

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, JANUARY 13, 2022

PRESENT:

Trustees:

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

Student Trustees:

K. Baybayon – Virtual
S. De Castro - Virtual

Staff:

B. Browne
D. Boyce
A. Della Mora
R. Putnam
S. Camacho
S. Campbell
L. Coulter
C. Fernandes
P. Aguiar
A. Bria
M. Caccamo

D. Chen
F. Cifelli
G. Danfulani
L. DiMarco
K. Dixon
M. Farrell
P. Matthews
M. Meehan
R. Peterson
S. Vlahos
J. Wujek
M. Zlomislic

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

External Guest: A. Robertson, Parliamentarian

6. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Li Preti, that the Agenda, as amended to include Item 16b) Return to In-Person Learning, be approved.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Trustees D'Amico
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Rizzo
Tanuan

Opposed

Crawford
Del Grande

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

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

As per advice from the Parliamentarian, the Chair accepted the addition of Item 12a) Notice of Motion from Trustee Lubinski regarding the Proclamation of Katyń Massacre and Smolensk Air Disaster Commemoration Day in all Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Schools on April 10, 2022 and every year thereafter.

Results of the Vote taken on the Agenda, as amended, follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees D’Amico
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Rizzo
Tanuan

Crawford
Del Grande

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

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

7. Report from Private Session

There was no PRIVATE Session.

8. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

9. Approval and Signing of the Minutes

MOVED by Trustee Martino, seconded by Trustee Di Giorgio, that the Minutes of the Meeting held December 2, 2021 be approved.

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

11. Presentations

MOVED by Trustee Di Pasquale, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that Item 11a) be adopted as follows:

11a) From the Associate Director of Academic Affairs and Chief Operating Officer - Academic Update (Verbal)received.

Time for business expired and was extended by 15 minutes, as per Article 12.6 of the By-law, to complete the debate on the Item as per the will of the Assembly, as follows:

Results of the Vote taken on Extension, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

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

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

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

In Favour

Opposed

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

The Motion of Receipt was declared

CARRIED

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

12. Notices of Motion

MOVED by Trustee Lubinski, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that Item 12a) be adopted as follows:

- 12a) From Trustee Lubinski regarding to Proclaim Katyń Massacre and Smolensk Air Disaster Commemoration Day in all Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Schools on April 10, 2022 and every year thereafter** that this be considered at the February 3, 2022 Student Achievement and Well-Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee Meeting:

WHEREAS: The TCDSB recognizes the contributions of Poles globally and to the fabric of our communities;

WHEREAS: There is a high number of students with Polish background in the TCDSB that have made significant contributions to our schools (through sharing their rich heritage, history, culture and language) and who form a part of the firm foundation of this Board;

WHEREAS: There are over 1.1 million Canadians who claim full or partial Polish ancestry, of whom over 145,000 reside in the City of Toronto, with many attending our Catholic schools;

WHEREAS: Approximately 22,000 Polish people, mainly reserve officers, engineers, doctors, teachers, university professors, members of the intelligentsia, and others, were shot individually at the back of the head during April and May of 1940 by the Soviet Union Government;

WHEREAS: On April 10, 2010, Polish President Lech Kaczyński, First Lady Maria Kaczyński, Senior Polish Government Officials, family members of the Katyn Massacre lost their lives in a fatal plane crash (96 people), known as Smolensk Air Disaster while travelling to Katyn to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of Katyn Massacre;

WHEREAS: To date, the Katyn Massacre continues to be a historical wound for the Polish community in Etobicoke-Lakeshore and Parkdale-High Park, Canada and across the world;

WHEREAS: The TCDSB is committed to educating students about social injustice; and

WHEREAS: The TCDSB envisions graduates who are responsible citizens who give witness to Catholic teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: All schools at the TCDSB have a moment of silence and reflection for the victims of Katyn Massacre and Smolensk Air Disaster on April 10, 2022 and every year thereafter; and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The TCDSB do hereby proclaim April 10, 2022 as Katyn Massacre and Smolensk Air Disaster Commemoration Day in all of the TCDSB schools this year and every year thereafter.

14. Consent and Review

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

- 16b) Return to In-Person Learning – Trustee Di Pasquale;
- 17c) Board Improvement and Equity Plan 2021-2022 – Trustee Di Giorgio;
- 17d) 2022-2023 School Year Calendar Survey – Trustee Li Preti; and
- 18a) Communication from Wilfred Laurier University regarding Closing the Achievement Gap through Remote Learning for Children and Youth in Racialized and Under-Resourced Communities – Trustee Li Preti

MOVED by Trustee Del Grande, 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
Del Grande
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.

ITEMS NOT HELD AS CAPTURED IN THE ABOVE MOTION

- 16a) Inquiry From Trustee Rizzo regarding the Board releasing the number of Unvaccinated Employees to the media on behalf of TCDSB Constituents;
- 17a) Mental Health and Well-Being Report 2020-2021;
- 17b) Annual Report on the Accessibility Standards Policy (A.35);

20a) Annual Calendar of Reports and Policy Metrics; and

20b) Monthly Pending List

16. Matters Referred or Deferred

MOVED by Trustee Di Pasquale, seconded by Trustee Li Preti, that Item 16b) be adopted as follows:

16b) Return to In-Person Learning received.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Trustee Di Pasquale, seconded by Trustee Li Preti, that:

WHEREAS: The Memo to Board of Education from the Ministry of Education, dated December 30, 2021, listed changes to many COVID-19 protocols in schools, including no longer requiring Provincial reporting of COVID-19 cases, changes to masking requirements, and allowing cohort changes;

WHEREAS: Public Health Ontario along with Health Canada and Public Health Agenda of Canada (PHAC) has acknowledged that Omicron is a rapidly spreading, airborne virus and that medical masks and respirators provide better protection than cloth masks;

WHEREAS: A variety of education stakeholders have issued calls for a return to in-person learning that prioritizes student and Staff safety, including the Ontario Principals' Council, Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario and other; and

WHEREAS: Throughout the pandemic, child development experts have stressed the primary importance of in-person learning for the sake of student mental health, well-being and cognitive development.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- a) That the Chair write a letter to the Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario, Dr. Kieran Moore, the Minister of Education, Stephen Lecce,

the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford, and Medical Officer of Health for the City of Toronto, Dr. Eileen DeVilla, emphasizing the importance of implementing a variety of important actions in order to ensure school can resume safely in-person;

- b) That the letter in part (a) above emphasizes the importance of getting students back to in-person learning safely by providing:
 - i. Priority access to vaccinations for students and school Staff.
 - ii. Continued access to PCR testing and reporting of cases.
- c) That the letter in part (a) above, note the importance of a quick and safe return to in-person learning by also ensuring:
 - i. That principals continue to report cases of communicable diseases and refuse admittance to students showing symptoms of disease, as per the Education Act, and that families and Staff continue to be informed of COVID-19 cases in individual classrooms;
 - ii. That the Province:
 - Continues its commitment to student and Staff access to PCR testing in cases of high risk of exposure and suspected COVID-19;
 - Supports and implements a “Test to Return” strategy following COVID-19 illness and exposure;
 - iii. Provides funding and supplies of medical masks and respirators (such as N95 and K95 masks) for students in the same way that they are now providing them for education Staff;
 - iv. Reimburse all school-board pandemic related costs and provides enhanced funding for ventilation upgrades, beyond portable HEPA units, to ensure a long-term commitment to student and Staff health.

Results of the Vote taken on the AMENDMENT, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
Del Grande
Di Giorgio
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Rizzo
Tanuan

The AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

Trustee D'Amico did not vote/respond.

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

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Del Grande, that:

Transparency and Reporting of Local School COVID-19 Positive Case Counts:

WHEREAS: The Province of Ontario has changed their practice by discontinuing the COVID-19 case and contact management system including public reporting of cases;

WHEREAS: The change regarding the dismissal of classes and cohorts will be replaced by a reliance on absences as an indicator of COVID cases among students and Staff;

WHEREAS: Many parents and students are frustrated, angry and anxious about a return to in person learning as a result of this change by the Government of Ontario;

WHEREAS: Parents/guardians, residents and stakeholders want and deserve as much data as possible during the pandemic;

WHEREAS: Ratepayers, parents and stakeholders are disappointed in the change of course in reporting COVID-19 cases by the province of Ontario;

WHEREAS: A developing a plan to establish local school case count of positive COVID-19 cases would be welcomed;

WHEREAS: Parents/guardians and employees can assist in helping to keep schools as safe as possible;

WHEREAS: Parents, students and employees count on information to inform their decisions;

WHEREAS: This change lacks transparency and does not encourage public confidence in any educational or government sector;

WHEREAS: Access to PCR and Rapid Antigen Test Kits is inequitable and disadvantages a substantial portion of school communities that cannot afford these products; and

WHEREAS: N95 non-fit test masks for employees have been provided but students do not have access to medical grade or child sized K95/N95 masks.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The TCDSB request the Minister of Education to:

- a. Make/ available PCR and Rapid Antigen Tests to all students and Staff who have COVID symptoms;

- b. Provide medical grade masks or child sized K95 or N95 masks for all students; and
- c. Reconsider reestablishing a COVID-19 case and contact management system including public reporting of cases;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: TCDSB Staff develop a local school plan to establish case counts of positive COVID-19 cases locally;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: TCDSB parents/guardians be instructed to report positive cases in their household;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: All TCDSB employees be directed to report positive cases; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Staff implement a case count reporting framework including communicating positive cases locally and system wide.

Trustee de Domenico joined the virtual room at 9:00 pm.

MOVED by Trustee Martino, seconded by Trustee Lubinski, that the following Resolutions be referred to the January 20, 2022 Corporate Services, Strategic Planning and Property Committee meeting:

- 1) FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: TCDSB Staff develop a local school plan to establish case counts of positive COVID-19 cases locally;
- 2) FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: TCDSB parents/guardians be instructed to report positive cases in their household;
- 3) FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: All TCDSB employees be directed to report positive cases; and
- 4) FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Staff implement a case count reporting framework including communicating positive cases locally and system wide

Results of the Vote taken on Referral, as follows:

In Favour

Trustees Di Giorgio
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Tanuan

Opposed

Crawford
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Pasquale
Kennedy
Rizzo

The Motion to Refer was declared

FAILED

Trustee D'Amico did not vote/respond.

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

Results of the Vote taken on the AMENDMENT, as follows:

In Favour

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

Opposed

Kennedy
Martino
Tanuan

The AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

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

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

In Favour

Opposed

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

Kennedy

The Motion, as amended as declared

CARRIED

Trustee de Domenico did not vote/respond due to technical difficulty.

Trustee Martino did not vote/respond.

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

Trustee de Domenico disconnected and left the meeting at 9:41 pm.

17. Staff Reports

MOVED by Trustee Di Giorgio, seconded by Trustee Martino, that Item 17c) be adopted as follows:

17c) Board Improvement and Equity Plan 2021-2022 received.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
Del Grande
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.

MOVED by Trustee Li Preti, seconded by Trustee Di Pasquale, that Item 17d) be adopted as follows:

17d) 2022-2023 School Year Calendar Survey received.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
Del Grande
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.

18. Listing of Communications

MOVED by Trustee Li Preti, seconded by Trustee Di Pasquale, that Item 18a) be adopted as follows:

- 18a) From Wilfred Laurier University regarding Closing the Achievement Gap through Remote Learning for Children and Youth in Racialized and Under-Resourced Communities** received and referred to Staff.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
Del Grande
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.

21. RESOLVE into FULL BOARD to Rise and Report

MOVED by Trustee Li Preti, seconded by Trustee Del Grande, 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
Del Grande
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.

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
Del Grande

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.

SECRETARY

CHAIR