

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.



*Mike Del Grande
Trustee Ward 7*

E-mail: Mike.DelGrande@tcdsb.org

Voicemail: 416-512-3407

To: Corporate Services Committee Meeting, February 9, 2023

From: Mike Del Grande, Trustee Ward 7

Subject: Notice of Motion - Admission and Placement of Elementary Pupils Policy (S.A.01) be amended such that Christian Orthodox children be permitted to attend TCDSB Elementary Schools

MOVED BY: Mike Del Grande, Toronto Catholic District School Board, **seconded** by

WHEREAS: Orthodox students prior to the mid 1980's were admitted in Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB)/Metropolitan Separate School Board (MSSB) elementary schools and;

WHEREAS: Orthodox alumni of TCDSB elementary schools have school age children whom they wish the opportunity to experience the Catholic school environment they once had the privilege of being educated in and;

WHEREAS: The Catholic Church and faith has always encouraged evangelization and;

WHEREAS: The Ontario Catholic Bishops wrote to the then TCDSB Chair of the Board in March 2001 regarding their advice on admissions of Orthodox students and;

WHEREAS: Neighbouring GTA Catholic school boards permit Orthodox student admissions to elementary schools with certain provisions and;

WHEREAS: Pope Paul VI was the first Pope since the ninth century to visit the East, labeling the Eastern Churches as sister Churches. They produced the Catholic-Orthodox Joint declaration of 1965 during the Second Vatican Council. Orthodox students are permitted and welcomed to attend Catholic schools in accordance with the papal encyclical Ut Unum Sint (1995) proclaimed by Pope John Paul II.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: That the Admission and Placement of Elementary Pupils Policy (S.A.01) be amended such that Christian Orthodox children be permitted to attend TCDSB elementary schools provided:

- a) That space remains available in a school after registering/servicing all Catholic students.
- b) That the child(ren) must be baptized in a recognized Christian Orthodox Church affiliated with the sea of Constantinople or Alexandria.
- c) That the parents provide a request in writing to the Principal and Superintendent requesting their child(ren) be admitted outlining why a Catholic education will best serve the needs of the child(ren) and their agreement to have their child(ren) fully participate in the Catholic curriculum, culture, and practices of the school.

Mike Del Grande
Trustee, Ward 7