



*Norm Di Pasquale*  
*Trustee Ward 9*

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**To:** Corporate Services Committee Meeting , September 12, 2019

**From:** Norm Di Pasquale, Trustee Ward 9

**Subject: Notice of Motion – Access to Free Menstrual Products**

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

**Access to Free Menstrual Products**

**WHEREAS:** lack of access due to economic factors - often referred to as “period poverty” - impacts girls and women around the world and can be especially damaging at puberty, when school interactions are crucial to a girl’s development; and

**WHEREAS:** nearly one in seven Canadian girls have either left school early or missed school entirely because they did not have access to the feminine care products they needed to manage their periods; and

**WHEREAS:** menstrual hygiene products are not optional and are necessary and essential to women's and girls' health, comfort and participation in work, school and society; and

**WHEREAS:** other Ontario school boards, municipal, provincial, and federal governments have already taken steps to provide free menstrual hygiene products to students and staff;

**WHEREAS:** there are organizations that exist that provide no cost access to menstrual products and associated educational materials;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** the Director be authorized to enter into a partnership with an appropriate organization to secure access to menstrual products and education materials at no cost to the Board;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** should a partnership be found, that free menstrual products be provided in all secondary schools where females attend beginning in the 2020-21 school year.

**Norm Di Pasquale**  
**Trustee, Ward 9**