

REGISTRATION

Parent Conference 2019

At the Conference, there will be a keynote speaker. You will also be attending two workshops of your choice. Please select first and second choices. Workshops may fill quickly but every attempt will be made to give you your choices.

Name:

Home Address:

Home Phone #:

Email Address:

Home School:

City:

1st Choice

2nd Choice

Shuttle Request: Yes No

Please detach and return this registration form by October 21st, 2019, to your home school Principal, if possible.

On-Line Registration is available at:
pc.hwcdsb.ca

Directions to: Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School

Option #1:

From Stoney Creek St. Francis Church

- Take Highway 8 West
- Turn left on Centennial Parkway
- Turn right on Rymal Road East
- Pass Walmart
- 1824 Rymal Road East is on the left

Estimated Time: 20 minutes

Option #2:

From Ancaster Meadowlands

- Take the Linc
- Go east on the Linc
- Take Upper Red Hill Valley Pkwy Exit
- Left on Rymal Road East
- 1824 Rymal Road East is on the right

Estimated Time: 20 minutes

Option #3:

Shuttle Bus Service:

There will be a shuttle bus service to take parents to Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School in the morning and back in the afternoon.

Departure time will be at **7:45 am** and return at **2:00 pm** from/to the designated locations.

The Shuttle locations will be:

*Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Elementary School. 416 Mohawk Rd E, Hamilton, ON L8V 2H7

*Cathedral High School, 30 Wentworth St. N., Hamilton, ON L8L 8H5

****Car Pooling Recommended****

As a member of the Catholic Faith Community, you are invited to attend this year's 27th Annual Parent Conference. Come and share in a Eucharistic Celebration with Very Reverend Cornelius O'Mahony, in addition to exhibits, guest speaker, workshops and lunch.

In light of the important role you play in your child's faith development, you are encouraged to build on the partnerships of community, parish and school through this event. Please join us as we gather together to live the Eucharist.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Mary Gordon
Founder / President Roots of Empathy

"Nurturing Empathy in Young Children"

Relationships are the vehicle for learning with young children. This presentation will use videos, art and narrative to show the power of early relationships in all domains of development, in particular, in the development of empathy. Of all the human attributes, empathy tops the scale. Yet empathy is endangered with rates of empathy declining, with loneliness and alienation increasing. This workshop will celebrate the power of Early Educators and the pivotal role of family in building the next generation of citizens and parents.

AGENDA FOR THE DAY

7:45am—8:30am	Registration/Exhibits/Breakfast
8:45am—9:00am	Welcome
9:00am—10:00am	Eucharistic Celebration
	- Very Reverend Cornelius O'Mahony Vicar for Education
10:00am—10:30am	Break/Exhibits
10:30am—11:30am	Keynote Speaker
11:30am—12:10pm	Workshop
12:20pm-1:00pm	Workshop
1:00pm—2:00pm	Lunch & Closing



Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic Schools



PARENT CONFERENCE 2019

FREE ADMISSION

Saturday November 2nd, 2019

7:45 AM - 2:00 PM

Registration 7:45 AM— 8:30 AM
Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Topic: ROOTS OF EMPATHY: CHANGING THE WORLD CHILD BY CHILD

Location: Auditorium

**Presenter: Mary Gordon, Founder / President
Roots of Empathy**

Mary Gordon is recognized internationally as an award-winning social entrepreneur, educator, author, child advocate and parenting expert who has created programs informed by the power of empathy. Ms. Gordon is also the founder of Canada's first and largest school-based Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, which she initiated in 1981.

In 1996 she created the Roots of Empathy program. The organization, Roots of Empathy, offers programs in every Province of Canada and in the USA, Scotland, England, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Wales, New Zealand, Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands, Costa Rica and Korea.

Ms. Gordon speaks and consults to governments, educational organizations, and public institutions, including the World Health Organization and the United Nations. She is the recipient of several awards recognizing her contribution to innovation in education and international social entrepreneurship, including the Manning Innovation Award for the top social entrepreneur in Canada and most recently the 2018 Governor Generals Award for Innovation. Ms. Gordon is an Ashoka Fellow (Globalizer) and sits on the Ashoka Global Board. Ms. Gordon has been awarded both the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond and Silver Jubilee Medals and is a Member of the Order of Canada, as well as the Order of Newfoundland and is the recipient of honorary doctorates.

Ms. Gordon has had several dialogues with His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Canada, the United States and India. Both Mary Gordon and the program have been featured in the New York Times, the LA Times, the Washington Post, Time Magazine and in features on PBS, CNN, BBC and the Huffington Post.

WORKSHOPS

RESTORATIVE PRACTICE—(Room 107E)
Josie Zuppa, Special Education Resource Teacher-HWCDSB
Jennifer Nunes, Social Worker—HWCDSB

Aiming to create a more positive school culture, the Restorative Practices (RP) approach uses various communicative techniques focused on affective statements and proactive community building activities.

HOW TO BE PRESENT AND SUPPORT CHILDREN AND YOUTH THROUGH THE DEATH OF A FAMILY MEMBER OR CLOSE FRIEND? —(Room 104)
Carolyn Schmid, Social Worker—HWCDSB

Supporting grieving children and youth can be an extremely difficult task. This presentation will provide parents and caregivers information regarding what normal childhood responses to death can look like as well as key psychological factors that are often experienced by grieving children. Learning what is necessary to ensure children feel secure and are able to cope with loss in the healthiest way possible will also be explored. Finally a discussion of bereavement support services that are available will be provided.

Caroline Schmid is a social worker with the HWCDSB. She provides both individual and group counselling to children in elementary school who are struggling with the emotional and behavioural impact of parental separation/divorce; bereavement as well as anxiety and depression.

Susan Repa is the Coordinator of Children and Family Support Programs as well as the Director of Camp Keaton at the Dr. Bob Kemp Hospice in Hamilton. She provides both individual as well as group counselling to children and youth who have experienced the death of a family member or close friend, or who have a loved one who is palliative. Susan is also is a professor at Conestoga College.

“DIFFICULT CHILD?”—(ROOM 124W)
Rita Roberts, Holistic Family Wellness Coach
The Functional Family

Learn how to transform a stressful family relationship into a peaceful, loving one.”

SOCIAL and ELECTRONIC: MEDIA and YOUTH— (Room 125W)
Roman Caruk, SERE Committee
HWCDSB Retired Catholic Teacher

Let's have a discussion on the effects of Social Media and technology on our children. What can we do to decrease the amount of screen time?

PHYSICAL LITERACY INITIATIVES: RISKY PLAY—(Room 122W)
John Madalena, Equal Opportunities Consultant, HWCDSB
Lynn Campanella, CEO Playocracy Inc.

We live in a society where play is not always valued, and as a result many children and youth have lost the ability or opportunity to play freely. By creating a recess environment that encourages students to be creative and spontaneous, we will be supporting and fostering free play which is crucial to their healthy development.

LIFE SKILLS THRU INDIGENOUS GAMES: (Room 119W)
Melissa Button, Indigenous Education Lead—HWCDSB

Life Skills Through Indigenous Games is a unique workshop designed to raise awareness about Indigenous cultures through the promotion of healthy active living, and the creative integration of traditional Indigenous games and activities, enhancing knowledge & understanding of First Nation, Métis & Inuit cultures.

D.R.E.A.M.S. PROGRAM—(Room 109)
David Paone,
Elementary Teacher—HWCDSB

The D.R.E.A.M.S. (Dominican Republic Education And Medical Support) program began at our very own St. Mary CSS in 2000. The trip was initiated by a group of students in Paul Morrison's World Issues class. They collaborated with Scarborough Missions priest Father Louis Quinn who had been collaborating with ADESJO, a Dominican non-governmental organization, to provide support in the rural regions of San José de Ocoa, Dominican Republic. Together volunteers support the construction of houses, schools, churches, aqueducts, and reservoirs in these regions.

YOUTH MINISTRY—(Room 108)
Wes Moga, Catholic Youth Minister
St. Francis Xavier Parish

In today's busy and secular culture, giving time to one's relationship with God and participating in a parish community are not always seen as "cool" things to do, especially for young people. This workshop invites you to explore parish youth ministry, which many churches in our Diocese have now established. The goals of youth ministry are to reveal to young people the difference that a friendship with God can make in their lives, to accompany them on their personal journey of faith, and to help them to discover and embrace the special place that God has for them in His Church. Hear from members of the St. Francis Xavier Parish team about their experiences in ministry to, with, and by young people, and reflect on how God is inviting you, your children, and your whole family more deeply into the life of your own parish!

PREPARING HEALTHY SNACKS WITH AND FOR CHILDREN—(Room 209)
Vijay Jos, Continuing Education Teacher—HWCDSB

Come learn about simple strategies to encourage your children to help you prepare easy and quick snacks at home.

HOW OUR FAITH CAN SUSTAIN US THROUGH THE DIFFICULT PROCESS OF A CHILD'S DIAGNOSIS—(Room 105)
Cindy Alves, HWCDSB Parent

I am going to focus on my journey with Autism as a mom (parent) Early diagnosis (age 18 months to current age, he will be 15) and how far I've come personally. I will talk about my emotions pre-diagnosis, my reactions to diagnosis, stages I have been through and continue to go through (anger, sadness, isolation) things I've come to accept, why I chose to be open with Justin's diagnosis. I think it's important to talk about the negative feelings and not sugar coat things because parents need to be validated in their hard emotions. I have a couple of stories to share that I have observed Justin doing over the years (regarding his empathy and his ability to learn) For the most part validating their fears, showing them it's okay to be scared but that their children have much to offer and they need unconditional support. Am I able to ask why parents are struggling with the diagnosis and how schools can help them come to terms with it?

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION—(Chapel)
Andy Burns, Religion Consultant, HWCDSB

Christian meditation is an ancient form of prayer practiced by the early Christian Desert Fathers and Mothers. In recent years this practice of making ourselves still and silent in order to listen to God in our hearts has been recovered. In a world as busy and distracted as ours, this 'Prayer of the Heart' is a great blessing. We would love to share the story of Christian Meditation with Children within the HWCDSB with You.