

September 2, 2025

Dear Families:

RE: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ORGANIZATION PLANS FOR 2025-2026

Welcome back from what I hope was a very restful and safe summer spent with friends and family. We are especially excited to welcome our Junior Kindergarten students and any students new to our schools this year.

A number of years ago, the Ministry of Education implemented a cap on the maximum number of students that may be enrolled in primary classes (Grade 1 to Grade 3). We continue to ensure primary classes are capped at 20 students. In rare instances, a small number of primary classes may have up to a maximum of 23 students, while still being compliant with ministry of Education requirements.

Full Day Kindergarten operates on a board-wide average of 26 students per class with a teacher and a Designated Early Childhood Educator (DECE). This means that some Kindergarten classes may be smaller than 26 and some may be larger. Where a Kindergarten class has 15 students or less, there is a teacher only. The provincial government also requires that the average class size of Grade 4 to Grade 8 classes not exceed a board-wide average of 24.5 students. This means that some classes will be larger than 24 or 25 students, and some classes will be smaller.

As has occurred in past years, parents/guardians should be aware that grade/class reorganization for September may be necessary in order to meet these mandated class size requirements. All school organization plans are subject to review during this time, based on actual enrolment. Where the need to adjust class plans is identified due to unanticipated enrolment fluctuations, both in remote only and in-person classes, reorganization will be implemented effective Tuesday, September 16. This reorganization may also occur for students who are in remote only classes.

A school reorganization may result in your child(ren) moving from one class to another. Teachers will be preparing for the transition on September 15 Professional Activity Day. Please know that your child(ren)'s school principal will keep you duly informed should there be a change to your child(ren)'s class placement, including remote only students.

The Ministry of Education publication, *"An Introduction to Combined Grades,"* provides information for parents/guardians regarding combined grade classes and is attached for your additional information and reference. Please be assured that the DPCDSB will continue, as always, to provide a faith-based quality education for all students entrusted in its care with an emphasis on student safety, well-being and achievement.

As always, thank you for your continued support and understanding and best wishes for a safe and successful school year.

Sincerely,



Max Vecchiarino
Associate Director, Instructional Services