

Toronto Catholic District School Board

Dr. Brendan Browne

Chief Executive Officer

Adrian Della Mora

Chief Education Officer

Michael A. Caccamo

Superintendent of Education Safe Schools and Curriculum Leadership & Innovation

Catholic Education Centre

80 Sheppard Avenue East
Toronto ON M2N 6E8
www.tcdsb.org







2026 - 2027

Safe Schools Plan





At Toronto Catholic
we transform the world through witness,
faith, innovation and action.











SCHOOL NAME	St. Ambrose Catholic School	PRINCIPAL:	Greco, Patricia
SUPERINTENDENT:	Robert D'Addario		
SCHOOL ADDRESS:	20 Coules Crt Etobicoke ON M8W 2N9		
STUDENT ENROLMENT:	549		

OUR MISSION

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.

OUR VISION

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

We believe in the worth and dignity of every person and that people thrive in a safe, healthy and compassionate environment. We strive to foster student achievement and well-being by providing all students with safe, healthy learning environment.

One of the ways we can achieve this goal is by using a whole-school approach to develop and nurture a positive school climate. The Safe Schools Action Team will consist of a variety of stakeholders in each school community responsible for advising the principal about school safety. The team will collaborate with the principal to create the local Safe Schools Plan.

SAFE AND ACCEPTING SCHOOLS TEAM

Administrative Rep	**Greco, Patricia**	**Teacher Rep**	**Seli, Heather**
Teacher Rep	**Martins-Pereira, Tracy**	**Parent Rep**	**Domina Peraccini**
Teacher Rep	**Messore-Dorgan, Lucy**	**Parent Rep**	**Jill Khan**

SAFE SCHOOLS PLAN

All schools are required to develop and implement school-wide plans to help create a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment. Each Safe Schools Plan will consist of the following components:

1. Bullying Awareness, Intervention and Prevention
2. Progressive Discipline
3. Promoting a Positive School Climate
4. Emergency Response Plan

In order for all students, staff members and parents/visitors in the school facility to be prepared to respond to a serious threat, the response procedures must be practiced. The Toronto Police/School Board Protocol, 2011 requires a minimum of 2 Lockdown Drills every school year.

Please see below for the scheduled drills:

LOCKDOWN DRILLS 2026-2027

1	**2026-11-09**	**2**	**2026-12-02**
3	**2027-01-20**	**4**	**2027-02-25**

1. Bullying Awareness, Intervention and Prevention Plan

Providing students with an opportunity to learn and develop in a safe and respectful society is a key goal of the TCDSB. Providing students with an opportunity to learn and develop in a safe and respectful environment supports academic achievement for all students, which in turn, helps them to reach their full potential. Research and experience show that bullying is a serious issue that has far-reaching consequences for individuals, their families and peers and the entire school community. Schools that have bullying intervention and prevention strategies foster a positive learning and teaching environment that supports academic achievement for all students and that helps students reach their full potential. PPM 144

School Vision	The St. Ambrose Catholic School community strives to be a safe and respectful environment that supports student growth in order to help students reach their full potential.
Goal #1	Students will engage as active and valued leaders within the school community.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-TCDSB virtues promoted through announcements, school masses, posters in the classroom, school assemblies, student-led activities and office window displays, with "virtue of the month" ribbons awarded to students from each class.
-Explore cyber-bullying/Internet Safety presentations: building positive relationships(all divisions); cyber-bullying and internet safety discussions(Junior and Intermediate)throughout the year
-Explore presentations to address bullying and cyber safety in order to promote kindness, inclusiveness, equity, uniqueness and empathy.
-Incorporate the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations into all curricular areas.
-Participate in community-building activities (school spirit days, social justice initiatives organized by the student leadership team and D.R.E.A.M. team)
-D.R.E.A.M. (Dedicated, Responsible, Equitable, Altruistic, Motivated) Team initiatives related to social justice initiatives
-incorporate the monthly virtues and the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations in progressive discipline
-Equity Embassadors to promote kindness, equity and inclusion through initiatives such equity walks, announcements, bulletin board displays and book club.
-Engage students as student classroom monitors and reading buddies.

Responsibility

Teacher, Principal, Parents, Students

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

- TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention document, 2006
- Promoting a Positive School Climate: A Resource for Schools (Ministry of Education)
- Bullying Prevention and Intervention, S.S. 11
- Elementary Bullying Brochure
- Program/Policy Memorandum 144, 2012 Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- Program/Policy Memorandum 145, 2012 Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behavior
- Ontario Ministry of Education: "Preventing Bullying and Harassment"; PPM 144 Bullying Prevention and Intervention - Respectful Workplace Policy
- Shaping a Culture of Respect in our Schools: Promoting Safe and Healthy Relationships, December 2008
- Promoting a Positive School Climate: A Resource for Schools (Ministry of Education)
- Guidance counselor
- School social worker
- Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations
- Safe Schools Department
- TCDSB Virtue of the month resources
-TCDSB Equity Department resources and Professional Development opportunities
-TCDSB Equity Action Plan

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- A school culture where differences are accepted and inclusion is the demonstrated standard of acceptance.
- Bullying incidents are minimal with strategies for victims, bystanders and the bully being evident in the actions of staff, students and parents (as indicated in our Progressive Discipline Reports)
- Safe and Caring Catholic School Climate Survey conducted annually for Grade 6 and Grade 8 students reflecting a decrease in bullying incidents
- Reduction in number of progressive discipline reports.

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	The St. Ambrose Catholic School community strives to be a safe and respectful environment that supports student growth in order to help students reach their full potential.
Goal #2	Students will learn about bullying and how to prevent/deal with it through discussions, engagement over the PA, assemblies and presentations delivered by Guidance and outside agencies.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Bullying Awareness and Prevention Month (announcements led by our student leadership team, posters, assemblies, etc.)
- The Virtue of the month - announcements focusing on how to practice the virtue daily in our lives, bulletin board displays and activities related to the virtues of each month, assemblies highlighting the virtues and celebrating the recipients of the students of the month
-Continue working with George Hull. Students in grade 2 to complete the 10 week Feelings Explorers programs-Conferencing with students after incidents occur-emphasis on restorative justice and developing next steps for positive relationships
-Empower students to advocate for themselves through Religion/Family Life programs, Student Leader initiatives (announcements, posters, bulletin board displays, assemblies)
-engage students as active and valued leaders within the school (Grade 4 to Grade 8)- Leadership Team, Student classroom responsibilities (i.e., classroom jobs)
-Encourage students to report incidents of bullying immediately to the classroom teacher, teacher on duty or office
-regular communication with parents/guardians
-explore and implement alternatives to suspensions in grades 1-3 as per the Board's Safe Schools Department.
-Equity Embassadors to promote acceptance, inclusive and safe spaces for students through student led activities.

Responsibility

- entire school
- teachers
- administration
- parents
- students
- support staff
- lunchtime supervisor

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

- TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention document, 2006
- Promoting a Positive School Climate: A Resource for Schools (Ministry of Education) - guidance counselor
- school social worker
- community Liaison Officer
- PPM 144
- TCDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- A school culture where differences are accepted and inclusion is a demonstrated standard of acceptance
- Bullying incidents decrease and strategies for the bullied, the bully and the bystander are evident in the actions of staff, students and parents
- Student school climate survey will reflect a decrease in incidents of bullying
- Reduction in number of suspensions related to bullying behavior
- Reduction in number of progressive discipline forms indicating bullying issues

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	The St. Ambrose Catholic School community strives to be a safe and respectful environment that supports student growth in order to help students reach their full potential.
Goal #3	Students will celebrate the pastoral plan through daily prayer, monthly masses, Christmas Concert and extra-curricular activities.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Sharing Anti-Bullying tips with the entire school community through Student Leader initiatives, Bulletin board displays, announcements
- Father Michael to make visits to classes to reinforce our Catholic values and virtues
-Masses led by classes each month, student led monthly assemblies and celebrations of heritage, divergence and diversity.
- Guidance counselor presentations to classes on a needs basis
- CSPC to support the school plan through parent engagement activities

Responsibility

-entire school
- teachers
- administration
- parents
- students
- support staff
- lunchtime supervisor

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

- TCDSB Bullying Awareness and Prevention document, 2006
- Promoting a Positive School Climate: A Resource for Schools (Ministry of Education) - guidance counselor
- school social worker
- community Liaison Officer
- priest (Father Donatello,)
- PPM 144
- TCDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- feedback from Safe and Caring Student Climate Survey
- EQAO Student Questionnaires

2. Progressive Discipline Plan

Progressive discipline is a whole-school approach that utilizes a continuum of interventions, supports, and consequences to address inappropriate student behaviour and to build upon strategies that promote positive student behaviours. When inappropriate behaviour occurs, disciplinary measures should be applied within a framework that shifts the focus from one that is solely punitive to one that is both corrective and supportive. Schools should utilize a range of interventions, supports and consequences that include learning opportunities focused on reinforcing positive behaviour and helping students make good choices. PPM 145

School Vision

The Progressive Discipline Plan at St. Ambrose supports a safe and caring learning environment. We will utilize a variety of interventions, consequences and supports to address inappropriate behavior.

Goal #1

Students will develop de-escalation strategies to assist them in taking greater responsibility for their actions.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Clear communication on progressive discipline procedures outlined in the student handbook.
-Use of Progressive Discipline to address student behaviour.
-Consideration of Mitigating Factors as outlined through the Equity lens.
-Student's voice reflected on "Student Reflection" papers.
-Staff awareness of Bill 157 ("Keeping Our Students Safe at School Act") - duty to respond to incidents (reviewed each year)
-Review with teachers the use of progressive discipline site and reporting incidents.
-Encourage teachers to document incidents and to communicate with principal for incidents that could lead to suspension.
-On-going communication with parents
-Follow Board protocol in area of Safe Schools

Responsibility

- School Staff
- Principal
- Parents
- administration

Resources

The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

-Board policy/Safe Schools
-Guidance Counsellor
-Social Worker
-School-Based Support Team
-Bullying Protocol
-Police Protocol

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

-Monitor number of suspensions (reduced frequency and need for this consequence)
-Increased reporting of incidents to staff and office
-Safe and Caring Catholic School Climate Survey

3. Positive School Climate

A school should be a place that promotes responsibility, respect, civility and academic excellence in a safe learning and teaching environment. A positive school climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, comfortable and accepted. The Safe Schools Action Team and student leadership groups can play key roles in supporting learning and practices that educate students and staff members about safety concerns. Those practices used for very challenging situations that can jeopardize the safety and well being of others include, but not limited to: Threat Assessment, Restorative Conference and Mediation Circles.

School Vision	To promote a safe, positive and inclusive school community.
Goal #1	To strengthen the bond between school, home and parish.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-Plan and work closely with St. Ambrose Parish to facilitate masses, celebrations and regular class visits by Father Michael
-Provide PowerPoint slideshow of song lyrics and mass responses, live music lead by our school choir
-Work closely with CSPC to encourage academic excellence and community events
-Ongoing communication through newsletters and updates (through Newsletters, School Calendars, School Messenger).
-Review all school routines with teachers and students throughout school year
-Virtues of the month are incorporated in announcements, classroom lessons, school masses and bulletin board displays
-Reinforce the importance of parent engagement in academics through showcasing of student work and achievements at Parent/Teacher Interviews, performances during the year, Catholic Education Week
-Promote positive student-led activities during the year lead by our student leadership team and D.R.E.A.M. team (social justice initiatives, spirit days)

Responsibility

- administration
- CSPC
- parish
- staff
- parents

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

- Board resources
- Parent community resources
- School and classroom resources
- First Safety Bus Procedures

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- On-going feedback from parents, staff, and parish priest
- Increased parent involvement at school events
- active student participation in masses

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	To promote a safe, positive and inclusive school community.
Goal #2	To promote responsibility, respect, and academic excellence.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-To encourage and support development of student leadership through Leadership Team, Reading Buddies
-At school cohort masses: acknowledge the monthly virtue, school and classroom expectations during homily, morning gospel readings and prayer, and classroom religion lessons.
-Acknowledge birthdays during the morning announcements and with a birthday ribbon.

Responsibility

-Teachers leadership teams/ Principal
-Principal
-Classroom teachers

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

-Board resources
-Parent community resources
-School and classroom resources

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

-Student survey from Board on School Climate Surveys
-Survey staff, and parents

TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL

Safe Schools Plan

School Vision	To promote a safe, positive and inclusive school community.
Goal #SVP 1	Showcase students' unique strengths, talents and interests through student-led assemblies, talent shows and/or musical events.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

-students will participate (and lead)school masses and participate in the songs/carols/readings
- students will develop leadership skills through their participation in various activities (i.e., Leadership Team, Choir, Student lunchtime monitors, leading assemblies and masses)

Responsibility

- teachers
- administration

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

- staff will work closely with students

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- students will participate in performances during Education week and during school assemblies
- more students will be involved in a variety of clubs/initiatives promoting and contributing to a positive school climate and developing their personal interests and confidence
- higher report of student involvement as reflected in the Safe Schools Climate Survey (grade 6 and grade 8)

4. Emergency Response Plan

The Toronto Catholic District School Board has a primary responsibility to ensure the safety of students and staff inside Board buildings and on Board property. Central policies and procedures, developed in collaboration with the Toronto Police Service, provide direct support to school administrators in the management of crisis situations, including a lockdown response. It is the responsibility of each school to develop local procedures specific to that school, including a process by which all regular staff members, itinerant and specialist teachers and support staff, facility workers and visitors are informed of local considerations in the event of a threat to school safety. MOE Provincial Model for a Local Police/School Board Protocol

School Vision	All students, staff members and visitors will become knowledgeable about emergency procedures for threats to the safety and well-being of all persons at school, and will be able to appropriately respond according to the guidelines established by TCDSB.
Goal #1	To plan, practice and evaluate a minimum of 4 lockdown Drills in this school year.

Initiatives/Strategies/Practices

- Emergency Response Procedures posted in each room in school building
- Six fire drills per year
- Four lockdown drills per year
-Two bomb threats per year.
- Inform parents of threats to School Safety procedures
- Medical forms required in legislation, PPM 161 (Supporting Children and Students With Prevalent Medical Conditions: Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes and Epilepsy in Schools to be sent home
- Post photos/medical information of all students with medical conditions in the office and in occasional teacher folders
- In-service staff on health and safety medical/emergency procedures and protocols (ex. anaphylactic protocol, epilepsy, lockdowns, etc.)
- In-service staff on Rowan's Law and new requirements for Concussion Protocols.

Responsibility

• Safe School Action Team
• Principal and Vice Principal
• Police Partners
- Staff

Resources The following resources will be utilized to support these initiatives/strategies/practices:

• TCDSB Threats to School Safety Response Procedures
• Police Partner
• Police Protocol
• Fire Safety Plan
. PPM 161(Supporting Children and Students With Prevalent Medical Conditions (Anapylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes and Epilepsy) in Schools.
. Rowan's Law And new Concussion Protocols

Measurement of Progress The following metrics will be used to measure progress in achieving the Goal:

- Positive Assessment of lockdown drill
- Emergency Procedure poster is visible in each classroom
- Initiatives are communicated to parents