

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Peel District School Board Honours 28 Students, Staff and Community Leaders at Annual Awards of Excellence

Mississauga, ON – May 9, 2025 - In celebration of Education Week, themed “[Igniting Minds, Inspiring Futures](#),” Peel District School Board proudly announced 28 award recipients for their exceptional contribution to public education across five key categories: Excellence in Community of Care; Excellence in Innovation in Education; Excellence in Sustainability in Education; Excellence in Equity in Education; and Excellence in Education.

This year’s honourees include dedicated staff, visionary students, and passionate community members whose efforts are making a lasting difference in the lives of students and in the broader educational landscape.

“These award recipients reflect the very best of what education can offer—compassion, creativity, innovation and collaboration,” said David Green, Chair of the Board. “We are incredibly proud to celebrate those who go above and beyond to ensure that every student has the opportunity to succeed.”

Among the recipients is Loi Lam, Principal of Chinguacousy Secondary School, whose leadership and commitment to empowering staff and students has led to a notable increase in enrolment and a renewed sense of purpose within the school community. Also recognized are a group of four students from Harold M. Brathwaite Secondary School, who developed Questify, a groundbreaking app to personalize learning that impressed investors at a recent conference in Cambridge, where they successfully secured funding to expand their vision. And Irene Flemmings, a devoted advocate from the Bramalea area, received accolades for her endless support of students, particularly those new to Canada or facing financial hardship—a reminder that their community believes in their potential and is always there to support their journey.

Rashmi Swarup, Director of Education, added, “The Awards of Excellence shine a light on the people who are shaping the future of education in Peel. In classrooms, worksites, and out in the community, these remarkable recipients are creating learning environments where every student feels valued, supported, and inspired.”

The following 28 recipients were presented with an Award of Excellence:

Excellence in Education

Name	Title	Location
Loi Lam	Principal	Chinguacousy Secondary School
Stephen Lim	Teacher	Ray Lawson Public School
Ramanpreet Lotey	Head, Curriculum	Sandalwood Heights Secondary School
Kelly Snyder	Head, Curriculum	Turner Fenton Secondary School
Kim Thomas	Resource Teacher	Leadership Development and School Partnership
Shelley Wong	Head, Curriculum	Brampton Centennial Secondary School

Excellence in Equity in Education

Name	Title	Location
Gurpreet Dhaliwal	Teacher	Fletcher's Meadow Secondary School
Corinne Dubois	Teacher	Balmoral Drive Senior Public School
Janet Jackowski	Coordinating Principal	Safety and Well Being
Sumble Kaukab	Coordinating Principal	Curriculum and School Improvement
Aisha Yusuf	Student	Jean Augustine Secondary School
Omar Zia	Principal	The Woodlands Secondary School
Hazel Ann Francis	Teacher	Cawthra Park Secondary School

Community of Care

Name	Title	Location
Mohammad Faiq Ali	Student	Harold M. Brathwaite Secondary School
Andrew Bryce	Head Custodian	Folkstone Public School
Aman Chaudhri	Teacher	Aylesbury Public School
Ilene Flemmings	Community Member	Balmoral Drive Senior Public School
Gillian Mortenson	Teacher	John Fraser Secondary School
Kevin Sebastian	Principal	Balmoral Drive Senior Public School
Heather Sinclair	Teacher	John Fraser Secondary School
Alisa Cheddi	Community Member	Earncliffe Senior Public School

Excellence in Innovation in Education

Name	Title	Location
Akshat Goenka	Student	Harold M. Brathwaite Secondary School
Madheswaran Kamal	Student	Harold M. Brathwaite Secondary School
Meenal Kapoor	Teacher	Williams Parkway Senior Public School
Kavya Patel	Student	Harold M. Brathwaite Secondary School
Vynavin Vinod	Student	Harold M. Brathwaite Secondary School

Excellence in Sustainability in Education

Name	Title	Location
Laura Gibson	Teacher	SouthFields Village Public School
Heidi Hainz	Teacher	James Bolton Public School

The awards celebration to honour these exceptional contributions was held at the Peel Board's central offices. Musical entertainment was provided by talented student performers from Fletcher's Meadow Secondary School and Pte. Buckam Singh Public School, adding a special touch of school spirit to the event.

In addition, during Education Week almost 1,000 staff, students, volunteers, and community members were recognized with Awards of Distinction for their outstanding contributions to schools and worksites across the region.

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About Peel District School Board

Peel District School Board (PDSB) is a diverse board that serves nearly 148,000+ students in 262 schools across Brampton, Caledon, and Mississauga. PDSB is the second largest school board in Canada and the largest employer in Peel Region. Learn more at www.peelschools.org and connect with us on [X](#) (formerly Twitter), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

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