee
13.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Angela Bishop	Trustee Representative
14.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Derek Favreau	Trustee Representative
15.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cathy McQuillan	Recording Secretary

1. **Prayer** – Nicole Kurtz

2. **Roll Call** – Regrets: Erin Hercun, Teresa Gallik, Paul Landry

#### Guest Presenters:

**Trina Henly:** Executive Assistant to the Director and Communications Officer

**Jonathan Ranger:** Manager of Financial Services

3. **Welcome CPIC Members:** Nicole Kurtz

4. **School and Community Representatives Reports:**

- **Jenn Myshrall: St. Louis Parent Representative**

#### ➤ **January Workshops:**

- Knitting workshops for older grades
- Creative Clay workshop
- Story Magic Workshop (grades K - 2)
- Valentine's Day Chocolate Making Workshop



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- **Outdoors's Club:**
  - Trip to Vernon Nature Trails - very well attended and beautiful weather.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - Raffle Ticket Fundraiser (starting next week)
  - Preparations are underway for the Spring production of Fraggie Rock.

- **Gianna Poltronetti: St. John School Parent Representative- Attached 5**

- **Janet Paulson: École Ste-Marguerite Bourgeoys Representative**

- Our classes made gingerbread houses for Christmas and Parent Council provided the funds for this event.
- Parent Council is working on an event for Valentine's Day.
- Books for Breakfast was held on January 29<sup>th</sup> and Parent Council provided snacks for parents and students along with donations from parents.
- Hot Lunch – Parent Council is looking at different providers and some more parent-led days. They are also looking for volunteers.
- Pro-Grant: \$700.00 was given to each KCDSB school to be used for a family engagement project. They are looking at bringing in a public speaker geared towards educating parents on social media.
- Fundraising: Hilary Aitken is working to get a lottery license from the City of Kenora with the possibility of doing a raffle.
- Last year SMB did a fundraiser with Sweets and wants to do something similar this year. Parent Council likes these initiatives as they help to support a local business.
- One of our Parent Council members is looking to do a social media campaign on what the Parent Council does for our school.
- KCDSB has approved Parent Council to make a page on the school website with Parent Council information such as meeting minutes, highlighting the Parent Council contributions to our school, and how parents can become involved.

- **Randi Casey: Northwestern Health Unit Community Representative – Attached 6**

5. **Year-End Presentation to Trustees – Cathy McQuillan - Attached 7**

- Information regarding the presentation is attached.
- Cathy will send Parent Representatives and Principals a copy of last year's presentation for reference.

6. **Board & Ministry Update – Nicole Kurtz – Attached 8**



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### • School Day Presentation: Trina Henley and Jonathan Ranger

- Trina and Jonathan did a presentation on KCDSB's new School-day program which is designed to simplify processes for parents/guardians, significantly reduce paper usage, and minimize cash handling in our schools.

[Click Here](#) for more information about School-Day For Online Payments

**Janet Paulson** asked if it was possible to record a presentation to bring back to the next Parent Councils meeting.

**Trina and Jonathan** confirmed they could put a presentation together to share with our School Parent Councils.

### • Trina Henley also shared information regarding some upcoming events at Kenora Catholic:

- **Kindergarten Registration Week, February 26 – March 1, 2024:**  
On February 12th KCDSB will begin to promote Kindergarten Registration Week and start to share information about Open House events happening in our elementary schools.  
[Click Here](#) for more information regarding Kindergarten Registration Week
- **Early Years Arts and Design Festival:**  
This event is happening from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at St. John Paul II School at on Saturday, February 17, 2024.  
[Click Here](#) for more information on the Early Years Arts and Design Festival

### 7. Sue Devlin – KCDSB Mental Health Clinical Supervisor

- **Book Club** sessions:  
Kenora February 26 and St. John School February 22. The focus of this month's session will be building a powerful sense of identity and sense of belonging.
- **Parenting in a Digital World**, parent night offered to St. John families on January 18 facilitated by Speech Language Pathologist Julia Lizzi and Mental Health Lead Sue Devlin. Dinner was provided and it was a great turnout!
- **Therapeutic Paws of Canada** was on site to help alleviate stress that is often associated with exams for all STAHS students. Our grade 7 and 8's also made sure to pop in and get some snuggles.
- **Kids in the Know** continues to be our number one requested program with 26 classrooms having received or currently receiving the program.



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- **Universal Stop Now and Plan, (SNAP)**, continues to be piloted. Grade's receiving this program are 2/3 at St. John Paul II, grade 2/3, and 3/4 at École Ste-Marguerite Bourgeoys and grade 2/3 at St Louis Living Arts School.
- Since the start of the school year, we have provided or are currently providing mental health support to 240 students at KCDSB.

### 8. School Updates – St. Thomas Aquinas High School Vice-Principal

- Schools are beginning to transition to the School Day program.
- [Ski Snowboard Program](#), information has been sent home.
- [Hockey Skills Program](#) has started.
- Elementary report cards are going home on February 14th.
- Secondary report cards going home on February 16<sup>th</sup>.
- February 13<sup>th</sup> is Shrove Tuesday and February 14<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday services will be held to begin Lent.
- At STAHS the Norwossa winter season is approaching playoffs.
- The secondary guidance team is working on course selection presentations for students, and guardians to begin planning for the 2024-2025 school year.
- For the 2024-2025 school year, there is a new technology course requirement, and students will be required to have 1 credit from the technology realm. Planning is happening to have new technology courses available to our students in grades 9-10.
- Exams and culminating activities have wrapped up for Semester 1 and STAHS has begun Semester 2.
- Thanks to the Mental Health team for bringing Therapeutic Paws of Canada into STAHS during exam time.
- Leap into Your Future event at STAHS on February 29<sup>th</sup> to welcome all Grade 6 students and their families to visit STAHS, meet the staff, and learn about programming.

### 9. Board Events – Maureen Frankcom

- **Catholic Education Week** will be happening the week of May 5-10, 2024  
Watch for more information about events happening in our schools that week.

### 10. Business arising from the last meeting: Nil - Nicole Kurtz

### 11. Meeting Adjournment –Meeting adjourned at 12:23 PM - Nicole Kurtz

### 12. Next Meetings – CPIC 11:30 AM Lunch – 11:45 Meeting, Wednesday, May 15, 2024

**Year-End Presentation to Trustees – 5:00 PM – Tuesday, June 4, 2024**

## St. John School, Red Lake, Parent Council Report February 7, 2024

Gianna Poltronetti

In January, SJS celebrated Literacy Week by sending home a family literacy Bingo sheet for families to work on and then would then have a chance to be entered into a draw. Families were also invited to join the school for breakfast and to read with their children on mats placed in the gym. Throughout the week, the staff and students celebrated a theme day where they dressed as their favorite book character, did word game activities and the whole school shared on creating a progressive story. At the end of January SJS celebrated the work students had completed in learning about the Grandfather Teaching of Respect. The month of February will focus on the eagle's gift of Love.

Student Summit and Student Clubs are back. Once a month, Summit groups will meet to spend time together in cross-grade groupings to build relationships and have a voice in school plans. During Summit, students are selecting their top 3 choices for Clubs. Clubs will run once a month. Some choices are chess, board games, building, fashion, music, arts/crafts, photography and much, much more.

SJS is about to introduce a new digital system that will make signing school permission forms and paying for school-related items, quick, safe, and efficient.

The grade 8's and grade 6,7's are starting to fundraise for their end-of-year trips.

Parent Book Club is going great. Always well attended and feedback from parents has been positive.

We will begin our Lenten season next week with our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast and Ash Wednesday Prayer Service.

## Northwestern Health Unit - Randi Casey

Spring 2024 CPIC/PIC updates

### March is Nutrition Month

March is Nutrition Month, and schools throughout the region are invited to join in and celebrate healthy eating. The virtual, Canada-wide Great Big Crunch (GBC) is on March 7 at 1 p.m. CST. This year the Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program (NFVP) is delivering CARROTS and APPLES to K-8 schools the week of the GBC! Elementary schools can crunch and munch all month using a 2024 classroom toolkit and register their crunch here: <https://www.healthyschoolfood.ca/great-big-crunch>

### April is Dental Health Month

To celebrate, NWHU will be sharing information and resources with elementary schools and community partners to support learning about oral health. For more information about our dental health program: <https://www.nwhu.on.ca/our-services/dental-health/>

### Student Nutrition Program

In March, schools will once again be applying for annual funding grants for universal school meal and snack programs. 98% of schools in our region access these funds to operate a breakfast, snack, or lunch program. NWHU administers funding to public schools in the Kenora and Rainy River Districts from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, Breakfast Club of Canada, the Grocery Foundation, and other funders. Schools often rely on volunteer support to operate programs, ask your principal how you can help! Find out more here: <https://www.nwhu.on.ca/for-professionals/for-schools/student-nutrition-program/>

### Solar Eclipse Safety

A partial solar eclipse will be visible in our region on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. During any solar eclipse, it is imperative to wear special glasses with filters designed for eclipse watching (ISO 12312-2 international standard) to prevent eye damage. Regular sunglasses will not protect your eyes sufficiently. For more information visit: <https://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/astronomy/eclipses/solar-eclipses.asp#protection>

### Staying Safe with Needles

The snow is melting early this year, and discarded needles may appear. Talking to your kids about needles may be uncomfortable, but it is important for children to know what to do if they find a needle or other sharp objects on the ground.

Remind children that there are many things on the ground that can harm them and teach them not to touch anything that they find on the ground that does not belong to them. For more information: <https://www.nwhu.on.ca/our-services/harm-reduction/staying-safe-with-needles/>

### Routine vaccination clinics – Elementary schools

In Ontario, it's a requirement that students attending school have up-to-date immunizations. Over the next few months, our staff will be visiting elementary schools holding catch-up clinics for students who are due or overdue for routine vaccinations. For more information on upcoming clinics: <https://www.nwhu.on.ca/our-clinics-classes-and-events/>

## 2023-2024 Year-End Catholic School Council and CPIC Report to Trustees

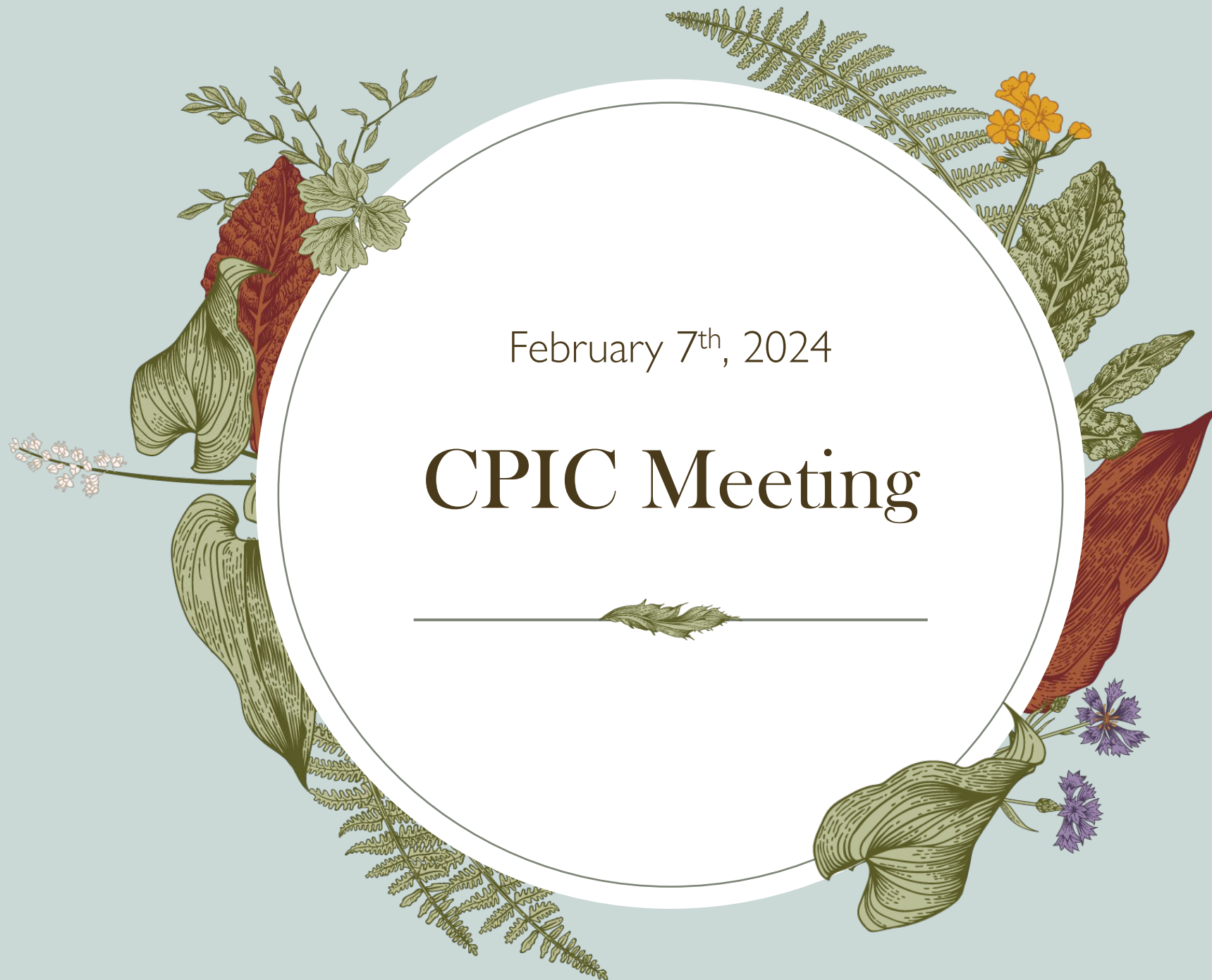
**Will be held on Tuesday, June 4 PM, 2024 from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM in the Training Room at the CEC and via Microsoft Teams.**

**Below please find information about this meeting:**

**All School Council reports, including the CPIC report, are to be sent to Cathy McQuillan to be forwarded to the Director for approval on or by Thursday, May 16, 2024**

- The reports are public documents; please ensure they are clear and concise and include the school's logo. Principals will need to review their school's report before submission.
- It is a legislative requirement for school councils to report their fundraising efforts.
- Please remember to include the amount of money fundraised this year, what it was used for, and if there is any money being carried forward for next year. Please outline the specific project(s) that the fundraised money is being reserved for.
- We have one hour to present and will have a total of six presentations from our five schools and the CPIC committee.
- With opening prayers and closing remarks that leaves about **5 minutes per presentation.**
- We will be gathering in person in the Training Room at the CEC. We will be serving appetizers and refreshments from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm before the Trustees begin their Policy Governance meeting.
- Draft Agenda
  - Welcome- Board Chair – T Gallik
  - Prayer – Nicole Kurtz
  - Presentations
    - St. John School
    - St. Thomas Aquinas High School
    - École Ste-Marguerite Bourgeoys
    - St. Louis School
    - St. Isidore Virtual School
    - Pope John Paul II School
    - Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
  - Trustee Comments
  - Thank you and Closing Remarks – Nicole Kurtz
  - Meeting Adjourned





February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# CPIC Meeting





# Board & Ministry Updates

Pro Grant Funds for 2023-2024 - \$3500

- Reminder that each school has \$500.00 for family engagement events. Principals are aware as well.
- Elementary Report Cards – February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Secondary – Semester 1 Final Report Cards – February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024



## 2024 - 2025 School Year Calendar - Option 2

	SCHOOL HOLIDAY		PA DAY		EXAMS
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20 Instructional Days

**September 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

19 Instructional Days

**February 2025**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

22 Instructional Days

**October 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

16 Instructional Days

**March 2025**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

21 Instructional Days

**November 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

20 Instructional Days

**April 2025**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

15 Instructional Days

**December 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

21 Instructional Days

**May 2025**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

2 Instructional Days

**August 2024**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

20 Instructional Days

**January 2025**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

18 Instructional Days

**June 2025**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

All students begin school on September 3, 2024 and end on June 25, 2025

### School Holidays

September 2, 2024	Labour Day
October 14, 2024	Thanksgiving
Dec. 23, 2024 - Jan. 3, 2025	Winter Holidays
February 17, 2025	Family Day
March 10-14, 2025	March Break
April 18, 2025	Good Friday
April 21, 2025	Easter Monday
May 19, 2025	Victoria Day

First Day of School for Students

### Professional Activity Days

August 29, 2024	Professional Activity
August 30, 2024	Professional Activity
September 27, 2024	Professional Activity
November 1, 2024	Professional Activity
January 29, 2025	Professional Activity
April 7, 2025	Professional Activity
June 9, 2025	Professional Activity

### Elementary

Progress Report  
Report Card  
Report Card

### Secondary

**Semester 1**  
Semester 1 Term 1  
Semester 1 Term 2  
**Mid Term Report**  
**Exams**  
**Final Report**  
**Semester 2**  
Semester 2

June 25, 2025

187 Instructional Days + 7 PD Days = 194



# Board & Ministry Updates

Updated Kindergarten Curriculum (2016) – Implementation September 2025

The new mandatory kindergarten learning will focus on early literacy skills, and the foundations for math and STEM education to align with learning in the recently revised Grade 1 language, math and science and technology curriculum. The updated kindergarten curriculum will include evidence-based, systematic and explicit instruction of foundational knowledge and skills in early literacy and math. These updates will focus on the mandatory learning expectations in the kindergarten curriculum. Key features of Ontario's full-day kindergarten program, including play-based learning supported by teachers and early childhood educators remain unchanged.

These updates will also address the [Ontario Human Rights Commission \(OHRC\) Right to Read report](#) that emphasized the importance of phonics instruction, more explicit instruction in schools, and other actions to ensure all students build a solid literacy foundation beginning in kindergarten. In addition, these updates also respond to recent EQAO results in reading, writing and math that demonstrate encouraging progress in student outcomes and also recognizes there is more work ahead to support continued positive outcomes for students.





## Board & Ministry Updates

· **February 10 (Saturday)** is OPEN GYM at Ecole Ste. Marguerite Bourgeys School from 10:00AM-12:00 PM. The Kenora Family Alliance is hosting FREE Open Gyms this winter for families with children. You are invited to drop in and enjoy some active playtime as a family, no signup is required. Light snacks will be provided. Watch our Facebook site for more details.

· **February 13** is Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday, also known as Pancake Day, is the day before Ash Wednesday and marks the eve of the Lenten season. Shrove Tuesday is not just about enjoying delicious pancakes, but it also marks the eve of Lent, a period of 40 days dedicated to reflection, service, and growth. Shrove Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday, is a day for us to prepare ourselves, to "shrive" or confess and seek forgiveness, as we embark on this meaningful journey. Let's embrace this time with open hearts ([LINK](#)).

· **February 14 is Ash Wednesday.** Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day period leading up to Easter. This day is characterized by ashes on the forehead, symbolizing mortality, and repentance. As we welcome #AshWednesday, we usher in our Lenten season at the KCDSB. This period invites us to deepen our practices of praying, fasting and helping others through service. May our shared journey through Lent enrich our faith and strengthen our bonds as a community. ([LINK](#)).





# Board & Ministry Updates

- **Monday, February 19 is Family Day**
- **February 22 from 4:30 – 7:00 PM is our KCDSB Community Festival du Voyageur** hosted by École Ste-Marguerite Bourgeoys. Get ready for a grand voyageur adventure at [#KCDSBFestivalDuVoyageur](#)! Dive into Métis and French-Canadian culture with live music, cozy warm eats, sweet treats, snow sculptures, dog sled races, and fun games! Blackout Date for Kenora KCDSB Schools.







## Board & Ministry Updates

• **February 24 (Saturday) is OPEN GYM** at Ecole Ste. Marguerite Bourgeoys from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. The Kenora Family Alliance is hosting FREE Open Gyms this winter for families with children. You are invited to drop in and enjoy some active playtime as a family, no signup is required. Light snacks will be provided. Watch our Facebook site for more details.

• **February 28 is Pink Shirt Day.** Pink Shirt Day is an annual event celebrated to take a stand against bullying. It encourages everyone to wear a pink shirt to show their support for creating a kinder, more inclusive world. Originating from a Canadian initiative in 2007, Pink Shirt Day has grown into a global movement. It's a day dedicated to raising awareness about bullying prevention and promoting respectful relationships and communities. KCDSB staff and students are encouraged to wear pink on February 28. For more detailed information and how to participate, you can visit the official Pink Shirt Day website ([LINK](#)).





## Board & Ministry Updates

• **February 29 is Leap into Your Future at St. Thomas Aquinas High School.** This Open House is tailored for Grade 6 students and families. It's happening on Thursday, February 29, from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. Whether you are already attending a KCDSB school or not, this is a fantastic opportunity to explore our programs and new possibilities at STAHS. Don't miss out on this chance to be part of the #SaintsFamily! Watch our social media sites on Feb 15 for more details and share this post to help show our support for STAHS.

**March 2 (Saturday) is Early Years Arts and Design Festival at St. John School.** We're thrilled to announce our Early Years Arts and Design Festival is fast approaching for St. John School! All our SJS families and communities are welcome to explore our ridiculously fun, over-the-top Early Years Arts and Design Festival aimed at families with young children.







# KCDSB Professional Development Plan

[KCDSB Website Link - PD Plan](#)



# Thank you

