



Maria Rizzo
Trustee Ward 5

E-mail: Maria.Rizzo@tcdsb.org

Voicemail/Fax: (416) 512-3407

To: Corporate Services Committee Meeting, June 8, 2021

From: Maria Rizzo, Trustee Ward 5

Subject: Consideration of Motion – Notice of Motions

MOVED BY: Maria Rizzo, Toronto Catholic District School Board

SECONDED BY: Markus de Domenico, Toronto Catholic District School Board

WHEREAS: Notices of motions/motions and amendments are used to bring proposals for consideration by trustees;

WHEREAS: Notices of motions/motions and amendments are submitted in writing;

WHEREAS: Preamble clauses are whereas explanatory notes that precede the be it resolved clauses;

WHEREAS: Using a preamble or whereas explanatory notes gives the mover to list the reasons for the resolution;

WHEREAS: Preamble clauses (whereas) should support the resolved statement(s);

WHEREAS: Comments made in the preamble should be factual and verifiable;

WHEREAS: Preambles must be as specific as possible about the issue and demonstrate the relevance of the resolution;

WHEREAS: Commentary in the whereas paragraphs exemplify why action should be taken;

WHEREAS: The TCDSB recently adopted a revised Trustee Code of Conduct that states in part:

Trustees have a duty to treat members of the public, one another and staff appropriately and without abuse, bullying or intimidation;

WHEREAS: Trustees should be committed to performing their functions with integrity, impartiality and transparency;

WHEREAS: Trustees shall be respectful of the role of staff to advise based on political neutrality and objectivity and without undue influence from any individual Trustee or faction of the Board;

WHEREAS: Trustees as leaders of the community, are held to a higher standard of behaviour and conduct;

WHEREAS: Trustees shall not maliciously or falsely impugn or injure the professional or ethical reputation or the prospects or practice of staff, and all Trustees shall show respect for the professional capacities of the staff of the Board;

WHEREAS: Trustees share a common basis and understanding for acceptable conduct of Trustees, in concert with and beyond the minimum standards of behaviour set out in the existing legislative framework;

WHEREAS: Negative preambles should be avoided;

WHEREAS: Members are not endorsing whereas comments when voting for a resolution; and

WHEREAS: Negative motions or resolutions should not be considered.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Trustees in presenting notices of motions, motions and amendments adopt the following principles effective immediately:

- a). preambles will be factual and verifiable;
- b). preambles will be as issue specific as possible;
- c). negative preambles to notices of motions, amendments and resolutions will be avoided;
- d). resolutions and preambles to notices of motions/motions or amendments will not maliciously or falsely impugn the professional or ethical reputation of staff or trustees; and

e). resolutions and preambles to notices of motions/motions or amendments will respect the professional Board staff and trustees

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The aforementioned be referred to the Governance and Policy Committee and to staff for necessary amendments to the present policies.