

OCSTA MOTION

Moved by: Trustee Maria Rizzo

**Subject: International Language
Elementary Program**

Whereas, the International Language Elementary (ILE) Program is taught to thousands of students at some school boards including the Toronto Catholic District School Board; and

Whereas this program has been operating for more than forty five years at the the Toronto Catholic District School Board; and

Whereas the cognitive benefits of learning languages include improved memory, critical-thinking, problem solving, enhanced concentration, ability to multitask, better listening skills and better performance in other subject areas; and

Whereas in today's connected world, proficiency in other languages is a vital skill; and

Whereas parents, educators and advocates of International language learning know that children need more, not fewer language skills to compete in a global marketplace; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario no longer funds the International Language Elementary program; and

Whereas no funding was received by the Province of Ontario and the Government of Italy (due to change in policy) to fund ILE.

Be it resolved that the Government of Ontario be requested to reinstate and fund International Language Elementary Programs to school boards who wish to provide ILE to students.