

## **OUR 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*

## **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**

**Jo-Ann Davis, Chair**

**Nancy Crawford, Vice-Chair**

Thursday, January 14, 2016

7:00 P.M.

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Ontario Catholic School  
Trustees' Association

October 1, 2015

**MEMO TO:** Chairpersons and Directors of Education  
Catholic District School Boards

**FROM:** Margaret Binns, Director of Administrative Services

**RE:** 2016 AGM & Conference Resolutions

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The 2016 OCSTA Annual General Meeting will once again offer an opportunity for delegates to consider and vote on all resolutions received from our members.

The resolution process provides member boards with the opportunity to bring important issues, which have provincial implications, to the attention of all trustees in the province.

The processing of all resolutions is a fundamental responsibility of the Association. Attached please find guidelines to assist you in the preparation of your resolution(s).

Please Note:

*To assist OCSTA with preparation for the Annual Finance Brief to the Minister and in providing input into the consultation process regarding the GSNs, boards are encouraged to submit education funding issues requiring Association action and advocacy by **Thursday, October 22, 2015**. However, should a board prefer to use the AGM Resolutions process for funding issues with provincial implications, they are, of course, welcome to do so.*

**THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF RESOLUTIONS  
IN THE OCSTA OFFICE IS  
12:00 P.M. EST, JANUARY 29, 2016.**

*Attachments*

# Guidelines for Preparing Resolutions

To improve the effectiveness of the resolution process, we ask boards to review the following guidelines.

Resolutions are your opportunity to address problems, solutions or concerns, which affect Catholic education in Ontario. A resolution approved by the membership at the Annual General Meeting calls for priority action by OCSTA and the commitment of OCSTA resources to address the particular issue outlined in the resolution.

## A. Criteria for Submitting a Resolution

A resolution should:

- a. Address an area of concern for the province's Catholic school boards.
- b. Concern a matter which requires attention or action.
- c. Be written in language appropriate for province-wide consideration (language contained in resolutions is often incorporated into subsequent communications to the government or other relevant parties).
- d. Be accompanied by substantiated rationale.
- e. Not deal with education funding issues (a separate process has been created to deal with this type of issue).

## B. Steps in Preparing a Resolution

1. Identify the concern. Be sure the concern is a matter of **province-wide** scope.
2. Research and gather sufficient supporting background materials to substantiate the resolution. If the concern has been presented/dealt with in a previous resolution, review the outcome of that process to assess what changes in approach/additional information might be useful.
3. Write the resolution in the following proposed format taking care to ensure that:
  - a. Each "*Whereas*" is accompanied by adequate background material.
  - b. The "*Therefore be it Resolved*" directs OCSTA to take specific action.

## C. Writing A Resolution

### Structure

The resolution should be assigned a succinct title that identifies the problem or issue (or its proposed solution). There should be two parts to the resolution: a preamble followed by a resolving clause (or clauses).

### 1. Preamble

The preamble is a brief statement of background or rationale coming before the resolving clause(s). The purpose of the preamble is to provide information without which the point or the merits of a resolution are likely to be poorly understood.

Each clause in a preamble is written as a separate paragraph, beginning with the word "WHEREAS".

## 2. Resolving Clauses

A resolving clause indicates what action(s) is to be taken given the “WHEREAS” clause(s) in the preamble. If more than one action is being recommended, the “Therefore be It Resolved” portion should be divided into a), b), c), etc.

## 3. Submission Statement

Please include the following information in the submission statement.

[Mover’s Name]

[Seconder’s Name]

[Board Name]

[Topic]

## D. Submission Deadline Date

The deadline date for receipt of resolutions in the OCSTA office is **12:00 p.m. EST, January 29, 2016**. We encourage boards to submit their resolutions by email to Jane Ponte at [jponte@ocsta.on.ca](mailto:jponte@ocsta.on.ca). The provincial office will distribute, in the delegate kits, resolutions to be presented from the floor provided that a copy of each resolution (and background material, if applicable) is received in the Provincial Office by **April 11, 2016**.

## E. Regulations

Please see the attached current regulations regarding submission and presentation of resolutions at the AGM.

These guidelines and the enclosed template and the resolution session procedures have been provided as a reference that we hope you will find useful in preparing effective resolutions for your Association and Catholic education in Ontario.



# Template

Please **do not use** tables, text boxes or any type of graphic or letterhead. The type of font to be used in this document is **Times New Roman 12pt**.

The following example is taken from a Resolution dealt with at a previous AGM and is provided for your reference.

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**Moved by:** [Mover's Name] [Board Name]  
**Seconded by:** [Seconder's Name]  
**Topic:** [e.g. Vacancies on School Boards]

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**Whereas:** from time to time a vacancy occurs in the office of a member of the board; and  
**Whereas:** according to Section 221(1) of the *Education Act*, the vacancy must be filled by either a by-election or by appointment; and  
**Whereas:** boards choosing to appoint a new trustee will, most commonly, engage in an open and fair process of selection; and  
**Whereas:** the *Education Act* requires that the process be fully completed within 60 days of the office becoming vacant; and  
**Whereas:** the 60 day time period may encompass a part of the year (e.g. Christmas, summer months, March Break) when board operations and processes are reduced, thus making the timelines very tight and, potentially, unmanageable;

**Therefore be it Resolved that:**

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to review the section of the *Education Act* which relates to trustee vacancies with a view to extending the timeline by either increasing the number of days or altering the requirement that the process be completed within a designated number of regular school days.

If you have any questions regarding this template please contact **Jane Ponte either by telephone at 416-932-9460 ext. 223 or by e-mail at [jponte@ocsta.on.ca](mailto:jponte@ocsta.on.ca)**.

## ***Explanation of Committee Recommendations & Resolution Session Procedures***

Resolution sessions will be conducted using “**Robert’s Rules of Order**” and the provisions of the OCSTA Constitution. The chairperson of the session will ensure compliance with their rules.

<i><b>Explanation of Committee Recommendations</b></i>
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The Conference Committee will study the resolutions and offer recommendations on the best way to meet their intent. The recommendations and their implications are:

- i. **Approve**  
The direction given in the “therefore be it resolved” section of the resolution will be carried out.
- ii. **Approve and refer to the ..... committee for appropriate implementation.**  
The resolution will be forwarded to the designated committee for implementation.
- iii. **Receive and refer to the ..... committee for study.**  
The resolution will be forwarded to the designated committee for study. Following the study and receipt of the committee’s recommendation, the Board of Directors will determine whether or not the resolution will be implemented.
- iv. **Not approve**  
No action will be taken.
- v. **No recommendation**  
The committee is not making any recommendation with respect to the resolution.
- vi. **No action required**  
The intent of the resolution has been met. No further action will be taken.

<i><b>Resolution Session Procedures</b></i>
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Delegates wishing to speak to a resolution must go to one of the floor microphones and state their name and the name of the board they represent.

The mover of a resolution will have the opportunity to be the first and last to speak to that resolution. Other trustees may speak once to a resolution.

The chairperson may declare a motion out of order giving the reasons for doing so. The chairperson’s decision may be challenged by a majority vote of those voting delegates present at the session when the vote is called.

Voting will be by a show of hands. Delegates carrying proxies must have and show proper identification - i.e. proxy badge. Ballots will be provided in the event that a vote by ballot is called for.

**Note Re Quorum:** *A quorum for the transaction of business at any general meeting of Members shall consist of not fewer than forty (40) individuals entitled to vote, present in person.*

## ***Grouped Resolutions***

- a. the chair of the session will ask for a mover and seconder to approve the **grouping** of various related resolutions.
- b. the chair of the session will ask for movers and seconders for the committee recommendation for each group.
- c. delegates will vote on the committee recommendation for each group.

Delegates may request that any resolution(s) be removed from a “group” to be handled individually. These will be addressed when the group from which they have been removed has been dealt with.

## ***Resolutions Handled Individually***

*These will include resolutions removed from the groups, resolutions for which the committee has not made any recommendation and resolutions from the floor.*

### **A. Resolutions with committee recommendations**

1. The chair of the session will announce the resolution number and the name of the sponsoring board:
  - ☐ the chair will call for the sponsoring board to move and second **the committee recommendation**;
  - ☐ delegates will speak to the committee recommendation;
  - ☐ delegates will vote on the committee recommendation.
2. If the sponsoring board does not move the committee recommendation from the floor:
  - ☐ the chair will call for the sponsoring board to move their **original resolution**;
  - ☐ delegates will speak to the resolution;
  - ☐ delegates will vote on the resolution.
3. If the original resolution is not moved by the sponsoring board, the resolution will be withdrawn.

### **B. Resolutions without committee recommendations**

1. These resolutions will be handled as follows:
  - ☐ the chair will call for the sponsoring board to move their **original resolution**;
  - ☐ delegates will speak to the resolution;
  - ☐ delegates will vote on the resolution.
2. If the original resolution is not moved by the sponsoring board, the resolution will be withdrawn.

Dear Chair Kennedy

I have been invited as part of a cultural group to visit XZhou in China. I will be leaving on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January.

I was asked by the agent of the sponsor to accompany the delegation based upon my public service as a past city councilor and current school board trustee.

I thought if asked by various Town Mayors what my current duties are, I would say, "an elected school official for the Catholic Board in Toronto".

I would then use the opportunity to indicate that a number of Chinese Students are in our system and we would welcome any inquiries if anyone would like to explore educational possibilities with us.

I believe why not use the opportunity if it comes up?

There appears to be some misconceptions of my somehow over stepping some boundaries. That is not the case but making contacts is not an evil undertaking.

I would ask that Trustees endorse my efforts should the occasion arise.