



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

RESOLUTIONS



Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association

Our Mission

Inspired by the Gospel, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association provides the provincial voice, leadership and service for elected Catholic school trustees to promote and protect publicly funded Catholic education in Ontario.

Our Vision

Ontario is enriched by a publicly funded Catholic education system governed by locally elected Catholic school trustees who serve with faith, commitment and compassion.

Explanation of Committee Recommendations & Resolution Session Procedures

Resolution sessions will be conducted using “**Robert’s Rules of Order**” and the provisions of the OCSTA Constitution. The chairperson of the session will ensure compliance with their rules.

Explanation of Committee Recommendations

The **Resolutions** Committee will study the resolutions and offer recommendations on the best way to meet their intent. The recommendations and their implications are:

- i. **Approve**
The direction given in the “therefore be it resolved” section of the resolution will be carried out.
- ii. **Approve and refer to the committee for appropriate implementation.**
The resolution will be forwarded to the designated committee for implementation.
- iii. **Receive and refer to the committee for study.**
The resolution will be forwarded to the designated committee for study. Following the study and receipt of the committee’s recommendation, the Board of Directors will determine whether or not the resolution will be implemented.
- iv. **Not support**
No action will be taken.
- v. **No recommendation**
The committee is not making any recommendation with respect to the resolution.
- vi. **No action required**
The intent of the resolution has been met. No further action will be taken.
- vii. **No action required – In Progress**
OCSTA is actively working to meet the intent of the resolution.

Resolution Session Procedures

Delegates wishing to speak to a resolution must state their name and the name of the board they represent.

The mover of a resolution will have the opportunity to be the first and last to speak to that resolution. Other trustees may speak once to a resolution.

The chairperson may declare a motion out of order giving the reasons for doing so. The chairperson’s decision may be challenged by a majority vote of those voting delegates at the session when the vote is called.

Voting will be by a show of hands. Delegates carrying proxies must have and show the proxies they are carrying. Ballots will be provided in the event that a vote by ballot is called for.

Note Re Quorum: *Quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Members shall require the presence in person or by proxy of not less than a total of forty (40) current Members.*

Grouped Resolutions

- a. the chair of the session will ask for a mover and seconder to approve the **grouping** of various related resolutions.
- b. the chair of the session will ask for movers and seconders for the committee recommendation for each group.
- c. delegates will vote on the committee recommendation for each group.

Delegates may request that any resolution(s) be removed from a “group” to be handled individually. These will be addressed when the group from which they have been removed has been dealt with.

Resolutions Handled Individually

These will include resolutions removed from the groups and resolutions for which the committee has not made any recommendation.

A. Resolutions with committee recommendations

1. The chair of the session will announce the resolution number and the name of the sponsoring board:
 - ☐ the chair will call for the sponsoring board to move and second **the committee recommendation;**
 - ☐ delegates will speak to the committee recommendation;
 - ☐ delegates will vote on the committee recommendation.
2. If the sponsoring board does not move the committee recommendation from the floor:
 - ☐ the chair will call for the sponsoring board to move their **original resolution;**
 - ☐ delegates will speak to the resolution;
 - ☐ delegates will vote on the resolution.
3. If the original resolution is not moved by the sponsoring board, the resolution will be withdrawn.

B. Resolutions without committee recommendations

1. These resolutions will be handled as follows:
 - ☐ the chair will call for the sponsoring board to move their **original resolution;**
 - ☐ delegates will speak to the resolution;
 - ☐ delegates will vote on the resolution.
2. If the original resolution is not moved by the sponsoring board, the resolution will be withdrawn.

C. Amendments from the Floor

Amendments made on the floor relate to the “therefore be it resolved” section of the resolution and **must be written out** and handed to the chairperson. The chairperson will consider the amendment and, if necessary, discuss it with the parliamentarian or others to ensure that it is clearly understood.

- ☐ the chair will **read** the amendment;
- ☐ delegates will speak to the amendment;
- ☐ delegates will vote on the amendment;
- ☐ delegates will vote on the resolution as amended.

If the amendment is defeated:

- ☐ delegates will be asked to speak to the original resolution;
- ☐ delegates will vote on the original resolution.

D. **Members’ Discussion Right**

Under Article 6.11 (*Members Discussion Right*), any Member entitled to vote at an Annual Meeting is entitled to raise for discussion at that meeting any matter with respect to which the Member would have been entitled to submit a proposal, subject to the conditions outlined in Sections 6.10.1 to 6.10.5⁸, and provided that:

- 6.11.1 if such Member continues such discussion for three minutes or more, the Chair of the meeting may interrupt the Member and permit others to speak to the discussion item, for up to three minutes per member; and
- 6.11.2 no discussion item shall be put to the membership for a vote at the meeting at which it was raised for discussion.

Revised October 21, 2021

⁸S.56(1)(b) of the ONCA

**OCSTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESOLUTION
RE: PORTAGE REPORT**

APPROVE

RESOLUTION # A-22

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

THAT:

**the committee recommendation for Resolution A-22 be
approved.**

Moved by: Frank Bastone **OCSTA Board of Directors**

Seconded by: Luz del Rosario

Topic: **OCSTA Board of Directors' Recommendations re Portage Report (2020 OCSTA AGM Resolutions)**

Whereas: Resolutions **1-2020** – Vote Allocation,
2-2020 – OCSTA Membership Fee Structure,
3-2020 – Amendments to OCSTA By-Law relating to Class of Membership & Criteria for Determining Regions & Representation,
4-2020 – Amendments to the “Amended & Restated By-Law Number 2019-01, A By-Law Relating Generally to the Conduct of Its Affairs (“OCSTA By-Law”) and
6-2020 - Terms of Limit for Regional Directors were considered by the Members of the Corporation on June 27, 2020, and recommended that an OCSTA Ad Hoc Committee comprised of up to 7 members of the OCSTA Board of Directors be established to consider and research resolutions, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 and other governance and operating issues relating to OCSTA; and,

Whereas: on December 4, 2020 the Board of Directors approved a Motion to award the contract to review the OCSTA Governance Structure and Fee Structure to “The Portage Group” and the parameters and the scope of work begin immediately with a report to be completed by February 2, 2021; and,

Whereas: at a Special Meeting on March 19, 2021 the Board of Directors approved in principle the recommendations; and,

Whereas: the Board of Directors, through the President, shared their recommendations, in principle, and a copy of the Portage Group Report with every Chair and Director of Education and separately with every Catholic Trustee in the province; and,

Whereas: the recommendations from the committee as well as the report, were presented in principle, at the 2021 AGM and a presentation regarding the Portage Report and Board of Directors recommendations was held during the 2021 Fall Regional Meetings.

Therefore be it Resolved:

that the Members approve the recommendations as outlined in Appendix A and where necessary, appropriate amendments to the OCSTA By-Laws.

Committee Recommendation

Approve.

RECOMMENDATIONS APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE BY THE OCSTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE OCSTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2021 AND PRESENTED TO THE MEMBERSHIP DURING THE 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Orientation for Board Representatives

That the appropriate committee and staff review the orientation practice/program for OCSTA Directors to ensure that all members of the Board of Directors, new and existing, including the President and Vice-President understand their roles and responsibilities.

Recommendation to Institute a Policy to Grandfather Discussion on Issues Already Addressed for a Fixed Period of Three Years

That the fixed period for submission of the same proposal/resolution remain at not more than *two years*.

Weighted Voting

The Board of Directors supports the recommendation included in the report, to not move towards weighted voting or the use of double majority voting on matters regarding the by-laws or governance.

Provincial Advisory Councils

That in addition to the already existing First Nation Trustees Advisory Council, OCSTA establish three additional Advisory Councils as identified below to make recommendations to the OCSTA Board of Directors and that Advisory Councils be added to the OCSTA By-Laws.

- 1) Large/Urban Boards Advisory Council
- 2) Northern/Rural Boards Advisory Council
- 3) Student Trustees Advisory Council

Following the 2022 AGM, the appropriate committee will deliberate the Terms of Reference, number of boards and members to be represented on the councils, and a process for identifying issues. The councils will provide the opportunity for those distinct groups to inform the OCSTA of the unique needs across the province.

Core Competency Training for Board Representatives

The Board of Directors supports the consideration of the core competencies and training as outlined in the report.

Fee Structure

The Board of Directors recommends that, following the AGM, the fee structure and the two options outlined in the report be referred to the OCSTA Budget and Human Resources Committee for careful study, and that the committee makes recommendations to the Board and to the membership in 2023.

Strengthening Lines of Communication between the OCSTA and Trustees

The Board of Directors supports the report's suggestions to strengthen lines of communication between the OCSTA and Catholic School Boards/Trustees.

MOTION TO DEAL WITH RESOLUTIONS IN GROUPS

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

THAT: **the grouping of the Resolutions be approved.**

RESOLUTIONS # 1 - 2

APPROVE

Moved by: Trustee Anna da Silva

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Luz del Rosario

Topic: **COVID-19 Additional Resources**

Whereas: upholding safety and educational standards while supporting student and staff well-being has been the top priority for school boards throughout the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas: the additional time and energy demands placed on ICT staff regarding the maintenance of board technological infrastructure and devices, board-wide distribution and subsequent collection of devices and addressing connectivity needs throughout the pandemic to meet all student and staff needs based on Ministry of Education remote learning mandates has been considerable; and

Whereas: the additional time and energy demands placed on communications staff regarding the creation, release, and response to significantly higher than normal volume of press releases, community releases, messaging and inquires; and

Whereas: the significant volume of staff transitions (e.g. medical leaves, extended absences) during the COVID-19 pandemic has forced human resources and payroll/finance staff to personally extend themselves beyond a reasonable work-life balance by continually updating personnel records, interviewing new staff, and generally administering all of the required changes; and

Whereas: the significant amount of time ICT staff spent on building and maintaining the infrastructure to support the collection, retention and reporting of COVID-19 attestation and testing data, as well as the momentous amount of time spent by Human Resources/Employee Relations/Payroll staff assessing, enforcing, updating daily records and acting upon absences related to attestation and/or testing data;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to support the necessary and substantive investment in Human Resource and Financial Systems to ensure an integrated network can capture unexpected data requests and changes to status of staff availability. This COVID experience has highlighted the need to rely on software and systems rather than manual overrides that create chaos. The current workaround methods create expansive, board-wide strain on staff and resources. In order for school boards to adequately support students and staff while maintaining compliance with Ministry of Education and Public Health mandates, human capacity and general resources have been stretched beyond their limits to an unsustainable level.

Committee Recommendation

Approve.

Moved by: Chair Mark Mullan

Ottawa CSB

Seconded by: Trustee Cindy Simpson

Topic: **Shortage of Education Sector Support Staff**

Whereas: a committed and engaged staff is essential to a vibrant education system

Whereas: adequate and fair wages paid for work done is a factor in such staff engagement

Whereas: Catholic social teachings direct the payment of wages equal to the value of the work performed

Whereas: staff such as bus drivers, Educational Assistants and Early Childhood Educators perform invaluable and essential work

Whereas: education staff including bus drivers, Educational Assistants and Early Childhood Educators have been historically underpaid for the work performed

Whereas: the recent and ongoing driver shortage has shown the disruption to the education system that can happen when wage injustice takes place for a segment of workers

Whereas: there is an ongoing shortage of Early Childhood Educators and Educational Assistants resulting in daily unfilled jobs without replacement workers

Whereas: education compensation restraint legislation has resulted in education workers finding employment in other sectors

Whereas: the just payment of fair wages can show how the work is valued and appreciated

Whereas: staff responds positively when knowing that its work is valued and appreciated and for which the staff is paid appropriately and fairly

Therefore be it Resolved that:

the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association carry this message to the provincial government in the hope that provincial funding will be increased so that underpaid education staff can be paid at a level equivalent to their value to the education system.

Committee Recommendation

Approve.

RESOLUTIONS # 3-10

APPROVE & REFER

Moved by: Trustee Anna da Silva

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Thomas Thomas

Topic: **School Closure Moratorium**

Whereas: Over the past several years, shifting demographics, the increasing cost of real estate, and the recent changes afforded to parents to work remotely have meant that many Catholic and public school boards in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) have experienced, and continue to experience, decreasing student enrollment; and

Whereas: the moratorium on pupil accommodation reviews and school closures announced by the Ministry of Education in 2017 continues to remain in effect; and

Whereas: future projections indicate declines in student enrollment for the next several years; and

Whereas: school building infrastructures still need to be maintained and staffed accordingly, even when enrollment decreases; and

Whereas: students in schools with smaller enrollments may not benefit from the same breadth of programming and extracurricular options as students in larger schools, thereby diminishing their overall learning experience;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to ensure school operations funding grant allocations be adjusted to ensure that school buildings are adequately maintained and proper staffing levels are achieved until the moratorium on school closures is lifted; and

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to lift the moratorium on pupil accommodation reviews and school closures to allow school boards the ability to reduce overall operational costs and better align resources to support student achievement and well-being.

Committee Recommendation

Approve & Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

Moved by: Chair Mark Mullan

Ottawa CSB

Seconded by: Trustee Jeremy Wittet

Topic: **Capital Funding Benchmarks**

Whereas: school boards rely on capital funding from the provincial government for the construction of new schools and additions

Whereas: such funding is provided to approved projects by the provincial government based on construction cost benchmarks

Whereas: the existing benchmarks are inadequate to meet the costs of construction by a wide margin

Whereas: the discrepancy between the benchmarks and actual construction costs are being increased further by the COVID pandemic, supply chain challenges and the growing scarcity of a construction workforce

Whereas: school boards can and do implement cost efficiencies and cutbacks in projects to try to offset the inadequacies of the capital funding benchmarks

Whereas: this results in changes in project size or scope that impact the long-term viability of such projects

Therefore be it Resolved that:

the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association message the provincial government that the capital funding benchmarks must more closely resemble reality as found in the costs submitted in tender calls for projects

And Furthermore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA will petition the Ministry of Education for the provincial government benchmarks to be increased to these more reality-based costs to eliminate the present inadequacy between the benchmarks and the real costs of school capital projects.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

Moved by: Trustee C. MacDonald

Simcoe Muskoka CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee C. Corriveau-Truchon

Topic: **Executive Compensation**

Whereas: All education sector employee groups, with the exception of the senior executives, have received modest salary increases. From teachers and custodians to principals, managers and office staff, education workers have continued to receive equitable compensation.

Whereas: At the same time, the senior executives who are charged with making the most crucial and impactful decisions, often under very trying and stressful circumstances, have been left unfairly compensated due to lengthy salary freezes and inequitable compensation practices.

Whereas: For more than a decade this issue has been ignored by the provincial government resulting in the education sector finding itself in dire state. Recruitment and retention for senior level positions has become an almost impossible task. This isn't a surprising outcome considering principals and managers are earning a comparable (if not larger) salary than the person they are reporting to.

Whereas: The compensation does not adequately take into account the added financial and human responsibility, increased liability, years of experience and advanced qualifications (including Masters degrees and Supervisory Officer qualifications) required of senior executives.

Whereas: Year after year senior executives have allocated compensation increases to their staff whilst they remained frozen. In the past three years, they have managed sector-wide labour negotiations followed by a global pandemic. They have gone above and beyond to keep our schools operating under the most challenging of circumstances and have made countless professional and personal sacrifices in the process.

Whereas: As a result, many senior executives have either retired or resigned and there are very few willing to step up to the plate to take their place. There is no doubt that taking on an executive position in this day and age is a daunting task at the best of times and because of the province's ill-conceived plan and inaction on this matter, there is also now very little, if any, monetary incentive to do so resulted in a leadership gap that has and will continue to have a direct impact on the quality of education in this province.

Whereas: To have a well-run, progressive, responsive, fiscally sound and equitable education system the best possible leaders need to be hired.

Therefore be it Resolved that:

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association petition the Ministry of Education and the President of the Treasury Board who is the Minister with oversight of the Broader Public Sector Executive Compensation Act to promptly review and correct the inequity that has been created so that school boards across the province are positioned to lead the teaching and learning agenda for this province now and well into the future.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

Moved by: Vice Chair J. Hutchison

Simcoe Muskoka CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee M. Hardie

Topic: **AODA Funding**

Whereas: The *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)* came into effect on June 13, 2005.

Whereas: The purpose of the (*AODA*) is to develop, implement and enforce accessibility standards to achieve accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities, with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodation, employment, buildings, structures and premises on or before January 1, 2025.

Whereas: The core principles of the *AODA* are independence, dignity, integration, and equality of opportunity for people with disabilities through the identification, removal and prevention of barriers with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodation, employment, buildings, structures, premises.

Whereas: Barriers are defined in the *AODA* as anything that prevents a person with a disability from fully participating in all aspects of society because of their disability, including a physical barrier, architectural barrier, information or communication barrier, attitudinal barrier, technological barrier, policy or practice.

Whereas: Requirements in all *AODA* standards apply to any organization with at least one worker. Educational institutions are therefore included in this description.

Whereas: Funding is not available to achieve the current requirements related to accessibility standards as set out in the *AODA*.

Therefore be it Resolved that:

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association petition the Ministry of Education to provide stable, reliable multi-year funding to support school boards with the identification, removal or prevention of physical barriers, architectural barriers, information or communication barriers, attitudinal barriers, technological barriers, policies or practices that will keep schools in a state of good repair and provide students and staff with environments to support learning and working in accordance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)*.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

Moved by: Bill Conway

Waterloo CDSB

Seconded by: Wendy Price

Topic: **Continued Funding for Summer Special Education Programs**
(reading supports, summer learning and summer transition programs for students with high special education needs and supporting student mental health)

Whereas: students with special needs require more time to adjust to new environments;

Whereas: making a transition to high school can be difficult for most students it can be more difficult for students with multiple learning needs;

Whereas: the pandemic has broken up learning and consistency and learning has been difficult;

Whereas: building relationships is key for many students to feel successful so meeting key adult figures before school begins is beneficial to their success; and

Whereas: continued investment in mental well-being is a key successor for achieving success.

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA advocates with the Ministry of Education for continued funding to support summer special education programs which may include the following: reading supports for students affected by COVID, summer learning and summer transition programs for students with high special education needs and supporting student mental health. Funding for these programs are to continue beyond the summer months to October 31.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy.

Moved by: Trustee Sandra Moore

Ottawa CSB

Seconded by: Trustee Cindy Simpson

Topic: **Trustee Membership on SEAC**

Whereas: Membership of Special Education Advisory Committees of each board are stipulated by Ontario Regulation 464/97 as required by Ontario Education Act section 57(1)(2)(3). Neither of which has been amended or updated since 1997. Section 6 of the regulation states that, "...each of the persons appointed to a special education advisory committee of a board shall hold office during the term of the office of the members of the board and until a new board is organized.". Therefore, each trustee member is a member for the term of the board.

Whereas: A steady increase in the number of students with exceptionalities in every classroom and at every level of our schools requires trustees to have a greater breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding of special education as a core trustee responsibility is student success.

Whereas: A large proportion of each board's budget is earmarked specifically for special education, the opportunity for more trustees to understand the programs and specifics of what special education does supports student success.

Whereas: More trustees, who are knowledgeable of the programs provided by their board and are acquainted with community members from various local associations, can lend a greater understanding of the unique families that support our students and the sacrifices made to see their children succeed.

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to update regulation 464/97. Specifically, with a view to giving each board the freedom to choose the length of membership of trustee members of SEAC.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

Moved by: Trustee C. MacDonald

Simcoe Muskoka CDSB

Seconded by: Vice Chair J. Hutchison

Topic: **Transportation**

Whereas: The *Education Act* R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2, s. 190 (1) identifies a board may provide transportation for students of the board.

Whereas: The Ministry of Education's Memo 2017: B15 *New Vision for Student Transportation – Discussion* and the associated *December 2017: Discussion paper on a new vision for student transportation in Ontario* recognized both the value of student transportation in supporting student success, and that challenges exist with the current student transportation delivery model in Ontario.

Whereas: Transportation consortia are responsible for administering policies, planning services, awarding, and managing contracts with transportation providers and auditing their performance for contract compliance.

Whereas: The Ministry of Education's Effectiveness and Efficiency (E & E) Review of transportation consortia initiative was undertaken to support school boards' efforts to deliver more effective and efficient student transportation services. The results of the E & E reviews published by the Ministry of Education in June 2015 identified there have been significant improvements in the managerial, technological, contractual and policy infrastructure across the Province. And that these improvements have led to more effective and efficient use of resources, development and wide adoption of leading practices, and expanded service offerings.

Whereas: The cost of student transportation contracts, that have been competitively procured in compliance with the Government of Ontario Broader Public Sector (BPS) Procurement Directive, have continued to increase annually. These contractual increases continue to outpace student transportation funding allocations provided by the Ministry of Education for many boards across the province.

Whereas: A balanced student transportation budget is not feasible under the current model as current student transportation funding allocation does not adequately address current transportation contract costs nor the increasing student transportation needs especially for those students with exceptionalities.

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to expedite their review of the funding formula for student transportation announced in their January 27, 2020 memo 2020: B02. And until such time as a sustainable funding formula has been implemented, petition the Ministry of Education to top up annual transportation funding deficits for affected boards that have demonstrated fiscal responsibility with their student transportation funding allocation.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

Moved by: Maria Marchese

York CDSB

Seconded by: Carol Cotton

Topic: **Employee Life and Health Trust (ELHT) Funding –
Stabilization Adjustment**

Whereas: The ELHTs for School Board employees were created as a result of the transformation of employee benefits from local School Board benefit plans to provincial trusts as negotiated in the 2014 central collective agreements with the various employee unions; and

Whereas: Prior to the transfer of benefits to the trusts each School Board had employee benefit plans which provided different benefits as locally negotiated over the years, therefore Boards' cost of benefits per employee were different; and

Whereas: As a result of the transfer of benefits to provincial ELHTs, employees represented by each Union/Association are provided the same benefit plan; and

Whereas: Those Boards which previously had more expensive benefits are impacted by a negative stabilization adjustment to funding; and

Whereas: The stabilization adjustments create a permanent unfunded financial pressure for some School Boards based on their pre-ELHT transition benefit cost structure, despite the fact the benefit plans are the now the same.

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Minister of Education to convene a working group of School Board and Ministry of Education representatives to review the funding of the ELHTs, including the impact of the negative stabilization adjustment on School Boards' financial health and compliance.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Labour Relations Committee.

RESOLUTIONS # 11-12

RECEIVE & REFER

Moved by: Chair Mark Mullan

Ottawa CSB

Seconded by: Trustee Shelley Lawrence

Topic: **Indigenous Trustee**

Whereas: there is a need to continue to build relations with the Indigenous community in education including in governance

Whereas: the existing provincial regulation dealing with First Nations representation on school boards limits such representation on school boards

Whereas: at present a school board can create an Indigenous trustee position only if a nearby specific First Nation band has at least 100 students attending the board's schools

Whereas: this approach does not address representation for Indigenous students who live in urban areas rather than on reserve

Whereas: this deprives such Indigenous students of having their voices and issues represented at the board table

Whereas: an appointed Indigenous trustee would serve as a link between Indigenous families, communities and students and a school board's governance process

Whereas: the term of office for such an Indigenous trustee position could mirror that of trustees elected by Catholic school ratepayers in a school board's jurisdiction

Whereas: having an Indigenous trustee would be another step in the reconciliation process that is so necessary and ongoing in today's world

Whereas: an Indigenous trustee position would provide representation to the First Nations, Inuit, Metis and non-status Indigenous students and families living off reserve with students attending board schools

Therefore be it Resolved that:

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association advocate strongly for a change in provincial regulation that would allow school boards to create an Indigenous trustee position to represent students and families living off reserve.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

Moved by: Trustee Di Pasquale

Toronto CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee de Domenico

Topic: **Posting of OCSTA Advocacy Priorities**

Whereas: OCSTA's mission states "Inspired by the Gospel, OCSTA provides the provincial voice, leadership and service for elected Catholic school trustees to promote and protect publicly funded Catholic education in Ontario.";

Whereas: OCSTA is a key advocacy arm for publicly funded Catholic School Boards in Ontario, and advocacy is a key part of OCSTA's mission and vision;

Whereas: It is not clear on OCSTA's website what current advocacy priorities are, and advocacy letters are not clearly delineated from other communications; and

Whereas: Advocacy for education can help all publicly funded school boards, both public and Catholic.

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA publicly post what their advocacy priorities are, as well as post recent examples of advocacy, and consider coordinating advocacy efforts with OPSBA.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.