



*Office of the Director of Education
Office of the Chair of the Board*

October 16, 2015

Mr. Gabe Sekaly
Assistant Deputy Minister
Ministry of Education
900 Bay Street, 20th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Dear Mr. Sekaly:

Thank you for the Ministry's ongoing support as the Toronto Catholic District School Board proceeds with finalizing our multi-year deficit recovery plan for submission by November 30, 2015.

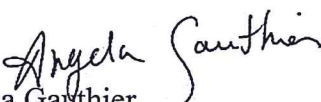
The Board acknowledges that the Ministry has directed us to eliminate our accumulated deficit by 2017-18. However, we respectfully request a one-year extension of this timeline to the end of the 2018-2019 academic year as discussed at our meeting of September 21, 2015.

As the Ministry is aware, our Board has already implemented significant cuts in a number of areas to achieve a balanced financial position for the current fiscal year (2015-2016) which constitutes the first year of our proposed multi-year deficit reduction plan. The impact of \$29.4 million in spending reductions is still resonating through our school system as students, parents and staff adapt to new program delivery models. The efficacy of the new delivery models will be assessed on an ongoing basis.

Moving from a three year plan to a four year deficit reduction strategy will permit the Board to continue to identify and hopefully mitigate any negative effects on academic achievement as a direct result of these restructured programs and services. In addition, the Ministry's previously announced GSN cuts to Special Education funding requires our Board to implement at least a further \$27 million in spending reductions. A four year Multi-Year Recovery Plan presents a better time-frame to allow for potential reductions to full-time staffing positions to be managed through attrition rather than job losses.

The Board is hopeful that with the Ministry's consent, this more measured approach over a four-year period will result in a more sustainable financial future without putting the stability of the Board at risk.

Sincerely,


Angela Gauthier
Director of Education


Michael Del Grande
Chair of the Board