

OCSTA MOTION

MOVED BY: Trustee Maria Rizzo

**SUBJECT: Mental Health and Well Being
and enhanced funding for new
and existing active school travel
initiatives**

Whereas, public health agencies have repeatedly stated the importance of being active for student health and well-being; and

Whereas, reports from public health agencies have disclosed that ten percent or fewer of students get the recommended daily physical activity; and

Whereas, due to transportation pressures, fewer Catholic schools and longer distances result in many more children being transported or driven to school; and

Whereas, cars in school zones present a significant risk to student and staff safety and well-being, as well as increasing traffic congestion and pollution especially in large urban centres; and

Whereas, the Ministry of Education, through school boards, now spends in excess of \$1 billion per year on motorized school transportation (i.e. bussing) that moves only 40percent of students province-wide, yet there is little to no support for the other 60 percent of students' travel; and

Therefore be it resolved that OCSTA
is) write to the appropriate Provincial and Federal
Ministries (Education, Health, Transport, etc.) to request
proactive communication, education programs and
financial support for active school travel initiatives; and

ii) encourage the Premier and Prime Minister to
enhance funding for new and existing active school
travel initiatives; and

Further be it resolved that OCSTA invite other school
boards and member associations to advocate to
governments for support and partnerships