

ELEMENTARY PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY DAY – NOVEMBER 24, 2023

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

School Improvement Planning – Mathematics Focus

Audience: All Staff

Date	November 24, 2023
Length	1.5 Hours
Topic	School Improvement Planning - Mathematics Focus
Entity Hosting	Niagara Catholic DSB
Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s)	Elementary School Principal & School Improvement Team Members
Description	<p>This session will be facilitated by the school principal and will focus on key aspects of each school's Math Achievement Action Plan. It will include opportunities for the development of content knowledge for teaching mathematics, unpacking curriculum expectations and high-impact instructional practices and actionable ways to support students' mathematical thinking.</p>

Mental Health Workshop

Audience: All Staff

Date	November 24, 2023
Length	1.5 hours
Topic	Mental Health and Well-Being: Creating a Trauma informed Classroom and School
Entity Hosting	Niagara Catholic DSB
Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s)	Mental Health Team
Description	<p>Niagara Catholic's Mental Health Team (Mental Health Lead and Social Workers) will lead three, 1.5 hour sessions for all grades K-6 Elementary teachers focused on mental health and well-being. They will focus on creating trauma-informed classrooms and schools, in alignment with the Board's Mental Health and Well-Being Strategy. All teachers will learn about the impact of trauma on the brain, and how it impacts our student learning. In this session, educators will explore how to create trauma-informed spaces for all students, including the use of practical strategies for the classroom. The team will also explore how to ensure students can demonstrate help-seeking behaviors and identify community and local resources for support.</p>

Human Development & Sexual Health Workshop

Audience: Grades 7 & 8 Educators

Date	November 24, 2023
Length	Enter 1.5
Topic	Human Development and Sexual Health (for Grades 7 & 8 Teachers Only)
Entity Hosting	Niagara Catholic DSB
Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s)	Niagara Public Health Nurses
Description	Niagara Public Health nurses will work with Grade 7 and 8 teachers to review the content in the Human Development and Sexual Health expectations, how those expectations overlap with and should be presented through our Family Life Created Sexual: Male and Female expectations. Public Health will highlight resources they have available and how they can support teachers when presenting these topics.

Exploring The Arts

Location: Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts

Audience: Itinerant Arts Teachers

Date	November 24, 2023
Length	Full Day
Topic	Exploring The Arts - Elementary
Entity Hosting	Niagara Catholic DSB
Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s)	Kodaly Society of Ontario, Noteflight Learn
Description	<p>Elementary Itinerant Music Teachers will participate in a full day of learning at the Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts. Educators will partake in an engaging workshop that delves into the Kodály method. This workshop offers a hands-on experience to explore Zoltán Kodály's groundbreaking approach to music education. Participants will immerse themselves in the foundational principles of sequential skill development and aural training through interactive activities and practical demonstrations. Whether a seasoned educator or a newcomer to the Kodály method, attendees will gain valuable insights and techniques to incorporate into their classrooms, fostering a profound understanding and love for music among their students. Educators will also be introduced to the Noteflight Learn program and will explore how to bring this technology for music education into the classroom to allow students the opportunity to notate the music they create.</p> <p>Elementary Itinerant Drama, Dance, and Visual Arts teachers will participate in a full day of learning at the Shaw Festival. Participants will have the opportunity to experience workshops on topics such as presentation/communication skills, gamification/roleplay, improvisation as a life skill, 'found object' puppetry, and directing effectively. Teachers will leave energized and armed with resources to use in the classroom setting and receive information about The Shaw's programming for schools and youth.</p>

All About U & I: Building Universal and Inclusive Supports for Niagara Catholic Students

Location: Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School

Audience: Educational Resource Teachers, Educational Assistants, and Intervenors

Date	November 24, 2023
Length	2.5 Hours
Topic	All About U & I: Building universal and inclusive supports for Niagara Catholic students
Entity Hosting	Niagara Catholic DSB (Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School)
Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s)	Nadya Tymochenko, Partner, Miller Thomson Rick Hansen Foundation Difference Makers Student Support Department Staff
Description Educational Resource Teachers, Special Education Class Teachers, Educational Assistants, and Intervenors will all participate in the day's activity. Keynote speakers Nadya Tymochenko, Partner, Miller Thomson and a Difference Maker from the Rick Hansen Foundation will shed light on the unique challenges education workers face when considering accessibility standards and incorporating universal and inclusive supports for students, as well as celebrating the possibilities we bring to students when we build communities where everyone can go achieve their full potential without barriers. A hands-on portion of the day, Making universal support visual, will engage participants lived experiences to identify how to maximize universal visual supports for students with multiple needs, across both elementary and secondary panels.	

Using Diagnostic Data to Support Instruction in the Grade 3-8 Classroom

Audience: Grades 3 – 8 Educators

Date	November 24, 2023
Length	1.5 Hours
Topic	Using Diagnostic Data to support instruction in the Grade 3-8 classroom
Entity Hosting	Niagara Catholic DSB
Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s)	Andrea Stranges, Alison Maroney, Deanna Desson, Lara van Riesen
Description:	Educators will engage in professional learning that will support them in the use of diagnostic assessments in the classroom. Administration and data analysis will be a focus of this learning session. Key learning will be centered around how to use data to make instructional decisions. This knowledge will support educators in the implementation of the 2023 Language Curriculum. Evidence-based teaching strategies will be presented to all participants.

Using Diagnostic Data to Support Instruction in the Grade K-2 Classroom

Audience: Grades K – 2 Educators

Date	November 24, 2023
Length	1.5 Hours
Topic	Using Diagnostic Data to Support Instruction in the Grade K-2 Classroom
Entity Hosting	Niagara Catholic DSB
Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s)	Rose Gentilcore, Diane Bishop, Lisa Clark and Lead Primary Educators
Description:	Key learnings of this session will unpack the “what”, “why” and “how” of diagnostic instruction in the early years and primary classrooms. Connections will be made regarding how to use the data to implement targeted small group instruction in the daily structured literacy block. Data analysis for the purposes of gap closing and skill acquisition will be an important element of this learning session.

Literacy Learning in French Immersion

Audience: French Immersion Teachers

Date	November 24, 2023
Length	1.5 Hours French Immersion
Topic	Literacy Learning
Entity Hosting	Niagara Catholic DSB
Presenter(s)/Facilitator(s)	Mary Vetere
Description:	The session will focus on integrating all strands of the literacy curriculum through various instructional routines with a particular focus on summarizing from K-8. What does structured literacy look like from K-8 and how do we differentiate for each division?