

Parents to get first look tomorrow at new education ministry report card

Parents/guardians will notice students bringing home a new progress report card tomorrow (Friday) developed by the Ontario Ministry of Education.

The Elementary Progress Report Card is designed to show a student's development of learning skills and work habits during the first weeks of the school year, as well as general progress in working toward the achievement of the Ontario curriculum expectations on all subjects.

There will be no marks in the subject field on the Progress Report Card. It will emphasize the development of learning skills and work habits; letter symbols to report student development of learning skills (Excellent, Good, Satisfactory and Needs Improvement); a three-point scale to indicate progress toward achievement of the curriculum expectations (progressing very well, progressing well, progressing with difficulty); and teacher comments on the student's progress to date organized under Strengths and Next Steps.

The new report is part of a ministry policy called, "Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting".

Previously, students received a report card at the end of each term—November, March and June. Beginning

this school year, Grade 1-8 students will bring home an Elementary Progress Report Card in early November followed by Elementary Provincial Report Cards in February and June. Teachers will schedule parent interview/conferences following distribution of these new progress report cards.

"The information on this new elementary progress report card will be a key part of discussions with teachers, students and parents/guardians during the November parent-teacher interviews. The focus of these discussions will be on progress early in the school year and how the student, school and the parent/guardian will work together to support student success," says Jeff Blackwell, Superintendent of Education (Program) at the Halton District School Board. "The earlier progress report card provides students with time to learn, practice, and receive informative feedback for improvement prior to being evaluated on their achievement in February."

Although there are three formal reporting periods, communication with parents/guardians should be continuous throughout the year to discuss student progress and how parents and school staff can work together to support student success.



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HALTON CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Seeks

TWO VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY MEMBERS

to serve on its

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Term of Office – THREE-YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JANUARY 18, 2011

The audit committee will be comprised of three Trustees and two independent members drawn from the community at large. The primary role of the audit committee is to assist the board of trustees in fulfilling its duties related to governance and oversight. The duties of the audit committee fall under the following key areas: the financial reporting process, internal control framework, risk management practices, performance and function of the board's internal and external auditors and the board's compliance with its obligations under legislation. The Committee meets at least 3 times a year, plus ad hoc meetings as required. A formal training course will be provided to all committee members to clarify roles and responsibilities of audit committees for the school board sector. The training is scheduled for January 31st and February 1st, 2011.

Candidate Eligibility:

- Applicants must have sufficient accounting, senior financial management or other relevant business experience to understand public sector accounting and auditing standards.
- The applicant must not be a current employee or officer of the board or of any other district school board or school authority.
- The applicant must not have a parent, child or spouse currently employed by the board.

Submission of Applications

Suitably qualified candidates interested in serving on the audit committee are invited to submit a letter of interest and resume by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 26, 2010 to:

Michael W. Pautler, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board
Halton Catholic District School Board
802 Drury Lane, P.O. Box 5308
Burlington, ON L7R 4L3
Email: pautterm@hcdsb.org

Candidates who are short-listed may be requested to attend a private interview conducted by the audit committee's selection committee. For information about the Halton Catholic District School Board, please visit www.hcdsb.org. You may access the Audit Committee Recruitment Brochure, the Letter of Appointment of an Audit Committee Member and previous Board Reports at www.hcdsb.org/board/audit.

For further information please contact:

Paul McMahon, Superintendent of Business Services and Treasurer of the Board
Direct: 905-632-6314 ext. 130
Email: mcmahonp@hcdsb.org

Bob Van de Vrande
Chair of the Board

Michael W. Pautler
Secretary of the Board