



**ÉCOLE NOTRE DAME DE FATIMA  
OUR LADY OF FATIMA SCHOOL**

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## Because It Takes a Village

As you know, the school is probably the most important community your child belongs to, after the home and church. Our children spend a significant amount of time interacting with fellow classmates, teachers and parents. The seeds of lifelong friendships are sown and it is a beautiful thing when we can all work together to create a community that is safe, loving and nurturing for the most important people in our lives: our children.

You may have heard recently that the Parish Education Committee at Our Lady of Fatima School has updated the Parent Participation program. The new program will be accessible online for Parents and the Administration to facilitate a more user friendly and integrated interface. The Program also serves the very practical purpose of reducing costs to avoid tuition increases as best as possible. The alternative would be to employ individuals for these roles and positions at a cost that would have a significant impact on our operating budget.

The changes to the 2016/2017 PPH Program include the following;

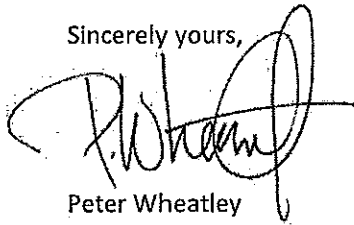
- The new Parent Participation program will launch on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.
- The new program will be accessible online.
- Additional information about the new PPH program will be available at our AGM in April, 2015 and on our website after our AGM.
- The Parent Participation Hours will increase from 30 to 40 hours to better meet the needs of our school.
- The rate remains unchanged at \$20/hour. The PPH fee, per year, to opt-out of participation hours has changed from \$600 to \$800. The option to participate remains the choice of each family.
- The 50% deposit held by the school, due from all new registrants, has increased to \$400. Families with children already in the school who have paid the previous deposit of \$300 will be required to provide a cheque of \$100 to be included in their 2016-2017 registration package. As with previous years, this \$400 deposit is returned to each family when they graduate out of the school.
- The program has been re-modulated into categories, with a Category Co-ordinator appointed to organize and fulfill the duties of the category. Each Co-ordinator position merits up to 40 PPH per year.
- There will be a compulsory 5 hour commitment to Traffic and Playground supervision per family per year.
- Parents will be required to visit the web-based database to book their activities and number of hours to volunteer throughout the year. This enables families to map out how their hours will be distributed throughout the year. Each post will be on a first come, first served basis.
- Once a task is completed, parents will be able to log their hours online, and have them approved by the supervising Category Co-ordinator.

- Each classroom will now have a school community activity for which they will be responsible.
- Each classroom will have a classroom parent who will be responsible for communication and co-ordination of classroom information and activities between the Administration and the parents. (This will be an excellent option to fulfil hours from home)
- Failure to fulfil the obligation of Category Co-ordinator or Classroom Parent, for the full duration of the term, will be penalized on a prorated basis as determined by the Classroom Teacher and the PEC.
- There will be a penalty to the cost of \$20/hour volunteered for failure to fulfil a volunteer obligation. Participating parents are encouraged to inform Category Co-ordinators and look for a parent substitute well in advance, if they will be unable to fulfil a volunteer commitment to avoid a penalty.

Active participation provides positive role modeling for our children, teaching them the value of helping others. The new PPH program will show our children our special gifts and in turn build a stronger, more organized community.

While we realize these new changes will be an adjustment for everyone, the PEC and Our Lady of Fatima School look forward to an amicable and respectful environment as we launch this new PPH program in June. We appreciate your patience as we work through this program and encourage you to attend our AGM in April (see school calendar for date) for more information.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Wheatley', written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Peter Wheatley  
PEC Chairperson

École Notre Dame de Fatima - Our Lady of Fatima School