

OUR MISSION

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.
We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.

OUR VISION

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world
through witness, faith, innovation and action.



AGENDA ADDENDUM THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

PUBLIC SESSION

Garry Tanuan, Chair

Teresa Lubinski, Vice-Chair

Thursday, April 8, 2021

7:00 P.M.

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18. *Listing of Communications*

18.a. *From Councillor Joe Cressy, Chair, Toronto Board of Health regarding Phase 2 Vaccine Rollout in Targeted Toronto Neighbourhoods*

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TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

DELEGATION REGISTRATION FORM FOR STANDING OR OTHER COMMITTEES

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT ALL STANDING
COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE BEING RECORDED

For Board Use Only

Delegation No. _____

☐ Public Session

☐ Private Session

☐ Three (3) Minutes

Name	Monica and Daniel Greco
Committee	Student Achievement and Well-Being Catholic Education Human Resources
Date of Presentation	4/8/2021
Topic of Presentation	Purple Day recognition throughout the TCDSB
Topic or Issue	Raising awareness for Epilepsy aligned with a Canadian recognized event, Purple Day.
Details	Our daughter Emma, has been battling epilepsy since she was 7 months old and we have made it our goal to help continue raising awareness for this incurable disease. 1 in 100 Canadians are affected by epilepsy, which means Emma is not the only child in the TCDSB that faces these challenges. We would love to bring this to the forefront so that every staff and student know about epilepsy, what first aid to offer in the event of a seizure, and to help remove any stigma attached to a child/adult that suffers from epilepsy/seizure.< r>
Action Requested	To have March 26th recognized across the board and encourage staff and students to wear purple to help raise awareness and end the stigma associated with Epilepsy.
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	Yes
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	No
I am an official representative of student government	No
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	No
I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	Yes
Submittal Date	3/26/2021

April 8, 2021

Monica and Daniel Greco
5 Dalbeattie Avenue
Toronto, ON

Delegation | Purple Day Recognition through the Toronto Catholic District School Board

Good evening, everyone and Happy Easter.

My name is Monica Diaz-Greco. I am a teacher in the board and a parent of 2 young children attending All Saints Catholic School. I am joined tonight by my husband Daniel Greco and we are here to ask the board to recognize Purple Day, a day to wear purple in an effort to raise awareness about, and end the stigma associated with, epilepsy. We are happy to be here and advocate for this important day. Thank you for the opportunity.

In 2014, our youngest daughter Emma was diagnosed with a rare form of epilepsy and has been struggling with this disease ever since. She is now 7 years old. In the time since her diagnosis our family has had to overcome many obstacles. Indeed the journey has been long. As parents, you always want what is best for your children, and dealing with the unknowns of epilepsy have made that a challenge. The medical piece is difficult in and of itself. Navigating appointments, medications and tests is not something we would wish upon anyone. However, being a caregiver of someone with epilepsy also comes with a great deal of self-education and advocacy. Although we have often had to explain what epilepsy is to many, we have also found that we are not alone in this fight. We were surprised to learn that epilepsy is a lot more common in Canada than one might expect. In fact, 1 in 100 Canadians have epilepsy which means that 1 in 100 students/staff in our board have epilepsy. This does not include those who are living with, or affected by someone who has it. Through numerous conversations with fellow parents and educators, we have learned that

many children within the school system have similar challenges as our daughter. And, many of these challenges stem from the stigma associated with this disease. It is important to spread awareness of epilepsy to help combat these perceptions and create an inclusive learning environment for all. Having been involved within the epilepsy community since Emma was young, we know that we have to be advocates for her, as well as any other people struggling with this disease.

In 2008, in Nova Scotia, a young girl by the name of Cassidy Megan facing her own struggles with epilepsy decided to raise awareness and established Purple Day. Every year, on March 26, people around the world show their support by wearing purple in order to increase awareness and help end the stigma associated with this neurological disease. In 2012, through the Purple Day Act, the government of Canada supported this initiative and nationally recognized this day. We now respectfully ask the TCDSB trustees to embrace Purple Day and officially recognize it as a day within the system, whereby staff and students would be encouraged to wear purple to show support for the 1 in 100 people living with, or affected by, epilepsy.

We thank you once again for allowing us the opportunity to present tonight. Have a great evening and God bless!

Sincerely,

Monica and Daniel Greco



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Name	Julie Altomare-DiNunzio	
Committee	Student Achievement and Well-Being Catholic Education Human Resources	
Date of Presentation	4/8/2021	
Topic of Presentation	Return to School Update	
Topic or Issue	The plan to return to in-person learning following the April Break poses significant health risks to students and staff in our schools.	
Details	The number of confirmed COVID cases are significantly increasing in our schools. The Variants of Concern (VOCs) are much more contagious and pose greater health risks.	
Action Requested	That the Board, in collaboration with TECT, advocate for a transition to remote learning after the April Break.	
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	No	
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)	No	
I am an official representative of student government	No	
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization	Yes Toronto Elementary Catholic Teachers	
I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	Yes	
Submittal Date	4/4/2021	



TECT Delegation to the Board of Trustees April 8, 2021

I hope all of you had a safe and blessed Easter.

COVID-19 shows no signs of weakening as we now face a deadly third wave. Hospitalizations are surging. The Variants of Concern are more contagious and cause greater illness or severe disease.

As of today, 128 TCDSB schools have active cases – approximately 66% of our schools. There are 320 active student cases and 84 active staff cases. Each one of these cases is a child or an educator with a family; a family whose future may well be compromised by exposure to this dangerous virus.

Despite the impact of COVID-19 on our TCDSB communities, the government continues to say schools are safe. The government argues that most schools across the province do not have active cases and most staff and students are COVID free.

To cite province-wide percentages downplays the seriousness of the situation in our schools. Cases are surging in Toronto and more and more experts believe that schools may be the drivers of community transmission.

To minimize the risks that our students and educators will face if there is a return to in-person learning is unacceptable and alarming.

Now more than ever, we must act to better protect the health and safety of our students, teachers and families. We must continue to

advocate strongly for the extension of remote learning beyond April 19th .

Much can be accomplished, when the largest Catholic Board and the largest OECTA Unit present a unified message. Recently, our combined efforts impacted positively on the decision to transition to remote learning and the decision to start vaccinating front line education workers in Toronto – now we must ensure access to vaccinations for all our Toronto education workers.

These are indeed precarious times for us all. This is especially true for our Occasional Teacher members. During the period of remote learning, the Board has chosen to end call outs for Occasional Teachers. This not only limits their right to work and earn a living during these uncertain times but will also negatively impact programming for our students. We ask that the Board reconsider this decision and immediately act to reinstate the callout system to fill daily absences.

I am confident that by working together on these issues, we can better protect the health and safety of our school communities.



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Name	Deborah Nightingale	
Committee	Student Achievement and Well-Being Catholic Education Human Resources	
Date of Presentation	4/8/2021	
Topic of Presentation	Special Education: Completion of all tests/assessments, IPRCs & placement offers	
Topic or Issue	Urgent need to complete all outstanding tests/assessments, IPRCs and offers of placement before school starts in September 2021 in order to reduce stress and disruption for students, families, classmates, teachers and schools.	
Details	<p>It is deeply concerning that the TCDSB is planning to delay many 2020-2021 IPRCs and placement offers until after school starts in September 2021. Also, Grade 4 testing for giftedness or other learning issues has not been scheduled for students attending the virtual school. Delays in administering these 1-hour tests will also delay the IPRCs and offers of placements for identified special education students. As you know, the Ministry of Education mandates that all IPRCs for all special education students be completed before the end of June. There is no reason why these students have to start school in September in the wrong placement. This unnecessarily adds uncertainty and chaos to the strain on families and children who have been through too much already this year.</p> <p>I will be submitting the full text of my delegation.</p>	
Action Requested	I am asking the board and staff to complete all testing and assessments, IPRCs and offers of placement before the end of June 2021.	
I am here as a delegate to speak only on my own behalf	Yes	
I am an official representative of the Catholic School Parent Committee(CSPC)		
I am an official representative of student government		
I am here as a spokesperson for another group or organization		
I have read, understand and agree to comply with the rules for Delegations as per the TCDSB Delegations Policy T14	Yes	
Submittal Date	4/2/2021	

Good evening. I am asking the board to make sure all students get what they need this year, the support they're entitled to, so they can reach their potential and have a better year starting in September. The TCDSB says it is committed to assessing and placing all special education students each year but it has already planned to delay this year's OLSAT-8 testing for all Grade 4's as well as the related results, IPRCs, and placement offers.

Last year, COVID delayed things. This year, we've had lots of time to figure it out. If we count backwards:

- All special education students, including those Grade 4's being tested this year and identified as gifted, deserve to start school on September 7 in the appropriate program, with the necessary supports.
- For students and teachers to be ready at the start of September, parents need to get their children's offers of placement in early June so the families can reply before the end of June.
- This means conducting Identification, Placement & Review Committee meetings for all identified Grade 4's in May. If you're promising to do 200 IPRCs on an expedited basis in the fall, you can also do this in May, and save families a lot of needless chaos and stress.
- To run the May IPRCs, Grade 4 tests have to be administered before the end of April (which is 3 weeks from now).

So where are we?

- Testing started in March, just a few weeks ago, for a few Grade 4's attending "in person". As we learned this week, schools can shut down very fast.
- Yet the latest shut down offers a chance to pivot and simply test all remaining Grade 4's this month online.
- Other boards organized testing so that parents pick up the test at the home school, students open it on camera, they do the test with a teacher watching, and parents return the test in a sealed envelope.
- Remember, teachers conduct tests online daily with "virtual" students.
- Some parents of Grade 4's recently received a test date and letter saying "it is anticipated that the results of this assessment will be available in the Fall".

- At the March 24 SEAC meeting, staff said "we won't hold these current grade 4/next year Grade 5 IPRCs until the fall".
- It's already been decided despite the clear obligation and reminders from the Ministry of Education to complete all IPRCs before end of this schoolyear (June 2021).
- It's not okay to make parents wait until the fall. Once again, this cannot wait until "normal operations resume".
- Instead of staff writing a report explaining why they can't do this on time, please just do this.
- The special education community wants to know that the mental health and well-being of these students matters. Parents, who have lost their jobs, their businesses, and turned on a dime whenever schools shut down or didn't reopen until late September, do not want their children's education delayed any further.
- This is a very doable and reasonable request.
- You want to boost sanity and mental health? Get this work done by the end of June.
- On behalf of many students, their families, their classmates, and their teachers, support from Trustees and staff to complete this work by the end of June would be very much appreciated. Thank you very much.

Here is some brief history and background on this issue:

The Ministry of Education stated twice in at least two Memos that the Ministry expects that all IPRC's should have been completed on schedule, even if remotely. (A summary of these M of E memos are attached below for your reference.) The TCDSB and TDSB are the only 2 school boards in the province that did not meet this expectation in 2019-2020.

An IPRC, or "Identification, Placement & Review Committee" meeting is a half hour to hour long meeting that includes the student's parent, and typically also includes a principal, special education consultant, and/or psychologist, as appropriate. The purpose is to evaluate the student's Special Education needs, previously obtained assessments, and parent's preference, in order to identify a Special Education exceptionality, leading to a specified Placement and/or possible education supports.

Regulation 181/98 governs IPRCs, which are to be held every school year for Special Education students who seek them or are referred, in order to

confirm placements, typically for the following school year.

Excerpts from MOE Memos:

“The Ministry has sent two communications to school boards, on April 21, 2020 and May 27, 2020 with clear expectations regarding Identification, Placement and Review Committees (IPRC).

On April 21, 2020, it was written:

Boards are expected to continue to conduct annual reviews by IPRCs as set out under Ontario Regulation 181/98.

And on May 27, 2020, it was written:

As indicated in our previous memo, IPRCs should continue to conduct annual reviews. Any initial IPRC decisions that were in progress at the start of the school closure period should also continue. Going forward, as set out in Ontario Regulation 181/98, initial IPRCs may be requested by parents and/or initiated by boards following the appropriate processes.”



Daniel Di Giorgio
Trustee Ward 10

E-mail: Daniel.DiGiorgio@tcdsb.org

Voicemail: 416-512-3410

To: Student Achievement, April 8, 2021

From: Daniel Di Giorgio, Trustee Ward 10

Subject: Notice of Motion – International Languages

MOVED BY: Daniel Di Giorgio, Toronto Catholic District School Board

WHEREAS: The International Languages Program used to be offered in the “extended day” format. This meant that in elementary schools with IL, the school day schedule was extended by 30 minutes enabling the TCDSB to comply with Section 3(1) Reg 298 of the Education Act - Minimum of 5hrs(300min) a day of instructional programming;

WHEREAS: The existing “integrated day” delivery model appears to contradict the Education Act under the guise of a pilot program, approved by the Ministry of Education and previous Board of trustees, without a definitive ending date;

WHEREAS: Parents should be afforded a fair and reasonable opportunity to withdraw their child from a program which deprives their child of the Ministry mandated 300 minutes of core curriculum instruction;

WHEREAS: The existing International Languages Policy SP.05 has avoided any revision since 2003 (when the program was delivered in a different format) and has an unrealistic threshold of 90% for those communities wishing to withdraw from the program;

WHEREAS: Whereas I brought forward a suggested policy revision over 6 months ago but it has yet to be reviewed by the Governance and Policy Committee which the Board referred it to; and

WHEREAS: The Board, through a lack of action combined with the implicit approval of the Ministry of Education is violating a fundamental provision of the Education Act during a time when every minute of instructional time has arguably become increasingly valuable.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Any pending or new requests from a school community to review the viability of an existing IL program submitted prior to May 31st 2021, be eligible to survey their respective school communities under the terms approved by the previous Board of trustees for the survey conducted in 2018. (i.e. 67% return rate for results to be viable and 51% majority for the preferred selection); and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: That the Board of trustees suspend the above mentioned portions of policy SP.05 for these school communities to facilitate a fair and democratic survey and corresponding implementation in the 2021-2022 school year.

Daniel Di Giorgio,
Trustee, Ward 10



Norm Di Pasquale
Trustee Ward 9

E-mail: Norm.DiPasquale@tcdsb.org

Voicemail: 416-512-3402

To: Student Achievement and Well-Being Committee, April 8, 2021

From: Norm Di Pasquale, Trustee Ward 9

Subject: Notice of Motion: PURPLE DAY FOR EPILEPSY AWARENESS PROCLAMATION

MOVED BY: Norm Di Pasquale, Toronto Catholic District School Board

WHEREAS: Purple Day is a global effort dedicated to promoting epilepsy awareness in counties around the world;

WHEREAS: Purple Day was founded in 2008 by Cassidy Megan, a nine-year-old girl from Nova Scotia, who wanted people to know that if you have epilepsy, you are not alone;

WHEREAS: Epilepsy is one of the most common neurological conditions, estimated to affect more than 50 million people worldwide, and more than 300,000 people in Canada;

WHEREAS: The public is often unable to recognize the common seizure types, or how to respond with appropriate first aid; and

WHEREAS: Purple Day will be celebrated on March 26th annually to increase understanding, reduce stigma and improve the quality of life for people with epilepsy throughout the country and globally.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: TCDSB proclaim March 26th of every year “Purple Day” in an effort to raise epilepsy awareness at the TCDSB; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: TCDSB Students be encouraged to wear something purple in support of epilepsy awareness.

Norm Di Pasquale
Trustee, Ward 9

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 2021

Statement from Board of Health Chair Joe Cressy on Phase 2 vaccine rollout in targeted Toronto neighbourhoods

"Today we are providing an update on our Team Toronto Phase 2 vaccination plan, with one clear focus: vaccinate the most vulnerable in our city, as quickly as possible.

The COVID-19 variants, which are more transmissible and more dangerous, have changed the game. We need to get shots into the arms of those who are at greatest risk.

Our public health data has consistently demonstrated that the two factors that indicate vulnerability for serious illness and death from COVID-19 are your age, and where you live. Some neighbourhoods in our city, particularly in the northwest and northeast, have COVID rates that are more than 10 times higher than others. These same neighbourhoods are also home to a higher number of frontline and essential workers

To protect those at greatest risk, following consultation with the Province, we have adjusted our immunization strategy to focus on a targeted hot-spot neighbourhood and workplace approach. It's a plan to bring vaccines to the neighbourhoods that are hardest hit, and where frontline essential workers live. Our data-driven plan is a coordinated effort across our whole healthcare system, with Toronto hospitals and health care partners. It's a Team Toronto approach.

This is a three-part plan. First, based on today's Provincial announcement, we're updating our vaccine rollout to target hot-spot neighbourhoods in our city. In these 111 neighbourhoods, which have the highest incidence of COVID-19, we'll be working with the Province of Ontario and our healthcare partners to support a combination of mobile and pop-up clinics for residents age 18 and over to get vaccinated.

Second, working with our hospital partners, we're launching a pilot program to bring vaccines directly to select essential workplaces, so frontline workers can be vaccinated on-site.

Third, alongside our healthcare partners we're expanding our mobile and pop-up clinic capacity, while at the same time scaling up operations at our City-run mass immunization clinics by opening an additional three clinic locations (for a total of nine across the city).

This approach is about reaching people in their communities and their workplaces. It's about getting every dose to those in greatest need as quickly and strategically as possible. By continuing to adapt and evolve our vaccine rollout plans based on local needs and public health data, we can ensure that we are protecting people and helping to save lives."

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