

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 8, 2026**

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: 2026-2027 PARENTS REACHING OUT (PRO) GRANTS

The report on the 2026-2027 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants is presented for information.

Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Chief Executive Officer /Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 8, 2026



REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

2026-2027 PARENTS REACHING OUT (PRO) GRANTS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Ministry of Education continues to support parental involvement in Ontario schools by funding Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants. The Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants program provides funding to district school boards and school authorities to lead projects with a focus on the identification and removal of barriers that prevent parents and families from participating and engaging fully in their children's learning.

This funding supports projects that are initiated by parents through communication with the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and Catholic School Councils. For the 2026-2027 this funding will be transferred from Priorities and Partnerships Funding (PPF) into a new component of the Parent Engagement Allocation within the School Foundation Grant.

The Parent Engagement Allocation has three components – PIC (\$8,935), School Councils (\$28,500), and PRO (\$30,000) – each with its own funding calculation. School boards are expected to comply with Ontario Regulation 612/00: *School Councils and Parent Involvement Committees*.

This new PRO component, funded through a combined amount of \$1,500 per school board and \$500 per school committee, supports school boards to work with their Parent Involvement Committees (PICs) in order to lead initiatives that address local parent needs and/or remove barriers that prevent parents from participating and engaging fully in their children's learning and educational progress.

Through the PRO Grant component (\$30,000), Catholic School Councils may apply for additional funds up to \$1000.00 to support parent engagement activities at the school level through an application process. Applications and funding allocations will be approved in alignment with Ministry criteria. Principals and Catholic School Council Chairs/Co-Chairs have been notified about this funding opportunity.

The report on the 2025-2026 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants is presented for information.

Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 8, 2026

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
SEPTEMEBR 8, 2026**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities report is
presented for information.

Prepared by: Kim Kinney, Chief Education Officer
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Kim Kinney, Chief Education Officer

Approved by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 8, 2026



**REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SEPTEMBER 8, 2026**

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In alignment with Niagara Catholic's Multi-Year Strategic Plan, the Department of Staff Development, as an integral aspect of its mandate, acts as the point of co-ordination among various departments. Thus ensuring that all professional development opportunities for staff, both teaching and non-teaching, occur in a seamless fashion to minimize disruptions to the myriad services provided within our Niagara Catholic community. The following is a listing of activities occurring during the period September 8, 2026 through October 13, 2026.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAYS – SEPTEMBER 2026

The Professional Activity Days for both elementary and secondary panels scheduled for September 2nd and 3rd. Activities will primarily take place at each staff member's home school, unless otherwise directed to attend an alternate location.

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY
SEPTEMBER 2, 2026**

ELEMENTARY AGENDA

8:30-9:30

- Land Acknowledgement & Opening Prayer
- Staff Meeting & New Theological Theme Introduction

9:30-9:45

- Break

9:45-12:00

- Online Reporting Tool Professional Development Video
- Prevalent Medical Conditions Online PD Modules

12:00-1:00

- Lunch

1:00-2:50

- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Online PD Modules

SECONDARY AGENDA

8:00-9:30

- Land Acknowledgement & Opening Prayer
- Staff Meeting & New Theological Theme Introduction

9:30-9:45

- Break

9:45-12:00

- Online Reporting Tool Professional Development
- Prevalent Medical Conditions Online PD Modules

12:00-1:00

- Lunch

1:00-2:30

- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Online PD Modules

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY **SEPTEMBER 3, 2026**

ELEMENTARY AGENDA

8:30-8:45

- Land Acknowledgement & Opening Prayer

8:45-10:15

- Student Support Professional Development Session
 - Individual Education Plans (IEPs)
 - Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC)

10:15-10:30

- Break

10:30-12:00

- Mathematics Professional Development Sessions

12:00-1:00

- Lunch

1:00-2:50

- Literacy Professional Development Sessions

SECONDARY AGENDA

8:00-8:20

- Land Acknowledgement & Opening Prayer

8:20-10:15

- Professional Development Sessions by Department
 - Assessment, Evaluation & Reporting (AER)
 - New Curriculum & Resources PD Session

10:15-10:30

- Break

10:30-12:00

- Professional Development Sessions by Department
 - Assessment, Evaluation & Reporting (AER)
 - New Curriculum & Resources PD Session

12:00-1:00

- Lunch

1:00-2:30

- Student Support Professional Development Session
 - Individual Education Plans (IEPs)
 - Identification, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC)

The Staff Development Professional Development Opportunities report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Kim Kinney, Chief Education Officer
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Kim Kinney, Chief Education Officer

Approved by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Chief Executive Officer/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 8, 2026