#### **ADDENDUM**

# THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORONTO CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC SESSION

Michael Del Grande, Chair

Nancy Crawford, Vice-Chair

Thursday, October 22, 2015 7:00 P.M.

				Pages		
9.	Prese	ntations		C		
	9.c	Month	ly Report from Student Trustees for October 2015	1 - 3		
12.	Repor	ts Requi	iring Action			
	12.a	Admis	ssion and Placement of Elementary pupils	4 - 12		
15.	Matters Recommended by Statutory Committees of the Board					
	15.a	SEAC				
		15.a.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 21, 2015	13 - 20		
		1. SEAC recommends to the Board that:				
			a) On the day following SEAC's regular meeting, the recording secretary will circulate the draft minutes of the meeting to all voting members of SEAC.			
			b) All voting members of SEAC will review the minutes for accuracy and advise the recording secretary by email by 12:00 noon on the Monday following the meeting of his or her desired revisions to the minutes, if any, and/or confirming his or her approval of the minutes.			

- c) After the recording secretary has received notice of approval of the minutes from a majority of the members, the minutes will stand approved.
- d) In the event that a member has not advised the recording secretary of his or her approval of the minutes by 12:00 p.m. on the Monday following the meeting, approval by the member will be assumed.
- 2. SEAC recommends to the Board that a letter be sent to the Toronto Public Health Committee, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Social Services, with a copy to the SEACs of other Catholic Boards, requesting that funding be provided for hearing and vision testing to take place within the school setting immediately upon the registration of students.

#### 18. Communications

18.b From Geoff Feldman, Chair of CPIC, regarding Constituency Assistants

21

#### TRUSTEE REVIEW

#### **CSLIT September General Assembly**

Our September General Assembly took place on September 22, 2015 23 of 32 high schools in attendance. Students heard from a variety of fellow student leaders: former participants of the Tanzania Leadership trip, Robert Adragna, who pitched an Arctic-focused environmental conference, as well as members of CSLIT's Executive team who called the leaders to action by signing up for a sub-committee(s).

Interschool discussion was another important component of the evening. Schools were divided East, West and Central where they spoke on common issues of concern that CSLIT could take action on such as composting and further mental health awareness.

### Ontario Student Trustees' Association/Association des Élèves conseillers et conseillères de l'Ontario (OSTA-AECO)

From October 1st-4th, 2015, we attended the OSTA-AECO Fall General Meeting at the Toronto Mariott Downtown Eaton Centre. With over 40 public, Catholic, and French school boards in attendance, the conference was a great transition into the role of Student Trustee. We had the opportunity to network with other Student Trustees, hear from keynote speakers (including Bruce Rodrigues, CEO of EQAO as well as Janet Ecker, former Minister of Education) and contribute to discussion of common school-board goals and issues.

As members of the Catholic Board Council, we have begun planning for the annual Catholic Youth Day, with the intention of a Province-wide mass as well as a social justice initiative. In speaking with CSLIT's Faith Ambassador, this will be in collaboration with the Catholic Teacher's Centre as well as Development and Peace.

#### When Faith Meets Pedagogy

This Thursday, October 22, 2015, we will host the biennual When Faith Meets Pedagogy Youth Forum will be taking place. Presented by the Catholic Curriculum Corporation, this year's theme is *Embraced, Centred, & Gathered as God's Family*.

Over 1400 students will be in attendance from many Southern Ontario school boards. It will be an opportunity to participate in liturgy as well as network with other Catholic leaders across the province.

The day consists of keynote speakers including Marc Kielberger, as well as Luke Stocking of Development and Peace, Nina Nyamayaro of Romero House and David Wells of the Diocese of Plymouth, England.

Debrief will follow each of these keynote speakers to ensure that our Catholic Call to Serve resonates amongst student leaders. Over the summer during the Catholic Leadership Camp Olympia week, province-wide student leaders were trained to facilitate these discussions.

#### **CSLIT EXECUTIVE REVIEW**

The **Equity** Subcommittee had their first meeting October 9th. They planned a retreat at **L'Arche Daybreak** on November 3rd. L'Arche Daybreak is an international organization that provides communities and homes for individuals with disabilities and their caretakers. This retreat will bring together student leaders and l'arche community members through dialogue, games, and various activities in a safe and positive way. They are also planning possible events including an Inclusion and Belonging Retreat and De-Stress Week for Mental Health.

The **Social Affairs** Subcommittee has established all the events that they are planning to organize such as the CSLIT Gala, CSLIT Social and CSLIT BBQ. and a new collaborating event with the Children's Aid Foundation. The Director of Social Affairs and one of the student trustees will attend a scheduled meeting with a representative from Children's Aid to discuss further details, dates, themes etc.

The **Angel Foundation** Subcommittee has been brainstorming new ways to fundraise and raise awareness about AFL. The CSLIT executive will be attending and volunteering their time to set up for The Evening to Feed the Soul Gala.

The **Faith** Subcommittee has been discussing faith based issues within their schools and why they value our Catholic Board. They have planned a can food drive in support of St.Francis Table and a clothing drive for the St. Vincent de Paul Society in the winter.

The **Social Justice** Subcommittee has taken on a campaign by **Development and Peace**, one of TCDSB's official charities called "Create a Climate of Change". This campaign aims to help the poorest people who suffer from intensive climate change. Their goal is to distribute postcards to all high

schools and present a petition to the House of Commons. Chaminade and Carter are already signing 1,750 postcards. November 12<sup>th</sup> is the D&P Student Day.

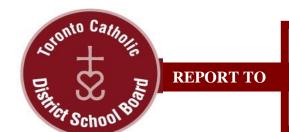
**E- CSLIT Directors** had their first E-CSLIT meeting on October 7th. They did various activities and challenges with the student leaders and created a friendly competition for Teachers. They posted a blog post recap of their meeting and posted photos on the catholic studentleadership.com website.

#### **Public Relations Team**

Recently, we have been granted access to the TCDSB student council emails and will distribute at the upcoming Presidents' council. These emails will facilitate communication amongst all of our school councils.

They are reconstructing a brand new CSLIT website that includes a calendar, volunteer and scholarship opportunities, information about what is going on within our schools and school board.

They have a page of statements on the importance of Catholic Leadership from various public figures such as Director of Education: Angela Gauthier, NDP candidate and former Student Trustee: Natalie Rizzo, Student Leadership Coordinator: Gregory Rogers, Jean Vanier and many more.



#### **REGULAR BOARD**

#### ADMISSION AND PLACEMENT OF ELEMENTARY PUPILS

"In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps."

Proverbs 16:9 (NIV)

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review			
October 20, 2015	October 22, 2015	Click here to enter a date.			
John Volek, Senior Coordinator Planning Services Mario Silva, Comptroller, Planning and Development Services					
RECOMMENDATION REPORT					

#### Vision:

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

#### Mission:

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



G. Poole

Associate Director of Academic Affairs

A. Sangiorgio

Associate Director of Planning and Facilities

Angela Gauthier Director of Education

#### A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff have investigated the elementary admissions process for several school boards across the Province and the Country, in an effort to understand how their processes differ from the TCDSB's current elementary admissions model. The results revealed that the overwhelming majority of Boards employ a model very similar to the TCDSB—one that includes fixed attendance boundaries, a series of priorities, and the use of time and date of application to establish cut-offs. The Calgary District School Board is the only board out of 20 surveyed with a different elementary admissions model.

Arising from dialogue and direction from the October 13, 2015 Governance and Policy Committee meeting, staff have summarized two alternate elementary admissions priority models that attempt to incorporate the criteria of "walk zones" and the geographic distance between home address and school.

The option of simply considering admitting everybody regardless of where they live was also suggested.

#### **B.** PURPOSE

To provide a simple, easy-to-read explanation of the current elementary admissions policy and two alternate options for the Board to evaluate and discuss.

#### C. BACKGROUND

- 1. At the Governance and Policy Committee meeting of October 13, 2015, staff were directed to follow-up with 3 school boards that were previously surveyed by the Planning Department to confirm their admissions policies and to determine whether or not they employ a "lottery system" as part of their admissions protocol. An additional board was also surveyed.
- 2. The school boards in question are the Calgary District School Board, the Ottawa Catholic District School Board, the Toronto District School Board and the Simcoe County District School Board.

#### **Calgary District School Board**

In January of each year, elementary students who fall within designated "walk zones" are admitted along with all siblings. In February of each year, all students who fall within their larger designated "bus zones", but outside of the designated walk zones, are admitted using a lottery system regardless of date and time of their application. Students are selected from this lottery until all remaining classroom spaces are filled. Students outside of designated bus zones are not admitted except under exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the local area Superintendent.

This process has been in place for over 20 years and is widely considered "effective and fair" as it is a long-standing, well understood system-wide process. However, not all parents are satisfied, especially those that apply early, reside within the respective bus zones and then submit to a lottery ("luck") to secure a spot for their children at their designated home school.

Aside from the uncertainty in eligibility, another downside to this model is that designated over-flow schools may not be close by.

There are no plans to change this process in the near future.

#### Ottawa Catholic District School Board

This Board does not employ a lottery system for student registration. Its model is similar to the TCDSB's current elementary admissions process, utilizing boundaries and a series of priorities as criteria for eligibility. There are no plans to change this process in the near future.

#### **Simcoe County District School Board**

This Board does not employ a lottery system for student registration. Their model is similar to the TCDSB's current elementary admissions process, utilizing boundaries and a series of priorities as criteria for eligibility. There are no plans to change this process in the near future.

#### **Toronto District School Board**

TDSB's model is similar to the TCDSB's current elementary admissions model, utilizing boundaries and a series of priorities as criteria for eligibility.

However, the TDSB also uses a lottery system for special optional attendance areas <u>only</u>. Students are selected from a lottery until all remaining classroom spaces are filled. This lottery process is similar to the unique optional attendance areas recently established at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The TDSB has no plans to change their admissions process in the near future.

- 3. The TCDSB's current Elementary Admissions Policy utilizes a model which consists of the following priority sequence of steps:
  - 1. All siblings are admitted, regardless of their home address, where space permits.
  - 2. **If** there's available space, students whose primary residence falls within the Board approved boundary are admitted.
  - 3. **If** there's available space, students registered at a licensed child care within the Board approved boundary are admitted.
  - 4. **If** there's available space, students in a non-licensed (private) child care within the Board approved boundary are admitted.
  - 5. **If** there's available space, students residing outside the Board approved boundary, within the City Toronto, are admitted.
  - 6. Lastly, **if** there's available space, students from outside the City of Toronto are admitted.
- 4. The TCDSB's elementary admissions priorities noted above are fully consistent with the TDSB.
- 5. Furthermore, the TCDSB's current elementary admissions priorities, as noted above, are filtered by time and date of application ("time and date stamp"). This simply means that where overall demand for admission, at any priority level, exceeds available classroom space, students are admitted

- based on the time and date of their completed application until all remaining classroom spaces are filled.
- 6. In-boundary students who are unsuccessful in gaining admission to their designated home school are given the option of being placed on a waitlist in order of priority and by time and date of application. At a designated time each year, the Board "releases the waitlist" and any space that becomes available (for whatever reason) will be offered to a student on the waitlist by order of priority and the time and date of their completed application.
- 7. There are no guarantees of admission at any level of priority, however, the Planning and Facilities department will make every effort to ensure that space at any school is fully utilized. Furthermore, any school where there is potential for the temporary placement of portables will be assessed in an effort to accommodate as many students as possible. Facilities staff will also assess schools with pupil accommodation challenges and make any suggestions for internal modifications in an effort to increase overall capacity. The overriding objective is to accommodate all in-boundary students wherever possible.
  - 8. Furthermore, opportunities for boundary adjustments will be considered in an effort to keep pace with demographic change. The Governance and Policy Committee has recommended to Board changes to the Elementary School Attendance Boundary Policy in an effort to expedite the review process. However, it is important to note that unless the Board of Trustees are prepared to waive the common practice of grandfathering existing out-of-boundary enrolled students, no boundary adjustment, on any scale, will have sizeable or significant impacts on enrolment for several years. This is because out-of-boundary grandfathered students must graduate out of the school to free-up space for new in-boundary students and any new siblings.
- 9. It is important to raise the fact that the Board's current Elementary Admissions Policy was the result of several comprehensive public consultations in May of 2014. Any substantive changes to the current admissions policy will require further public consultation and feedback.
- 10. Some of the major themes that originated from the public consultation process in May of 2014 were:

- a. Geographic boundaries are a means to filter entrance eligibility and will ultimately result in a more efficient use of school facilities.
- b. Boundaries and "time and date stamp" criteria help administrators and school staff manage admissions and eases communication.
- c. Boundaries and "time and date stamp" criteria allow for greater public transparency.
- d. Boundaries and "time and date stamp" criteria foster a greater sense of community among eligible students and families.
- e. Boundaries limit the need to redirect students who are in-boundary even if a school is oversubscribed.
- f. Boundaries are constructed by staff in an objective and practical manner and do not take into consideration socio-economic factors, and therefore allow for a heterogeneous student population—this is consistent with the Catholic value of inclusivity.
- g. Boundaries in the admissions process does not discriminate, but rather provides an equitable approach to determine eligibility.
- 11. Based on Trustee input, staff have assembled two alternate elementary admissions policy scenarios below, for review and discussion. Please note that neither of the following options are being recommended for approval.

#### Elementary Admissions Policy Priorities – Scenario 1

Note: Prior to the start of the elementary admissions process, the Principal, in consultation with the local area Superintendent and the Planning Department, will establish an appropriate "holdback" of classroom spaces, specific to their experiences and professional judgement, in an effort to accommodate inboundary late applications.

- 1. In January of each year, all siblings are admitted, regardless of their home address, where space permits. Every opportunity will be made to ensure that all siblings are admitted.
- 2. If there's available space, students whose primary residence falls within their Board approved boundary are admitted. This window of registration ends on the last business day of April. If demand exceeds available space, students are offered the opportunity to be placed on a wait-list for consideration in June.

- 3. On the last business day of June, a second registration opportunity is made available to accommodate wait-listed in-boundary students (as per priority #2 above) AND <u>in-boundary</u> students who have completed an application AFTER the original April registration cut-off.
  - a. Students will be automatically selected based on the distance between their home address and the school.
  - b. The number of students selected for admission will be based on the number of available classroom spaces as per the established holdback. Ties (*multiple students at the same distance*) will be decided by "time and date stamp" of completed application.
  - c. If demand exceeds available space, students will be offered redirection to a nearby school with space. Admissions staff will continue to work diligently so that students are appropriately accommodated.
- 4. **If** there's available space, students registered at a licensed child care within the Board approved boundary are admitted.
  - a. **If** demand exceeds available space, students will be offered redirection to a nearby school with space. Admissions staff will work diligently so that students are appropriately accommodated.
- 5. **If** there's available space, students in a non-licensed (private) child care within the Board approved boundary are admitted.
  - a. **If** demand exceeds available space, students will be offered redirection to a nearby school with space. Admissions staff will work diligently so that students are appropriately accommodated.
- 6. **If** there's available space, students residing anywhere outside the Board approved boundary, within the City of Toronto, are admitted.
- 7. Lastly, **if** there's available space, students from outside the City of Toronto are admitted.

#### Elementary Admissions Policy Priorities – Scenario 2

Note: Prior to the start of the elementary admissions process, the Principal, in consultation with the local area Superintendent and the Planning Department, will establish an appropriate "holdback" of classroom spaces, specific to their

experiences and professional judgement, in an effort to accommodate inboundary late applications.

- 1. In January of each year, all siblings are admitted, regardless of their home address, where space permits. Every opportunity will be made to ensure that all siblings are admitted.
- 2. If there's available space, students whose primary residence falls within their Board approved 1 km Walk Zone boundary (an established subboundary within the larger boundary) are admitted. This window of registration ends on the last business day of April. If demand exceeds available space, students are offered the opportunity to be placed on a wait-list for consideration in June.
- 3. If there's available space, students whose primary residence falls within their Board approved boundary and <u>outside</u> the 1 km Walk Zone boundary are admitted. This window of registration ends on the last business day of April. If demand exceeds available space, students are offered the opportunity to be placed on a wait-list for consideration in June.
- 4. On the last business day of June, a second registration opportunity is made available to accommodate wait-listed in-boundary students (as per priority #2 and #3 above) AND <u>in-boundary</u> students who have completed an application AFTER the original April registration cut-off.
  - a. Students will be automatically selected based on the distance between their home address and the school.
  - b. The number of students selected for admission will be based on the number of available classroom spaces as per the established holdback. Ties (*multiple students at the same distance*) will be decided by "time and date stamp" of completed application.
  - c. If demand exceeds available space, students will be offered redirection to a nearby school with space. Admissions staff will work diligently so that students are appropriately accommodated.
- 5. **If** there's available space, students registered at a licensed child care within the Board approved boundary are admitted.

- a. **If** demand exceeds available space, students will be offered redirection to a nearby school with space. Admissions staff will work diligently so that students are appropriately accommodated.
- 6. **If** there's available space, students in a non-licensed (private) child care within the Board approved boundary are admitted.
  - a. **If** demand exceeds available space, students will be offered redirection to a nearby school with space. Admissions staff will work diligently so that students are appropriately accommodated.
- 7. **If** there's available space, students residing anywhere outside the Board approved boundary, within the City of Toronto, are admitted.
- 8. Lastly, **if** there's available space, students from outside the City of Toronto are admitted.

#### D. RECOMMENDATION

That the Director of Education continue to monitor the impact of the current admissions process and assess its implementation after two full admissions cycles are completed.

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### **HELD WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

#### **PUBLIC SESSION**

#### PRESENT:

Marilyn Taylor, Chair Dario Imbrogno John MacKenzie Sandra Mastronardi

Mary Pugh

Giselle Romanino Raul Vomisescu Glenn Webster

Trustees A. Andrachuk

A. Kennedy

G. Tanuan, Vice Chair

Prayers were offered for Odie Pariselli, Coordinator of Special Services and for the niece of Trustee Andrachuk who passed away recently.

MOVED by Trustee Andrachuk, seconded by Trustee Tanuan, that the agenda, as amended, be approved.

**CARRIED** 

MOVED by Trustee Andrachuk, seconded by Sandra Mastronardi, that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 16, 2015 be approved,

**CARRIED** 

MOVED by Trustee Tanuan, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that item 9e) be adopted as follows:

9e) Communication from Paul Matthews, General Legal Counsel regarding Approval of the Special Education Advisory Committee ("SEAC")
Minutes

SEAC recommends to the Board that:

- 1. On the day following SEAC's regular meeting, the recording secretary will circulate the draft minutes of the meeting to all voting members of SEAC.
- 2. All voting members of SEAC will review the minutes for accuracy and advise the recording secretary by email of his or her desired revisions to the minutes, if any, and/or confirming his or her approval of the minutes.
- 3. After the recording secretary has received notice of approval of the minutes from a majority of the members, the minutes will stand approved.
- 4. In the event that a member has not advised the recording secretary of his or her approval of the minutes by 12:00 p.m. on the Monday following the meeting, approval by the member will be assumed.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Mary Pugh, seconded by Trustee Andrachuk, to include the words "by 12:00 noon on the Monday following the meeting" to part 2 of the Motion after the words "by email".

On the vote being taken, the Amendment was declared

**CARRIED** 

On the vote being taken, the Motion, as Amended, was declared

**CARRIED** 

MOVED by Giselle Romanino, seconded by John MacKenzie, that item 12a) be adopted as follows:

12a) Report regarding Response to Special Education Advisory Committee Inquiries of May 13, 2015 – received with a direction to staff to come back with additional information with respect to SEAC members sitting on other Committees such as the Safe Schools Committee.

**CARRIED** 

Sandra Mastronardi to provide the Director with the names of the Boards that allow members of SEAC to sit on other Committees.

Vincent Burzotta - Superintendent, Safe Schools, Alternative Education and School Support Lead, Nadia Adragna, Principal of Safe Schools and Todd Visinki, Vice Principal of Safe Schools, made a presentation to the Committee regarding Safe Schools Report

MOVED by Sandra Mastronardi, seconded by Dario Imbrogno, that the presentation by Vincent Burzotta, Superintendent, Safe Schools Alternative Education and School Support Lead, Nadia Adragna, Principal of Safe Schools and Todd Visinki, Vice Principal of Safe Schools, regarding Safe Schools Report be received.

**CARRIED** 

Staff were directed to include the item on the November 11, 2015 agenda of SEAC so that feedback could be provided by the Committee.

MOVED by John MacKenzie, seconded by Sandra Mastronardi, that the Update on Internal Use of the Video Recording – Parliamentarian Meeting be deferred pending the terms the Parliamentarian would like to stipulate around the use of the CD.

**CARRIED** 

MOVED by Trustee Andrachuk, seconded by John MacKenzie, that items 9a) 9b) and 9c) be adopted as follows:

- 9a) Communication from Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board Regulation 274 received.
- 9b) Communication from Near North District School Board Learning for All received.
- 9c) Communication from Durham District School Board Regulation 274 received.

**CARRIED** 

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Sandra Mastronardi, that item 9d) be adopted as follows:

9d) Communication from Peter Stachiw, Chief of Autism Programs and Services, regarding Autism Awareness Month – received.

**CARRIED** 

MOVED by Giselle Romanino, seconded by Mary Pugh, that item 9) be adopted as follows:

9f) Communication from Cristina Fernandes, Superintendent of Special Services regarding Support Staff for Student Needs 2016-2017 – received.

**CARRIED** 

MOVED by Trustee Andrachuk, seconded by Trustee Tanuan, that item 12b) be adopted as follows:

12b) Monthly Report from Cristina Fernandes, Superintendent of Special Services PPM/140 Survey Results 2015 that the following report be received:

#### Autism

• October is Autism Awareness Month

#### Deaf/Hard of Hearing

 Staff hosted a one day interactive workshop for teachers of students with hearing difficulties. The workshop included presentations, demonstrations, hands on activities and a question and answer panel to help teachers gain an understanding of how to support their students with hearing loss.

#### Mental Health

- Oct. 19-20, 2015 2 day ASIST suicide Intervention training for guidance, SW, Psych, and administrators
- Oct. 29, 2015 1 day safe TALK suicide awareness, open to All TCDSB STAFF
- Preparing for expansion of Stop the Stigma to 9 elementary schools ( it is in all secondary schools)
- Hopefully presenting our revised TCDSB Mental health and well-Being Strategy 2015-2018 to EC / Board
- Presentation to CPIC / OAPCE Parent Involvement Event for Parent Involvement Week on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>
- Working on the addition n of Mental health to the SLIP Platform

#### Psychology

• The implementation of the Empower Reading programs, aiming to develop decoding/spelling, and reading comprehension/vocabulary for students with LD and LI has started in our TCDSB schools. This year the programs are being implemented in 77 elementary schools and in 108 Empower classes. Our data collection and monitoring student progress continues, in collaboration with the TCDSB Research Department.

- In collaboration with the Safe Schools Department, in September Psychology and Social Work staff participated in a 2-day training session on conducting risk assessments with students who present with worrisome behaviours.
- October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month, and the Psychology Department posted information about LD on the Psychology website, which was communicated to all TCDSB schools: <a href="https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SpecialEducation/psychology/artgalleryandevents/Pages/Psychology-News.aspx">https://www.tcdsb.org/ProgramsServices/SpecialEducation/psychology/artgalleryandevents/Pages/Psychology-News.aspx</a>
- In addition, the Psychology Department will provide a poster (created by the Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario) to be posted in each TCDSB school.
- Psychology and social work staff participated in a 2 day training session on risk assessment at the request of the Safe Schools department on September 15and 16

#### Social Work

- October is Child Abuse prevention month. The Communications
  Department in conjunction with the Social Work Department and the
  Toronto Catholic Children's Aid Society has issued information
  regarding child abuse prevention and the requirement to report suspected
  child abuse. The Social Work Department continues to collaborate with
  all Children's Aid Societies, Police Services and the BOOST Child &
  Youth Advocacy Center to revise child abuse reporting procedures in the
  City of Toronto.
- A two day Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training course has been offered on Monday, October 19th and Tuesday, October 20th for social work, psychology, guidance and administrative staff. Additional training in Suicide Prevention is being offered through SafeTalk to other staff groups.

#### Speech and Language

- The Kindergarten Language Program welcomed the new cohort of students for 2015-2016. This year marks the 20th anniversary of this early intervention program for students with oral language and early literacy difficulties.
- Staff continue to actively participate on the Special Needs Strategy planning table for the Toronto region.
- Speech-language pathologists attended a joint professional development day with their counterparts at Toronto District School Board and with the Toronto Preschool Speech and Language Services staff to share key learnings in supporting students with communication delays.

#### Deaf/Hard of Hearing

 Staff hosted a one day interactive workshop for teachers of students with hearing difficulties. The workshop included presentations, demonstrations, hands on activities and a question and answer panel to help teachers gain an understanding of how to support their students with hearing loss.

**CARRIED** 

MOVED by Trustee Andrachuk, seconded by Glenn Webster, regarding medical screening, that SEAC recommends to the Board that a letter be sent to the Toronto Public Health Committee, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Social Services, with a copy to the SEACs of other Catholic Boards, requesting that funding be provided for hearing and vision testing to take place within the school setting immediately upon the registration of students.

**CARRIED** 

MOVED by Sandra Mastronardi, seconded by Dario Imbrogno, that item 12c) be adopted as follows:

adopted as 1	onows.
<b>12c</b> )	PPM/140 Survey Results 2015 – received.

**CARRIED** 

Staff were directed to provide a copy of the survey to Sandra Mastronardi.

MOVED by Sandra Mastronardi, seconded by Giselle Romanino, arising out of her inquiry regarding the Special Education Plan, that the Special Education plan be presented to SEAC at the November, and to be spread out over several meetings so that SEAC can submit recommendations and input into the Plan.

**CARRIED** 

Arising out of an inquiry from Sandra Mastronardi regarding the Board website for SEAC, staff to update the website.

MOVED by Sandra Mastronardi, seconded by Giselle Romanino, that a letter be written in conjunction with SEAC and the Board's response to the Multi Year Recovery Plan.

With the consent of the Committee, Sandra Mastronardi withdrew her Motion.

MOVED by Trustee Andrachuk, seconded by Dario Imbrogno, that the meeting adjourn.

**CARRIED** 

SECRETARY CHAIR





#### **TCDSB Parent Engagement**

October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

Good evening Mr. Chair, Trustees, Staff and parents:

On behalf of OAPCE (Toronto) and our brother group Toronto Catholic PIC we bring to you a delegation regarding the revised plan to hire personal assistants. Although, we do have some members of the board that may require assistance, the DSB needs to find alternate ways to provides this assistance.

We were extremely disappointed when we were told about your actions during the TCDSB Governance Committee Meeting late evening on Wednesday October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 "bad news travels very fast".

It was very upsetting and disappointing that our elected officials in the apparent excitement of the moment may have forgot that our Board is still in a budgetary crunch and there is an urgent need to find budgetary savings of up to \$10,000,000 every year for the next three years. During this critical period for the TCDSB it is important for Trustees to display personal and collective leadership, as well as demonstrating that they understand the seriousness of this challenging task.

Our parents still consider it very important for the Budget Reduction team to look seriously at Administrative Staff reductions so that we can ensure that the front-line Educators of our children can continue to provide services that support the academic achievement of our children (especially our most vunerable) in the Catholic tradition.

We now congratulate you on rescinding this regrettable Motion and turning the page on this issue to preserve a positive environment where all stakeholders can work and move forward together.

God Bless and Thank You all for listening to us.

Annalisa Crudo Perri OAPCE (Toronto) President

Geoffrey Feldman

Toronto Catholic PIC Chair