



TCDSB KEY MESSAGES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES REGARDING BILL 13

- Bullying, in any form, is unacceptable. At the core of our Catholic beliefs is to welcome every person with love and respect.
- Bill 13 is now the law in Ontario. Our school board will not ask its principals to break the law.
- Some students in a few schools may ask to identify a club as a "GSA". Our concern has always been about the content more so than the term. So the name will be accepted by the principal, if requested by the students.
- The law does not remove the right of our school principals to ensure the appropriateness of materials used in the school, and that they continue to be consistent with Catholic values.
- The Respecting Difference information created for Catholic schools provides guidelines for ensuring that student-led groups to combat bullying reflect Catholic values and adhere to Ontario Education Ministry guidelines.
- The Toronto Catholic District School Board was a recognized leader in helping students fight bullying before Bill 13, and we will continue to be a leader in this area.
- Our concern and focus is always on the well-being of the student. Catholics will continue to teach our students in a way that is in accordance with our faith, to ensure a safe and welcoming school community.