



PATRICK FOGARTY CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents of PF students

Thank you for a wonderful start up to the 2016-2017 school year. Our board and school theme this year is Celebrating God's Family. Hopefully all students have settled in and as always if there are any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school. As the week draws to a close we want to clarify a uniform issue.

PF staff works closely with our parent council to establish a uniform policy. All high schools within SMCDSB go through an open/public procurement process to establish a uniform vendor. The Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board's current official uniform vendor is DGN Kilters. Through the public tender process, the board's goal is to find a vendor who provides a quality product, which is backed by the school and the board office. Our vendor provides refunds and exchanges and our board supports us if/when there are issues with the product and/or service. Our vendor also works closely with our school to ensure that the uniform is meeting expectations outlined in our uniform policy, i.e., changes and expectations outlined in the policy are reflected in the product that is offered by the vendor. We are a school that has a uniform and not a dress code and it is important that we maintain consistency with the brand and quality.

Ultimately, we want our children to feel good about themselves and be proud to be part of the PF community and we feel that this is best achieved when students are wearing an approved and consistent product. Last year, in consultation with our parent council, we updated our uniform policy to allow students to wear black dress pants, walking shorts and capris without the PF logo. The skort is also being phased out and DGN no longer provides this product. It has come to our attention, that some students/parents have purchased products that may not meet our uniform policy, including the skort. For parents who have purchased a skort our intention is to not create any undue financial hardship. Because some of you are unable to return the skort we will allow it to be worn this year. On a go forward basis, we will phase out the skort beginning Sept 2017 for next year's Grade 9s and 10s. We encourage all parents to carefully review our uniform policy prior to making purchases and to use our approved vendor who is currently available Wednesdays in the school foyer from 11 to 4 p.m.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Carolyn Healy