



**Northeastern
Catholic District
SCHOOL BOARD**



Welcome to
Kindergarten

MISSION STATEMENT

**Learning together. Striving for excellence.
In service to God and each other.**



**“Child, give me your
hand that I may walk in
the light of
your faith.”**

Hannah Kahn

Welcome to the Northeastern Catholic District School Board

One of the things that makes Catholic education truly unique is that we integrate Catholic beliefs and values into the required subject areas provided by the Ministry of Education.

Recognizing that all children arrive at school with different backgrounds and experiences, as well as being at different stages of development, we value each child’s God given uniqueness. Through engaging, play-based and creative kindergarten learning activities, your child will continue to grow as a faith-filled, lifelong learner.

Your child’s education is a shared responsibility between the home and the school. We encourage you to be involved in your child’s learning by actively participating in the life of the school community that you have chosen for your child.

VISION STATEMENT

**Faithful and thoughtful learners,
working together to transform the world.**

We are a small, but close community who strives to support the success of each and every student. If you have concerns about your child’s experience at school at any time, please be sure to reach out to your child’s principal.

Registering for Kindergarten

WHO CAN REGISTER AT NCDSB SCHOOLS?

Children who are Catholic or have Catholic parents can register. We do consider the registration of non-Catholic children where a parent is committed to providing a faith-based experience, and when the family is prepared to have the child participate in the full-life of the school. Please speak to your school principal. Year 1 Kindergarten children must be four years old and Year 2 Kindergarten children must be five years old by December 31 of the school year for which they are registering.

WHEN CAN I REGISTER MY CHILD?

Registration at all NCDSB schools begins in January of each year and carries on through the beginning of school in September, or until spaces are filled. You are always best to register early. You can register your child online at www.ncdsb.on.ca by clicking the **On-Line Registration Request** under Quick Links. The school principal will be in touch with you shortly after you initiate this process.

Once you submit the on-line registration request, you will need to provide the following documents to the school principal in order to complete the registration process. The principal will be in touch with you to let you know how you are best to do this.

- **Proof of Student Name and Age**
(Birth Certificate, Certificate of Canadian Citizenship, Certificate of Registration of Birth Abroad, Passport, Permanent Resident Card, Record of Landing)
- **Proof of Current Residential Address**
(Purchase/Rental/Lease Agreement, Utility Statement, Bank document)
- **Roman Catholic Baptismal Certificate**
(One parent or the student, if applicable)
- **Student Immunization Record**
(Current updated record detailing immunizations received or official exemption record)



Health and Immunizations

HEALTH CARDS

New rules introduced in the Personal Health Information and Protection (PHIPA) means that school boards no longer collect health card information. Your child's health card is not required to register.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Your local public health unit will provide detailed immunization requirements and procedures. Please visit www.porcupinehu.on.ca or www.timiskaminghu.com for details and contact information.



Directing Your Tax Support

OWNER AND TENANT PROPERTY TAX DIRECTION

Roman Catholic property owners and tenants in this province can choose to support, protect and preserve Catholic education for future generations. Remember that each time you move, your property tax reverts to “public school” support. Catholic school parents/electors/supporters are encouraged to continue to ensure they are registered appropriately.

Special Education

NCDSB is committed to providing programs and services to meet the diverse needs of all students within our Catholic schools. Specialized programs based on an inclusion model help students reach their full learning potential.

You will have an opportunity to meet the school team to discuss individualized programs, as required. Sharing information helps everyone understand what works best for your child. You may want to maintain a summary of your child's needs, agency involvement, physicians, triggers, milestones, to share with the school team.

Tracking Your Child's Development

LOOKSEE CHECKLIST (formerly the Nipissing Developmental Screen)

Monitoring your child's growth and development is vital. The Looksee Checklist that has been included with this package is a simple, easy to use development screening tool designed to help parents monitor their child's development from 1 month to 6 years of age. It features a short list of “yes” or “no” questions about the child's abilities. This will allow you to know how well your child is progressing in their development and offers suggestions to support their growth. These checklists can be accessed at www.lookseechecklist.com.

Your Child Will Learn and Experience...

The Kindergarten experience is a two-year program designed to help every child reach his or her full potential through learning that is coherent, relevant, and age appropriate. The curriculum recognizes that the needs of learners are diverse and helps all learners develop the knowledge, skills, and perspectives they need to become informed, productive, caring, responsible, and active citizens in their own communities and in the world.



FAITH FORMATION

A child's Catholic faith journey begins in the home and is supported by the parish and the school. As the primary faith educator for your child be sure to:

- Talk to your child about the wonder of God's creation
- Worship and pray together
- Share religious stories
- Teach your child to be compassionate and to forgive others

The Religion program entitled "*In God's Image*" is used in Kindergarten classrooms. The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has developed this excellent resource containing numerous songs, activities and prayers.

REPORTING YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS

Throughout the year, teachers and early childhood educators observe, assess and evaluate the progress of your child. Formal communication reporting happens three times a year in the form of a progress report and parent/teacher conference and two formal report cards.

We encourage you to contact your child's teacher whenever you have questions or concerns about your child.

AREAS OF LEARNING IN THE KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

Students will explore these areas through a play-based model. Explicit instruction is provided by the teacher and/or designated early childhood educator as needed in both large and small groups.

- BELONGING AND CONTRIBUTING
- SELF-REGULATION AND WELL-BEING
- DEMONSTRATING LITERACY AND MATHEMATICS BEHAVIOURS
- PROBLEM SOLVING AND INNOVATING



Catholic Education Makes the Difference.



Help Your Child Succeed in Preschool: Build the Habit of Good Attendance

Early School Success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

DID YOU KNOW?

Showing up on time every day is important to your child's success and learning from preschool forward.

Missing 10 percent of preschool (one or two days every few weeks) can

- Make it harder to develop early reading skills.
- Make it harder to get ready for kindergarten and first grade.
- Develop a poor attendance pattern that's hard to break.

High quality preschool programs have many benefits for your child. The routines your child develops in preschool will continue throughout school. You can make the most of preschool by encouraging your child to attend every day!

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Work with your child and his/her teacher to help your child develop strong attendance. Your enthusiasm is a big boost to success.

Talk about it – sing about it – make it an adventure!

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before
- Share ideas with other parents for getting out the door on time

Before the school year starts:

- Find out what day preschool starts and start the exciting count down!
- Make sure your child has the required shots.
- Attend orientation with your child to meet the teachers and classmates.

Ready – Set GO!

- Develop back-up plans for getting to preschool if something comes up
- Ask family members, neighbors or other parents to lend a hand if you need help dropping off or picking up your child
- Schedule medical appointments and extended trips when preschool is not in session
- If your child seems anxious about going to preschool, talk to the program director, teacher, your doctor or other parents for advice. If the problem persists, make sure the program is a good fit for your child.



All about Me

MY FAMILY

Age _____ Birthday _____

Favorites

FOOD _____

Color _____

Activity _____

MUSIC _____

MOVIE _____

Subject _____

Vacation _____

When I grow up

My Superpower

Biggest Fear

Northeastern Catholic District School Board

OUR SCHOOLS

Timmins/South Porcupine

Pope Francis Elementary School 705-264-5869

JK-5 English & French Immersion Programs

O’Gorman Intermediate Catholic School 705-264-6555

Gr. 6-8 English and French Immersion Programs

O’Gorman High School 705-268-4501

Grade 9-12

St. Joseph School (South Porcupine) 705-235-4622

JK-6 English Program

Iroquois Falls

St. Anne English Catholic School 705-232-5355

JK-8 English and French Immersion Programs

Cochrane

Aileen Wright English Catholic School 705-272-4707

JK-8 English Program

Kapuskasing

St. Patrick School 705-335-3241

JK-8 English and French Immersion Programs

Kirkland Lake

St. Jerome School 705-567-5800

JK-3 English and French Immersion Programs

Sacred Heart Catholic School 705-567-7444

4-8 English and French Immersion Programs

Englehart

Holy Family School 705-544-2397

JK-8 English Program

New Liskeard

English Catholic Central School 705-647-4301

JK-8 English Program

Cobalt

St. Patrick Catholic School 705-679-5575

JK-8 English Program

Moosonee

Bishop Belleau School 705-336-2619

JK-8 English Program