



## Memorandum

To: Board of Trustees

From: Gerard Winn, Director of Education

Date: September 23, 2024

Subject: **School Year Calendar and Professional Activity Day Compliance**

Origin: Jim Wilson, Superintendent of Education – Academic Services

### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Trustees of new legislation relating to communication around Professional Activity days and to confirm the Board is in compliance with the new requirements regarding the school year calendar.

### Background

On December 12, 2023, a Memorandum was sent to Boards from the Ministry of Education outlining regulations from the Ontario Regulation 304 “School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Day’s”. The following requirements for Boards were included in the memo:

#### **Professional Activity Day (PA Day) Descriptions**

This regulatory amendment supports greater transparency for parents by enhancing existing public reporting on PA days. The amended regulation requires school boards to publicly provide more detail on PA day topics or focus, entity hosting the activities, format, learning and delivery methods, content, presenter(s), and resources, at least 14 days in advance of the PA day. This information must be posted in a prominent location on the board’s public website or that of the participating school(s) and included in communication to parents. The regulation has also been amended to remove the existing requirement to post the location of the PA day and provides flexibility for school boards in cases where the details of PA day events change within the 14 day notice period.

For further supports on these requirements, please refer to the attached Implementation Guide and Frequently Asked Questions document.

[Policy and Program Memorandum \(PPM 151\)](#) has also been updated to align with this direction (see PA Days PPM section below).

[O. Reg. 226/23: SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR, PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAYS \(ontario.ca\)](#)

On March 1, 2024, the Durham Catholic District School Board submitted to the Ministry of Education the general outline of the activities to be conducted on our 2024-2025 Professional Activity (PA) Days.

### **Information**

April 2024, the Ministry of Education acknowledged all requirements have been met and confirmed and completion of the 2024-2025 school year calendar process.

### **Next Steps**

A detailed summary of PA Day activities will be posted on the Board and school websites and submitted to the Ministry of Education at least fourteen (14) days prior to each PA Day throughout the school year.

GW/JW/lj

Attachments:

Appendix 1 – Outline of activities to be conducted on DCDSB 2024-2025 PA days.

## APPENDIX 1 - DCDSB Academic Services | Professional Activity Days 2024/25

The mandatory PA Day topics for the 2024-25 school year are intended to support educators so that they are prepared to address the province's priorities

\*\* indicates mandatory provincial topics

Elementary Topics	Secondary Topics
<p><b>August 29th, 2024</b></p> <p><b>Creating the Conditions for Learning (Student Well Being)</b></p> <p><b>**Literacy and Universal Reading Screeners</b></p> <p><b>**Cell Phone and Vaping: Impact on Student Learning and Resources</b></p>	<p><b>August 29th, 2024</b></p> <p><b>Creating the Conditions for Learning (Student Well-Being)</b></p> <p><b>**Literacy across the curriculum</b></p> <p><b>**STEM and Career Education: Preparing Students for Careers in the AI Era</b></p> <p><b>**Cell Phone and Vaping: Impact on Student Learning and Resources</b></p> <p><b>Academic Integrity and the use of AI</b></p>
<p><b>October 11th, 2024</b></p> <p><b>**Prevalant Medical Conditions: (Asthma, anaphylactic etc training)</b></p> <p><b>**Math: Implementing High Impact Instructional Practices</b></p> <p><b>School Improvement Plan Learning (**Literacy and Math)</b></p>	<p><b>October 11th, 2024</b></p> <p><b>**Prevalant Medical Conditions: (Asthma, anaphylactic etc training)</b></p> <p><b>School Improvement Planning Learning (**Universal Design for Learning and Differentiated Instruction/Assessment)</b></p> <p><b>**New Curriculum Implementation: (The new de-streamed Grade 9 Geography course; Grades 9-10 Business Studies curriculum; Grades 9-10 Technological Education curriculum; Mental health literacy updates to the Grade 10 Career Studies course)</b></p>
<p><b>November 15th, 2024</b></p> <p><b>**Mental Health and Bullying Prevention</b></p> <p><b>Cyber Safety</b></p> <p><b>Faith Formation</b></p>	<p><b>November 15th, 2024</b></p> <p><b>**Mental Health and Bullying Prevention</b></p> <p><b>Faith Formation</b></p>
<p><b>January 24th, 2025</b></p> <p><b>Assessment and Evaluation</b></p> <p><b>**ETFO EW (Professional Learning amongst ECE)</b></p>	<p><b>February 15th, 2025</b></p> <p><b>**Destreaming (UDL and Differentiated Assessment)</b></p> <p><b>**Connections to Trades and Apprentices (Guidance and Career Education)</b></p> <p><b>Growing Success Review</b></p>

<p><b>March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025</b></p> <p><b>**STEM/Numeracy</b></p> <p><b>**Curriculum Implementation</b></p> <p><b>Educator mental health &amp; resilience</b></p>	<p><b>March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025</b></p> <p><b>**STEM/Numeracy</b></p> <p><b>**Curriculum Implementation</b></p> <p><b>Educator mental health &amp; resilience</b></p>
<p><b>June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025</b></p> <p><b>Assessment and Evaluation</b></p>	<p><b>June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025</b></p> <p><b>Assessment and Evaluation</b></p>
<p><b>June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025</b></p> <p><b>Health and Safety</b></p> <p><b>Transition Planning</b></p>	<p><b>June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025</b></p> <p><b>Health and Safety</b></p> <p><b>Transition Planning</b></p>