

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DAYS OF RECOGNITION

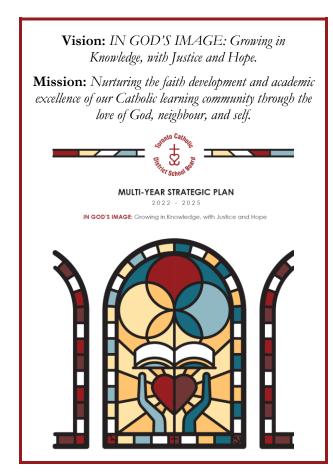
Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. - Joshua 1:9

Drafted Meeting Date

March 29, 2022 April 5, 2022

Shazia Vlahos, Chief of Communications & Government Relations

INFORMATION REPORT



Dr. Brendan Browne Director of Education

Adrian Della Mora Associate Director of Academic Affairs & Chief Operating Officer

Derek Boyce Associate Director of Facilities, Business & Community Development

Ryan Putnam Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the Regular Board meeting on March 24, 2022, the Board deferred debate on a notice of motion seeking recognition of a new day to the Student Achievement and Well-Being meeting on April 5, 2022. At that time, it was also requested that staff come back with information about a process for days of recognition moving forward.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 4 hours.

B. PURPOSE

1. Request at the Regular Board meeting on March 24, 2022, that staff come back with information about a process for days of recognition moving forward.

C. BACKGROUND

- 1. Request at the Regular Board meeting on March 24, 2022, that staff come back with information about a process for days of recognition moving forward.
- 2. In an effort to create more inclusive school communities and to better reflect our diversity, the Communications Department and central departments work together to determine additional days of recognition.
- 3. To date, TCDSB's system calendar consists of dates from the following sources including:
 - a. Ministry of Education school year calendar;
 - b. Board proclaimed days and heritage months following a Trustee motion;
 - c. Catholic/liturgical days of celebration and recognition, and other major religious holidays; and
 - d. International, <u>federal</u> and <u>provincial</u> days of celebration and commemoration.
- 4. Each month averages between 10-20+ days of recognition. May, June and October are the busiest months where the Board recognizes approximately 20+ month/days.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. The Communications Department reached out to all Catholic DSBs and Boards in the GTA to review their calendar for recognizing days/months.

Ver2.6 Page 2 of 3

- 2. Responses received to date are from Toronto District School Board, York Region DSB, Ottawa Catholic, Niagara Catholic, Durham Catholic, Simcoe Muskoka Catholic, and Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic.
- 3. After reviewing all the responses, please note the following observations:
 - a. Calendar of dates continues to evolve and is not meant to be comprehensive of every possible day of recognition.
 - b. Days/months recognized are aligned with the Government of Canada and Government of Ontario. Most also recognize international days using the United Nations as a source.
 - c. Central staff are responsible for identifying and maintaining a calendar of dates based on above noted sources.
 - d. Heritage Months were typically motioned by Trustees, if not already recognized.
 - e. Days recognizing a person or historical event, not already recognized internationally, federally or provincially, were not apparent in the lists reviewed or a common practice.
- 4. There have been instances where the name for a TCDSB day of recognition has varied (ie. different in a motion than what is more commonly used) and instances where dates change annually.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- 1. The Communications Department includes all days of recognition on the TCDSB website, weekly wrap-up, and on social media channels.
- 2. When applicable resources are needed, central departments prepare and share information with staff and school communities.
- 3. Requests for suggested additions, can be made to equity.dept@tcdsb.org and will be reviewed by central staff.

F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the information of the Board of Trustees.

Ver2.6 Page 3 of 3