

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.*



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE PUBLIC SESSION

HELD THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021

PRESENT:

Trustees:

G. Tanuan, Chair, In Person
T. Lubinski, Vice-Chair
N. Crawford
F. D'Amico - Virtual
M. de Domenico
M. Del Grande - Virtual
D. Di Giorgio
N. Di Pasquale
A. Kennedy
I. Li Preti - Virtual
J. Martino
M. Rizzo - Virtual

Student Trustees:

K. Baybayon
S. De Castro

Staff:

B. Browne
D. Boyce
A. Della Mora
S. Camacho
P. Aguiar
A. Bria
M. Caccamo
S. Caldwell (in P. Matthews' absence)
S. Campbell
F. Cifelli
L. DiMarco

K. Dixon
C. Fernandes
L. Latham
M. Loberto
M. Meehan
R. Peterson
R. Putnam
S. Vlahos
J. Wujek

S. Harris, Recording Secretary
S. Pellegrini, Assistant Recording Secretary

External Guest: A. Robertson, Parliamentarian

Student Trustee Baybayon left the horseshoe at 7:15 pm.

6. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED by Trustee Li Preti, seconded by Trustee Lubinski, that the Agenda, as amended to include the Addendum, be approved.

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

7. Report from Private Session

MOVED by Trustee Lubinski, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that the following report be received:

In PRIVATE Session:

- a. Approved Minutes of the Meeting held on September 2, 2021 ;
- b. Received an update regarding negotiations; and
- c. Discussed and received urgent inquiries

Trustee Del Grande declared an interest in the Item regarding negotiations update. Trustee Kennedy wished for it to be recorded in the PUBLIC Minutes that she also had a conflict of interest in that Item (refer Item 8 below).

Trustees Di Giorgio and Kennedy left the horseshoe at 7:17 pm.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Pasquale
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

Trustee Kennedy returned to the horseshoe at 7:18 pm.

8. Declarations of Interest

In PRIVATE Session, Trustee Del Grande declared an interest in the Item regarding negotiations update. Trustee Kennedy wished for it to be recorded in PUBLIC Session that she also had an interest in the same Item. Both Trustees Del Grande and Kennedy have family members who are employees of the Board and did not participate in discussions regarding that Item nor vote.

Trustees Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo declared an interest in the following Items as they have family members who are employees of the Board:

- 10b) Kristina Beintner regarding Advocating to Stop the Reorganization of Classes and Students this Year – Trustees Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo;
- 10d) Delegation from: Alba Taylor regarding Student Health and Safety and Classroom Reorganizations – Referral to Staff Motion – Trustees Del Grande and Rizzo;
- 10e) Natalie Bartello, St. Pius X Catholic School Parent Group Representative - Trustees Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo;
- 10f) Maryrose Babaran regarding Student Achievement - Trustees Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo; and
- 17a) Return to School Update – Trustees Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo

Trustees Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo indicated that they would not vote nor participate in discussions regarding those Items.

9. Approval and Signing of the Minutes

MOVED by Trustee Li Preti, seconded by Trustee Lubinski, that the Minutes of the Meeting held September 2, 2021 be approved.

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Trustee Di Giorgio and Student Trustee Baybayon returned to the horseshoe at 7:24 pm and 7:27 pm respectively.

NB: The following Delegations were not heard in the sequence as per the Order Page as some delegates were absent at the respective times.

10. Delegations

MOVED by Trustee de Domenico, seconded by Trustee Martino, that Item 10d) be adopted as follows:

10d) **Alba Taylor regarding Student Health and Safety and Classroom Reorganizations** received and referred to Staff.

Trustee Rizzo requested that the Question be split.

Results of the Vote taken on Motion of Receipt, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale

Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Trustee Del Grande's vote was withdrawn as per his request.

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

Trustees Del Grande and Rizzo declared an Interest in the Referral to Staff Motion, as earlier indicated and recused themselves from voting.

Results of the Vote taken on Referral to Staff, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Tanuan

The Motion of Referral to Staff was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

Trustees Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo declared an interest in all remaining Delegation Items regarding reorganization namely Items 10b) Kristina Beintner regarding Advocating to Stop the Reorganization of Classes and Students this Year; 10e) Natalie Bartello, St. Pius X Catholic School Parent Group Representative regarding Class Reorganizations; and 10f) Maryrose Babaran regarding Student Achievement.

Trustee Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo left the virtual room and horseshoe respectively at 7:45 pm due to a Declaration of Interest in Item 10e), as earlier indicated.

MOVED by Trustee Lubinski, seconded by Trustee de Domenico, that Item 10e) be adopted as follows:

- 10e) Natalie Bartello, St. Pius X Catholic School Parent Group Representative regarding Class Reorganizations** received and referred to Staff.

Trustee Di Giorgio left the horseshoe at 7:51 pm and returned at 7:51 pm.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Di Giorgio

Di Pasquale
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

MOVED by Trustee Di Pasquale, seconded by Trustee de Domenico, that Item 10f) be adopted as follows:

- 10f) Maryrose Babaran regarding Student Achievement** received and referred to Staff.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

Trustees Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo returned to the virtual room and horseshoe respectively at 8:04 pm.

MOVED by Trustee Di Pasquale, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that Item 10a) be adopted as follows:

- 10a) Vincent Constantino On Behalf of Elena Krishchuk, representative of Youth Assisting Youth (YAY) 22 - 26 regarding Youth Mentorship Program** received and referred to Staff.

Trustee Martino left the horseshoe at 8:06 pm.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

Trustee Martino returned to the horseshoe at 8:09 pm.

Trustee Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo left the horseshoe and virtual room respectively at 8:10 pm due to a Declaration of Interest in Item 10b) below, as earlier indicated.

MOVED by Trustee de Domenico, seconded by Trustee Lubinski, that Item 10b) be adopted as follows:

10b) Kristina Beintner regarding Advocating to Stop the Reorganization of Classes and Students this Year received and referred to Staff.

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro left the horseshoe at 8:14 pm and returned at 8:17 pm.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

Trustee Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo returned to the horseshoe and virtual room respectively at 8:18 pm.

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Trustee de Domenico, that Item 10c) be adopted as follows:

- 10c) Lina Camargo regarding the French Immersion Program** received and referred to Staff to come back with a report at the November 3, 2021 Student Achievement and Well-Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee Meeting.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Rizzo
Tanuan

Opposed

Martino

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

Trustee Di Giorgio left the horseshoe at 8:50 pm.

The Chair declared a recess.

The meeting resumed with Trustee Tanuan in the Chair, with no change to the attendance list.

13. Consideration of Motions for which Previous Notice Has Been Given

MOVED by Trustee de Domenico, seconded by Trustee Rizzo, that Item 13a) be adopted as follows:

Trustee Di Giorgio left the horseshoe at 9:24 pm and returned at 9:27 pm.

13a) From Trustee de Domenico regarding Request to the Ministry of Education to Amend the Education Act to give Student Trustees the Right to Move and Second Motions:

WHEREAS: Notice of Motion to request the Ministry of Education to amend the Education Act to give Student Trustees the right to move and second motions;

WHEREAS: Per Section 55(5) of the Ontario Education Act Student Trustees have the right to partake in certain in-camera sessions closed to the public, demonstrating the high standing and trustworthiness of Student Trustees;

WHEREAS: The student voice is most effectively communicated by granting Student Trustees equal opportunities to participate in Board functions as other Board Trustees;

WHEREAS: Per section 55(7) of the Ontario Education Act Student Trustees receive equal opportunities to Board Trustees, including access to professional development, resources and training;

WHEREAS: Student Trustees are elected representatives, and are to be held accountable to the student body;

WHEREAS: The student voice must be articulated fairly and expressively for the benefit of the school Board;

WHEREAS: The student voice must be represented fairly and articulated expressively for the benefit of the school Board and to accurately reflect the students' in decision-making;

WHEREAS: Student Trustees shall have the right to abstain from voting and be counted as equals within the quorum of the entire Board; and

WHEREAS: Student Trustees further desire the right to move and second motions, to incite discussion;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Chair of the Board send a letter to the Ministry of Education on behalf of the Toronto Catholic District School Board with copies of local MPPs and other school Boards, requesting the Ministry of Education to push for the recommendation in allowing Student Trustees the right to independently move and second motions during Board meetings. Doing so furthers the dynamic and effectiveness of student representation across Ontario, as students can begin the discussions surrounding items that they feel are most pertaining to their constituency without the need to request for support.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Trustees D'Amico
de Domenico
Di Pasquale
Rizzo

Opposed

Crawford
Del Grande
Di Giorgio
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

FAILED

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

14. Consent and Review

The Chair reviewed the Order Paper and the following Items were held:

- 17a) Return to School Update - Trustee de Domenico;
- 17b) Board Learning Improvement Plan 2020-2021 Report Back - Trustee Del Grande;
- 17c) Annual Report on the International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program for 2020-2021 - Trustee Di Giorgio; and
- 17d) Education Quality and Accountability (EQAO) Assessments - Update) - Trustee Li Preti

MOVED by Trustee Martino, seconded by Trustee Lubinski, that the Items not held be received.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustees Baybayon and Nguyen wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

ITEMS NOT HELD AS CAPTURED IN THE ABOVE MOTION

- 20a) Annual Calendar of Reports and Policy Metrics; and
- 20b) Monthly Pending List

Student Trustee Baybayon left the horseshoe at 9:53 pm and returned at 9:56 pm.

Student Trustee De Castro left the horseshoe at 9:55 pm and returned at 9:57 pm.

Trustees Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo left the virtual room and horseshoe respectively at 10:00 pm due to a Declaration of Interest, as earlier indicated in Item 17a) below.

17. Staff Reports

MOVED by Trustee de Domenico, seconded by Trustee Lubinski, that Item 17a) be adopted as follows:

17a) Return to School Update received.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Trustee de Domenico, seconded by Trustee Lubinski, that:

WHEREAS: The Delta variant of the COVID-19 Pandemic is still present in Ontario schools;

WHEREAS: The Ministry of Education mandates that Boards reorganize classrooms to align class sizes with enrolment and meet Ministry criteria for class sizes while maintaining mandated class caps;

WHEREAS: Our Students' emotional, mental and physical health is greatly disadvantaged by a class reorganization, particularly at this time during the COVID Pandemic;

WHEREAS: Parents in many schools throughout our Board are very upset with class changes caused by a system-wide reorganization;

WHEREAS: A provincial petition on Change.org demanding smaller class sizes has garnered close to 300,000 signatures, these are parent voices that need to be heard and acknowledged;

WHEREAS: Testing is an important tool in preventing infection;

WHEREAS: The Government of Ontario has recently announced Rapid tests will be provided to unvaccinated, asymptomatic children who are not considered high-risk contacts of a positive COVID-19 case. Toronto Public Health (TPH) will have discretion in requesting the tests based on the level of virus transmission and vaccination rate in the community where a school is based, and the particular history of COVID-19 in a specific school or childcare facility. The Plan limits access only to those communities determined by TPH to be high risk.

WHEREAS: The recent COVID modelling is showing an uptick in unvaccinated children despite numbers that are generally trending low as evidenced by Science Table;

WHEREAS: The Ontario Government has significant trust in the antigen testing process as a preventative measure, and they have provided 16 million test kits free of charge to small businesses and are not worried about false positives;

WHEREAS: Unvaccinated Toronto teachers are required to take antigen tests twice weekly;

WHEREAS: Dr. De Villa has stated that COVID cases will increase after Thanksgiving and families need to be prepared; and

WHEREAS: Rapid screening tests for COVID-19 will be available in primary and preschool schools in all regions of Quebec starting next week.

1. BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Chair write to the Minister of Education requesting additional funding for teachers and education workers in order to mitigate the impact of the system-wide reorganization in the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB);
2. BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Chair also request that the Ministry of Education provide additional emergency funding to support the TCDSB's ability to mitigate the impact of reorganization in COVID-19 hot spot schools, special education classes, Student Support Response Team (SSRT) and early learning classes; and

3. BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Staff work with TPH and the Ontario Ministry of Health in determining the effectiveness of the current approach to limiting transmission of COVID in schools and if the data suggests a positive impact on limiting spread, expand this approach to asymptomatic testing to all schools across the province and implementing a Rapid Antigen Test program that would make Rapid Antigen test kits available in all schools for all students and all Staff to use.

Trustee Rizzo requested that the Question be split at Part 3.

Trustee Rizzo declared an interest in the reorganization components, i.e. Parts 1 and 2, of the AMENDMENT.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Trustee Lubinski that the reorganization is paused until a satisfactory public health plan is presented that specifically deals with mitigating COVID risk involved in the dissolving of cohorts and mixing of students as per the Chief Medical Officer of Health's recommendation this week.

There was no seconder.

Results of the Vote taken on Parts 1 and 2 of the AMENDMENT, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Tanuan

Parts 1 and 2 of the AMENDMENT were declared

CARRIED

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

Trustees Kennedy and Rizzo returned to the horseshoe and virtual room respectively at 10:25 pm.

Based on the Parliamentarian's advice, the Chair ruled that Part 3 of the AMENDMENT be separately moved as a Motion, as follows

MOVED by Trustee de Domenico, seconded by Trustee Di Pasquale, that:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Staff work with TPH and the Ontario Ministry of Health in determining the effectiveness of the current approach to limiting transmission of COVID in schools and if the data suggests a positive impact on limiting spread, expand this approach to asymptomatic testing to all schools across the province and implementing a Rapid Antigen Test program that would make Rapid Antigen test kits available in all schools for all students and all Staff to use.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino

Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

Time for business expired.

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Trustee Lubinski, that time be extended by 15 minutes, as per Article 12.6 of the TCDSB's By-laws, to complete the debate on the Item.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Rizzo
Tanuan

Di Giorgio
Martino

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

Student Trustees Baybayon and De Castro left the meeting at 10:40 pm.

Trustees Kennedy and Rizzo left the horseshoe and virtual room respectively at 10:49 pm, due to a Declaration of Interest in the following, as earlier indicated.

Results of the Vote taken on the Motion, as amended (i.e. Motion of Receipt and Parts 1 and 2 of the AMENDMENT), as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
de Domenico
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Tanuan

The Motion, as amended, was declared

CARRIED

Trustee D'Amico did not vote/respond.

Trustees Del Grande, Kennedy and Rizzo returned to the horseshoe and virtual room respectively at 10:51 pm.

MOVED by Trustee Del Grande, seconded by Trustee Di Pasquale, that Item 17b) be adopted as follows:

17b) Board Learning Improvement Plan 2020-2021 Report Back received.

Trustee Martino left the horseshoe at 10:55 pm and returned at 11:02 pm.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

21. RESOLVE into FULL BOARD to Rise and Report

MOVED by Trustee Lubinski, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that the meeting resolve into FULL BOARD to Rise and Report.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

23. Adjournment

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Martino, that the meeting be adjourned.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Giorgio

Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

ITEMS NOT DISCUSSED

- 17c) Annual Report on the International Languages Elementary (ILE) Program for 2020-2021 (Held by Trustee Di Giorgio); and
- 17d) Education Quality and Accountability (EQAO) Assessments - Update (Held by Trustee Li Preti)

Staff advised that the Items will be added to the November 3, 2021 Student Achievement and Well Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee Agenda.

SECRETARY

CHAIR