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To: Regular Board Meeting, December 9, 2021

From: Maria Rizzo, Trustee Ward 5

Subject: Consideration of Motion - TikTok and SnapChat Challenges

MOVED BY: Maria Rizzo, Toronto Catholic District School Board

WHEREAS: Some secondary students are issuing, participating and executing TikTok and SnapChat challenges;

WHEREAS: Challenges include Slap the Teacher, fake sexual assault; vandalism of toilet stalls, late for class; prank calls; loitering, etc;

WHEREAS: TCDSB high schools have been dealing with these TikTok and SnapChat challenges all year;

WHEREAS: Almost every week TikTok allows posts of school challenges that in some cases has prompted kids to do and act inappropriately;

WHEREAS: TCDSB administrators frequently spend great amounts of time to address many inappropriate posts such as sexual orientation/racist/sexist actions and behaviours by students in high schools on TikTok and SnapChat platforms;

WHEREAS: This is a particularly concerning trend impacting TCDSB secondary schools, staff and administration;

WHEREAS: Tic Tok is allowing these challenges to be posted;

WHEREAS: These challenges encourage and advance inappropriate behaviour by students;

WHEREAS: Intervention is required as these challenges will continue and may get worse if action is not taken now;

WHEREAS: Community guidelines of diversity, safety, and inclusion are not adhered to by TikTok and SnapChat as it relates to the challenges and posts; and

WHEREAS: TikTok and SnapChat will remove any content – including video, audio, livestream, images, comments, and text that violates Community Guidelines if reported.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: TCDSB request TikTok and SnapChat to remove school student challenges;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: A report be prepared to investigate and address the actions that can be implemented to shut down these posts;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: Staff be requested to report on the ramifications of students participating inappropriately on social media posts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: Staff report on a plan that includes centrally monitoring these unfitting posts on TikTok and SnapChat.