

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.



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

PUBLIC SESSION

HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024

PRESENT:

Trustees:

I. Li Preti, Chair
K. Morrison, Vice-Chair
N. Crawford
M. de Domenico
M. Del Grande – Virtual
D. Di Giorgio
A. Kennedy
T. Lubinski
J. Martino
M. Rizzo
G. Tanuan

Student Trustee:

D. Beshai

Staff:

B. Browne
D. Boyce
A. Della Mora
R. Putnam
A. Ceddia
S. Campbell
L. Coulter
C. Fernandes
P. Aguiar
A. Bria
M. Caccamo
F. Cifelli
R. D'Addario
G. Danfulani

L. DiMarco
K. Dixon
R. Fernandes
M. Meehan
R. Peterson
R. Walo

S. Hinds-Barnett, Acting Recording Secretary
K. Paganelli, Assistant Recording Secretary

External Guest: A. Robertson, Parliamentarian

1. Call to Order

Trustee de Domenico rose on a point of personal privilege to inform Trustees and Staff of the passing of Vanessa Evangelista on February 23, 2024. Vanessa was a dedicated member of the Mother Cabrini Catholic School Parent Teacher Council.

2. Roll Call and Apologies

An apology was extended on behalf of Student Trustee Goodluck.

6. Approval of the Agenda

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that the Agenda, as amended to include the Addendum, be approved.

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

7. Report from Private Session

MOVED by Trustee de Domenico, seconded by Trustee Crawford, that the report from PRIVATE Session, as follows, from Trustee Morrisson be received:

In PRIVATE Session:

- a) The Board of Trustees discussed a pending litigation matter; and
- b) Approved Minutes of the previous Meeting held December 7, 2023.

In DOUBLE PRIVATE Session:

- a) Received the Director Performance Appraisal; and
- b) Approved Minutes of the previous Meeting held December 7, 2023

In TRIPLE PRIVATE Session:

- a) Discussed a confidentiality matter; and
- b) Discussed a Supervisory Appointment procedure matter.

The meeting will resolve back into PRIVATE Session after PUBLIC Session to complete discussions on the Agenda.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Giorgio
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski

Martino
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

9. Approval and Signing of the Minutes

MOVED by Trustee Morrison, seconded by Trustee Martino, that the Minutes of the Meeting held January 11, 2024 be approved.

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

MOVED by Trustee Lubinski, seconded by Trustee Di Giorgio, that the agenda be re-opened.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Giorgio

Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

MOVED by Trustee Lubinski, seconded by Trustee Di Giorgio, that Item 19a) Inquiry from Trustee Lubinski regarding Bishop Allen Academy Catholic Secondary School, be added to the Agenda.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Giorgio
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

11. Presentations

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Trustee de Domenico, that Item 11a) be adopted as follows:

- 11a) **Our Work in Action - A. Della Mora, Associate Director of Academic Affairs and Chief Operating Officer and Superintendents: M. Caccamo, L. Di Marco, K. Dixon, C. Fernandes, R. Fernandes and M. Meehan** received.

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Trustee Lubinski rose on a point of personal privilege to share with Trustees and staff the inspiring story of Julian Chapin-ker, a Grade 8 Toronto Catholic District School Board Student, who despite his physical challenges due to Traumatic Brain injury has continued to excel both academically and non-academically.

Trustee Martino left the horseshoe at 8:41 p.m.

12. Notices of Motion

MOVED by Trustee Lubinski, seconded by Trustee Del Grande, that Item 12a) be adopted as follows:

12a) From Trustee Lubinski regarding Waiving Permit Policy B.R. 05, Appendix B, Regulation 6, St. Cecilia Fun-Fair and Fundraiser, June 6, 2024 that this item be considered at the March 21, 2024 Regular Board Meeting:

WHEREAS: The Fun-Fair and Fundraiser at St. Cecilia school is scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2024, from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.;

WHEREAS: St. Cecilia school community has Smart Serve certified parents that volunteer their time to help;

WHEREAS: To ensure Smart Serve focus, the St. Cecilia community always has a dedicated person engaging with customers, with an additional adult taking payment. This helps more clearly to identify any intake concerns;

WHEREAS: It is very important to note that this portion of the event has worked very smoothly to date, and the St. Cecilia school community has not experienced a situation where any of the parents or customers have over-consumed;

WHEREAS: The proceeds of the fundraiser will be directed toward the needs of the St. Cecilia school community;

WHEREAS: The groups notified of this event annually are all Emergency Services (including Police, Fire and Paramedics). On many occasions, the Toronto Fire Services attend the event and bring a Fire Truck, which is a big attraction for the students;

WHEREAS: The Tent gets set up at the South End of the school. This area is both 1) out of the way of many of the core children's activities and 2) it gives the clear visibility of attendees.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Permit Policy B.R.05, Appendix B Regulations 6 be waived, and that permission be granted for St. Cecilia School to serve alcohol at the Fundraising event on Thursday, June 6, 2024, between 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

MOVED by Trustee Tanuan, seconded by Trustee Lubinski, that Item 12b) be adopted as follows:

- 12b) From Trustee Tanuan regarding Commemorating March 21st as International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** that this item be considered at the March 21, 2024 Regular Board Meeting:

WHEREAS: The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) has a history of involvement in equity practices in education; WHEREAS: The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed annually on 21st March since proclaimed by the United Nations in 1966;

WHEREAS: The genesis of March 21st as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is located within the historical context of the Sharpeville Massacre in South Africa, where a peaceful demonstration in 1960 turned deadly on account of the erstwhile Apartheid system of governance;

WHEREAS: Nelson Mandela, who was freed after twenty-five years of imprisonment on account of his beliefs of equity for all, was elected as President of South Africa in 1994, and declared March 21st a day of mourning in South Africa to commemorate the lost souls, as well as a Human Rights public holiday; and

WHEREAS: The TCDSB participated in the welcoming ceremony in 1998 of Nelson Mandela in Toronto's Skydome, whereby he encouraged school Boards and communities to practice and promote world peace and equity.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The TCDSB establish an annual practice of commemorating The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21st across the Board through curriculum initiatives, publicity, forums, and school community outreach in keeping with our Equity Action Plan and system-wide promotion.

13. Consideration of Motions For Which Previous Notice Has Been Given

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Trustee de Domenico, that Item 13a) be adopted as follows:

- 13a) From Trustee Kennedy regarding Removal of Masters Degree Requirement for Candidates Applying to the Positions of Principal and Vice Principal within Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB):**

WHEREAS: Trustees acknowledge and applaud the value of all previous school administrators' personal investment in pursuing a Master's level post graduate degree;

WHEREAS: Trustees encourage school administrative candidates to continue to consider the pursuit of an education-focused Master's degree;

WHEREAS: The requirement for applicants for Principal (Master's degree completed within 4 years of being appointed) and Vice Principal (registered in first course of Master's degree to apply) has presented a consistent barrier to attracting and hiring since 2018 within the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB);

WHEREAS: Excellent leaders are poised and ready with the completion of (two specialist qualifications) to accept the Principal and Vice Principal positions that are currently unfilled in the TCDSB;

WHEREAS: Students deserve to have consistent, strong, capable, competent, dedicated leaders at the helm of every school and available to each and every student;

WHEREAS: Waiving the above-noted requirements would enable our school communities to have leaders who are ready to serve our students; and

WHEREAS: Staff have previously tabled reports relating to this request and 90 days have passed since the tabling of the last staff report.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: We, the governors of the TCDSB demonstrate courageous leadership and execute a strategic direction that will resolve a long standing critical issue by replacing the current requirements associated with a Master's degree with the option of a Master's degree OR a completed double specialist as part of the criteria for the principal and vice principal application.

The Chair declared a 15-minute recess.

The meeting resumed with Trustee Li Preti in the Chair.

PRESENT: (Following Recess)

Trustees: I. Li Preti, Chair
K. Morrison, Vice-Chair
F. D’Amico - Virtual
N. Crawford
M. de Domenico
M. Del Grande – Virtual
D. Di Giorgio
A. Kennedy
T. Lubinski
J. Martino
M. Rizzo
G. Tanuan

Student Trustee: D. Beshai

13a) From Trustee Kennedy regarding Removal of Masters Degree Requirement for Candidates Applying to the Positions of Principal and Vice Principal within Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) (discussions continued)

Time for business expired.

MOVED by Trustee Di Giorgio, seconded by Trustee Tanuan, that debate be extended by 15 minutes, as per the TCDSB’s By-law, Article 12.6.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
de Domenico
Del Grande
Di Giorgio
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski

Martino
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

Trustee D'Amico joined the virtual meeting at 9:45 p.m.

MOVED in AMENDMENT by Trustee Rizzo, seconded by Trustee Tanuan, that:

1. This option be in force for four years and that this be reviewed and reconsidered in five years;
2. Further that all potential administrators be provided a \$2,500.00 bursary to support them to pursue their Master's degree; and
3. That all candidates should demonstrate leadership and administrative skills via TCDSB approved courses and programs.

With the consent of the Assembly, Trustee Rizzo withdrew Part 2 of the Amendment.

Time for business expired.

MOVED by Trustee Di Giorgio, seconded by Trustee Tanuan, that debate be extended by 15 minutes, as per the TCDSB's By-law, Article 12.6.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Trustees D'Amico
de Domenico
Di Giorgio
Kennedy
Lubinski
Martino
Rizzo
Tanuan

Opposed

Crawford
Del Grande
Li Preti
Morrison

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

Trustee Morrison requested that the question be split.

Results of the Vote taken on Part 1 of the AMENDMENT, as follows:

In Favour

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

Opposed

Di Giorgio
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino

Part 1 of the AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in opposition.

Results of the Vote taken on Part 3 of the AMENDMENT, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Li Preti
Lubinski
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

Crawford
Kennedy
Martino

Part 3 of the AMENDMENT was declared

CARRIED

Trustee Di Giorgio did not vote.

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in opposition.

Results of the Vote taken on the Motion, as amended, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees	Crawford	Del Grande
	D'Amico	Martino
	de Domenico	Rizzo
	Di Giorgio	
	Kennedy	
	Li Preti	
	Lubinski	
	Morrison	
	Tanuan	

Motion as amended, was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in opposition.

MOVED by Trustee de Domenico, seconded by Trustee Morrison, that Item 13b) be adopted as follows:

13b) From Trustee de Domenico regarding Provincial Leadership Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Education:

WHEREAS: Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a rapidly developing technology that is engaging in exponentially iterative learning;

WHEREAS: AI is quickly transforming interactions in business and education globally;

WHEREAS: The evolution and implications of AI are evolving so rapidly that the ramifications for educators, trustees, and education in general remain relatively unknown and difficult to quantify;

WHEREAS: School Boards do not have informed policies regarding the use of AI in the classroom;

WHEREAS: At a recent Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association conference, Trustees and Directors of Education witnessed the phenomenal power both for good and bad of AI tools which are currently readily available to students and staff; and

WHEREAS: The Ministry of Education has the resources and obligation to assist Boards in understanding the implications and impact of AI in schools.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Chair of the Board of Trustees send a letter to Minister Lecce on behalf on the TCDSB requesting a provincial strategy to support School Boards' understanding of and approach to the use of AI in the classroom which may include but is not limited to:

- The establishment of a provincial committee focused on supporting school boards understanding and best practices of AI in the classroom;
- Hosting a provincial conference focusing on the significant issues and implications of AI on schools, school boards, teaching, and learning; and
- Providing on-going support and strategies for educators and school boards regarding AI in schools.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: This motion be forwarded to Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) to be dealt with at the Annual General Meeting.

Trustee Di Giorgio left the meeting at 10:23 p.m.

Trustee Tanuan left the horseshoe at 10:23 p.m. and returned at 10:25 p.m.

Trustee Tanuan left the horseshoe at 10:29 p.m.

Trustee de Domenico challenged the Chair on a procedural matter.

The Chair's Ruling was upheld, as follows:

In Favour

Trustees Crawford

Opposed

de Domenico

D'Amico
Del Grande
Li Preti
Lubinski
Morrison

Kennedy
Rizzo

Trustee Martino did not vote.

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

Trustee Tanuan returned at 10:34 p.m.

Trustee Morrison left the horseshoe at 10:36 p.m. and returned at 10:40 p.m.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Kennedy
Li Preti
Martino
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

Lubinski

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

14. **Consent and Review**

The Chair reviewed the Order Paper and the following Item was held:

19a) From Trustee Lubinski regarding Bishop Allen Academy Catholic Secondary School

MOVED by Trustee Kennedy, seconded by Trustee Rizzo, that the Items not held be received.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

ITEMS NOT HELD AS CAPTURED IN THE ABOVE MOTION

17a) School Funds Review;

18a) From Didem Proulx, Assistant Deputy Minister, Capital Business Support Division, regarding Gender Equity In Sports;

20a) Annual Calendar of Reports and Policy Metrics; and

20b) Monthly Pending List

19. Inquiries and Miscellaneous

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Trustee Morrison, that Item 19a) be adopted as follows:

19a) From Trustee Lubinski regarding Bishop Allen Academy Catholic Secondary School received.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
Del Grande
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Morrison
Tanuan

de Domenico
Kennedy
Rizzo

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

MOVED by Trustee Morrison, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that the meeting resolve into FULL BOARD to Rise and Report.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Trustee Kennedy, that the meeting resolve back into PRIVATE Session.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
D'Amico
de Domenico
Del Grande
Kennedy
Li Preti
Lubinski
Martino
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Beshai wished for it to be recorded that he voted in favour.

PRESENT: (Following PRIVATE Session)

Trustees: I. Li Preti, Chair
K. Morrison, Vice Chair
N. Crawford
de Domenico
J. Martino
M. Rizzo
G. Tanuan

Student Trustee: D. Beshai

7. Report from Private Session

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Trustee Rizzo, that the following report from Trustee Morrison be received:

In PRIVATE Session:

a) The Board of Trustees received a budget presentation.

Trustees Kennedy and Lubinski declared a conflict as per Item 8 below.

Results of the Vote, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
de Domenico
Li Preti
Martino
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Deshai wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

8. Declarations of Interest

In PRIVATE Session, Trustees Kennedy and Lubinski declared a conflict of interest in a budget presentation as they have family members who are employees of the Board. Trustees Kennedy and Lubinski did not participate in discussions regarding that Item nor vote.

There were none.

21. Resolve into FULL BOARD to Rise and Report

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Trustee Martino, that the meeting resolve into FULL BOARD to Rise and Report.

Results of the Vote, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
 de Domenico
 Li Preti
 Martino
 Morrison
 Rizzo
 Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

Student Trustee Deshai wished to be recorded as voted in favour.

23. Adjournment

MOVED by Trustee Crawford, seconded by Trustee Tanuan, that the meeting be adjourned.

Results of the Vote taken, as follows:

In Favour

Opposed

Trustees Crawford
de Domenico
Li Preti
Martino
Morrison
Rizzo
Tanuan

The Motion was declared

CARRIED

SECRETARY

CHAIR