



Committee of the Whole Meeting

Date: Monday, April 19, 2021

Time: 5:30 p.m.
** Committee of the Whole In Camera, if necessary, will precede or follow the Board Meeting, as appropriate.*

Location: Virtual

Attendees:

Board of Trustees:
Bill Conway, Manuel da Silva, Kevin Dupuis, Jeanne Gravelle, Wendy Price, Greg Reitzel, Brian Schmalz, Melanie Van Alphen (Chair), Tracey Weiler

Student Representatives:
Abby Barbosa & Kate Morrison

Senior Administration:
Loretta Notten, Jason Connolly, Gerald Foran, Maria Ivankovic, John Klein, Shesh Maharaj, Judy Merkel, Richard Olson

Special Resource:

Recording Secretary:
Alice Figueiredo, Executive Administrative Assistant

ITEM	Who	Agenda Section	Method & Outcome
1. Call to Order	Chair		
1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials	Trustee	--	--
1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement I (we) would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather today is the land traditionally used by the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe and Neutral People. I (we) also acknowledge the enduring presence and deep traditional knowledge, laws and philosophies of the Indigenous People with whom we share this land today.	Chair	--	--
1.3 Approval of Agenda	Board of Trustees		Approval
1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest 1.4.1 From the current meeting 1.4.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting	Individual Trustees		
1.5 Items for Action			

ITEM	Who	Agenda Section	Method & Outcome
2. Consent Agenda: Director of Education (e.g.: operational matters from the Ministry of Education that the Board is required to do; update on the system)			
3. Consent Agenda: Board (Minutes of meetings)			
3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings			
3.1.1 Committee of the Whole Minutes of Monday, March 8, 2021	Board of Trustees	pp.5-8	Approval
3.2 SEAC Minutes of March 3, 2021	Board of Trustees	pp.9-14	Information
3.3 Audit Committee Minutes of January 19, 2021	Board of Trustees	pp.15-16	Information
4. Delegations			
5. Advice from the CEO			
5.1 Well-Being Update	J. Merkel	pp.17-27	Information
6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment related to Board's Annual Agenda; ownership communication)			
6.1 Linkages Activity	Trustees	--	Discussion
6.2 Pastoral Care Activity	Trustees	--	Discussion
7. Reports from Board Committees/Task Forces			
8. Board Education (at the request of the Board)			
8.1 OCSTA Communications	Chair	pp.28-128	Information
9. Policy Discussion (Based on Annual Plan of Board Work)			
10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance (monitoring)			
11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance (monitoring)			
11.1 Monitoring Reports & Vote on Compliance			
12. Potential Agenda Items/Shared Concerns/Report on Trustee Inquiries			
12.1 Trustee PD – Motions and Inquiries	Board of Trustees	--	Discussion
12.2 Ends Policy Review	Board of Trustees	pp.129-130	Discussion
12.3 Monitoring Reports Review	Board of Trustees	pp. 131-132	Discussion

ITEM	Who	Agenda Section	Method & Outcome
13. Announcements			
13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Apr 20: CPIC •Apr 22: Budget Advisory Committee Meeting •Apr 26: Board of Trustees Board Meeting •May 1: OCSTA AGM (Virtual) •May 3-7: Catholic Education Week •May 3: Governance •May 5: SEAC •May 10: Committee of the Whole/EDC •May 11: CPIC •May 13: Staff Recognition (Virtual) •May 19: SEAC (if needed) •May 25: Governance •May 31: Board of Trustees' Meeting •Jun 2: SEAC •Jun 7: Board of Trustees' Meeting (Budget) •Jun 9: Audit •Jun 14: Board of Trustees' Meeting 	Chair	--	Information
14. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda	Trustees		
April 26, 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update of Budget Preparation • Audit Report of Trustee Expenses • Interim Financial Report • Multi-Year ITS Plan • School Year Calendar • Monthly COVID Update • Equity/Census update • Legal Responsibilities • Financial Conditions • Communication and Support to Board • Treatment of Staff • Ownership Linkages 	Board of Trustees	--	Information
15. Adjournment/ Confirm decisions made tonight	Director of Education		
15.1 Confirm Decisions	Recording Secretary	--	Information
16. Closing Prayer			
17. Motion to Adjourn	Board of Trustees	Motion	Approval

CLOSING PRAYER

O Risen Lord, you have entrusted us with the responsibility to help form a new generation of disciples and apostles through the gift of our Catholic schools.

As disciples of Christ, may we educate and nurture hope in all learners to realize their full potential to transform God's world.

May our Catholic schools truly be at the heart of the community, fostering success for each by providing a place for all.

May we and all whom we lead be discerning believers formed in the Catholic faith community; effective communicators; reflective and creative thinkers; self-directed, responsible, life-long learners; collaborative contributors; caring family members; and responsible citizens.

Grant us the wisdom of your Spirit so that we might always be faithful to our responsibilities. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Rev. Charlie Fedy, CR and the Board of Trustees, 2010



Committee of the Whole Meeting

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, March 8, 2021 Virtually.

Trustees Present:

Bill Conway, Manuel da Silva, Kevin Dupuis, Jeanne Gravelle, Wendy Price, Greg Reitzel, Brian Schmalz, Melanie Van Alphen (Chair), Tracey Weiler

Student Trustees Present:

Abby Barbosa & Kate Morrison

Administrative Officials Present:

Loretta Notten, Jason Connolly, Gerald Foran, Maria Ivankovic, John Klein, Shesh Maharaj, Judy Merkel, Richard Olson

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets:

Absent:

Recorder:

Alice Figueiredo, Executive Administrative Assistant

NOTE ON VOTING: Under Board by-law 5.7 all Board decisions made by consensus are deemed the equivalent of a unanimous vote. A consensus decision is therefore deemed to be a vote of 9-0. Under Board by-law 5.11 every Trustee "shall vote on all questions on which the Trustee is entitled to vote" and abstentions are not permitted.

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials

The opening prayer was led by Trustee Dupuis.

1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement

The Territorial Acknowledgement was led by Chair Van Alphen.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

2021-08 -- It was moved by Trustee Schmalz and seconded by Trustee Gravelle:

THAT the agenda for Monday, March 8, 2021 be now approved. --- Carried by consensus.

1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

1.3.1 From the current meeting – NIL

1.3.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting – NIL

2. Consent Agenda: Director of Education (e.g. day-to-day operational matters from the Ministry of Education that the board is required to do)

3. Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees (Minutes of meetings)

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

3.1.1 Minutes of Monday, February 8, 2021 Committee of the Whole Minutes

2021-09 -- It was moved by Trustee Price and seconded by Trustee Conway:

THAT the Consent Agenda of Board of Trustees and the recommendations contained therein be now approved. --- Carried by consensus

4. Delegations

5. Advice From the CEO

5.1 Adult Education Update

Superintendent Ivankovic introduced Lisa Mackay, principal of St. Louis who provided the Board of Trustees with a presentation on St. Louis Adulting Learning & Continuing Education Centres. The presentation included an update on programs offered, virtual learning and next steps and recommendations.

Trustee Price asked how Trustees could help advocate for the PWS programs and whether a letter in support would assist. Principal Mackay confirmed that a letter would be appreciated.

2021-10 -- It was moved by Trustee Price and seconded by Trustee Gravelle:

That the Board of Trustees instruct our Chair of the Board to write a letter of advocacy on behalf of the PSW Program in consultation with the principal and Superintendent of St. Louis and Director of Education.

--- Carried by consensus

Motion was carried and will be ratified at upcoming Board. Trustees asked clarifying questions on the presentation and provided feedback.

5.2 Assessment & Evaluation

Superintendent Klein introduced Beth Wolf, Student Achievement consultant and Suzanne Smart, Learning Innovation Consultant who provided the Board of Trustees with a presentation on Assessment & Evaluation. Presentation included foundation of work, triangulation of data, meaningful process, and goals/next steps.

Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback.

6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)

6.1 Linkages Activity

Trustees reported back from the Linkage Committee. Highlights included:

- Trustee Conway will prepare appreciation letters to Lorraine Harris, Denise Francis and Sharon Adie for this work on Black Heritage curriculum.
- Trustee Weiler will be sending an invitation to committee chairs to attend Committee of the Whole in May.
- Debrief on Winter Walk to School Day on February 3rd and its success.
- Chair Van Alphen shared experience volunteering at Tiny Homes Take Out.

6.2 Pastoral Care Activity

Trustees reported back from the Pastoral Care Committee. Highlights included:

- Trustee Price updated Trustees on her conversation with Tony Stortz of Tiny Homes regarding volunteering. Unfortunately, at this time, Trustees cannot volunteer all at same time but can sign up individually. A tour of Tiny Homes was also offered to Trustees on March 17th between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m., interested Trustees are to email Trustee Price.
- Trustee Price and Student Trustee Barbosa are continuing to work on a 30 presentation on staying united in faith.
- Update on Prayer partners.

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

8. Board Education (at the request of the Board)

8.1 OCSTA Communications

Chair Van Alphen briefly discussed OCSTA communications.

9. Policy Discussion

10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance

11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

12. Potential Agenda Items

12.1 Board Policy I 001 Ends Review

Chair Van Alphen gave background information on why Board Policy I 001 Ends was referred to Governance and the main issue of timing. Governance had discussions in January where it was pointed out that the policy itself does refer to having a more formal monitoring in June. It was also noted that when Ends were discussed in the past there was a lot of stakeholder engagement, consultation, and possibility a working committee. Governance brought forth a motion to board in January requesting the Ends policy be reviewed and updated and that full board discussion was required to discuss the process.

Round table discussion took place and Trustees noted that Ends are to be discussed at upcoming Governance training and feel it may be worthwhile to have discussion after the training. Chair Van Alphen suggested that once training has taken place that she will prepare a summary report to start the conversation.

Director Notten suggested that this item be reviewed in Governance. Trustee Price noted concerns that this project could be very time consuming and require a standing committee. It was also suggested that perhaps the conversation starts at a Governance meeting and see where it leads. It was suggested that the next Governance meeting be pushed forward.

Chair Van Alphen confirmed that the conversation on Ends will wait until after training and discussion at upcoming Governance. Upon completion she will prepare a summary report for Trustees for decision at a future Board meeting.

12.2 Work of the Board – PD Discussion on Monitoring Reports

Item brought forth this evening to see if Trustees want to have a conversation on monitoring reports and how to move forward. Some recommendations were given in February from Governance training which included adopting a new template.

Trustees noted that they liked idea of new format and getting reasonable interpretation included on the form. Formal conversation may not be needed at this moment and asked Director Notten to communicate to senior team what Trustees would like to see on future monitoring reports. Director Notten noted that suggestions apply differently to different policies. Staff will work with direction.

Trustees suggested that the Chair bring a report forward a report from 2012 as they were very similar to what is being recommended.

Trustees agreed that informal discussion is satisfactory and that there is no need to make formal motions at this point. Trustees noted that the hope to gain more insight from upcoming Governance training and would help conversation at upcoming Governance meeting. Trustees agreed that an interim Governance meeting should be scheduled prior to the upcoming meeting of May 25th.

13. Announcements (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated)

13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events

Trustees discussed upcoming events.

14. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda/Pending Items

Chair discussed upcoming agenda items.

15. Adjournment – Confirm decisions made tonight. Closing Prayer

15.1 Confirm Decisions

The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

15.2 Move in Private, Private

**2021-11-- It was moved by Trustee Gravelle and seconded by Trustee Reitzel:
That the Board of Trustees move into Private, Private meet at 8:06 p.m.**

16. Closing Prayer

17. Motion to Adjourn

**2021-12-- It was moved by Trustee Dupuis and seconded by Trustee Price:
THAT the meeting be now adjourned. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:21 p.m.**

Chair of the Board

Secretary



SEAC Committee Meeting Minutes

Date& Time:	March 3, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
Location:	Teams Meeting
Next Meeting:	April 7, 2021
Committee Members: Kim Murphy, John Gilbert, Tracey Weiler, Jeanne Gravelle, Irene Holdbrook, Sue Simpson, Sarah Van Dyke	
Administrative Officials: Gerald Foran, Erin Lemak	

1. Opening Prayer Welcome	G. Foran
2. Approval of Agenda Motion by: Jeanne Gravelle Seconded: Kim Murphy	
3. Declared Pecuniary Interest N/A	
4. Approval of the February 3rd Minutes Motion by: Karen Kovats Seconded: Kim Murphy	
5. School System Operational Business 5.1. Maximizing the Impact of Support Staff and the Implementation of Behavioural Skills Training (BST)	T. Battistella L. McDonald

Maximizing the Impact of Support Staff

- Knowledge and understanding of:
 - Role of EA/CYCW
 - Role of Classroom Teacher
 - Role of Special Education Teacher
- Comprehensive plan:
 - logic model
 - working groups
 - targeted professional development
 - direct support via collaborative team
 - onboarding

Resources

1. Administrators Guide for Support Staff
2. Educational Assistant Do's & Don'ts
3. Working Together- EA
4. Working Together- CYCW

Behaviour Skills Training (BST)



Staff

Students

Video Modeling

- First-Then
- High Probability Sequence
- Prompting and Prompt Fading
- Teaching Stop
- Teaching Calming Strategies
- Providing Choice
- Physical Distancing

[Providing Choice
Video Model](#)

[Providing Choice Video Model](#)

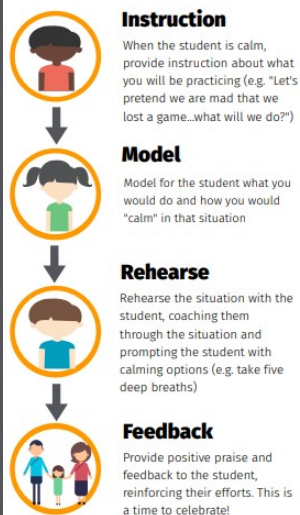
Skill Building Resource Tool (SBRT)



[Skill Building Resource Tool](#)

[Skill Building Resource Tool](#)

Teaching Calming Strategies



Parent Handouts

- Calming Strategies Elementary- Public
- Leisure Skills Secondary- Public
- Reserving Access to Preferred Items Handout
- Offering Choice- Public
- Play Skills Elementary- Public
- Power of Reinforcement- Public
- Token Boards- Public
- First & Then- Public
- Visual Schedules

6. Ministry Updates (10 min)

6.1. Durham District School Board Letter to the Minister of Education

- Ensuring provincial online learning resources, and platforms used to access said resources, are accessible to all students
- Providing high quality online resources

Bring back feedback from the associations that are represented on SEAC if we should send similar letter to the Minister.

6.2. PAAC on SEAC 2020 Survey of SEAC Members Executive Summary and Action Items

G. Foran

Review of the survey led to the decision that there is the interest in organizing training (PD sessions) for SEAC members around key Ministry documents, PPMs and legislations.	
7. SEAC Committee Functions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest shown by Community Living Cambridge and invitation extended for September. 	
8. Policy Advice to the Board N/A	
9. Updates (20 minutes) 9.1. Association Updates WWDSS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 21 is World Down Syndrome Day WDSD (this date represents Trisomy 21, the medical term for DS) From March 1st to 21st - 3 2 1 Dance! Campaign for World Down Syndrome Challenging WCDSB, WRDSB, Upper Grand DSB to engage by wearing colorful socks, posting a picture on social media and use #WWDSS321Dance. WWDSS collaborated with Alysha Brilla to create a song that will be released on WDSD. Chef on Call: For every Donator Burger purchased in the month of March, \$2 will be donated to WWDSS. (Columbia and University) We are supporting the www.readyformyshot.ca promote better policy for COVID vaccine prioritization for our people and others with developmental disabilities Upcoming Evening Speaker Series: Motivation and Reinforcement Workshop on March 23rd and Executive Functioning on April 20th Normie, virtual film screening + Q&A hosted by Idea Exchange with the Waterloo Wellington Down Syndrome Society Friday, March 19, 2021, 7:00 - 9:00pm Register on Eventbrite For more information on all events visit https://www.wwdss.ca/ 	


WRFN:



Parents & Caregivers, please join us on
Thursday, March 11, 2021
from 7 - 9 pm via Zoom
 for an informative workshop on

**Supporting Children and Teens Through
 the Impacts of the Changing Landscape
 of the COVID and post-COVID World**

This webinar will explore the pandemic through the lens of grief and loss. Participants will leave this webinar with a greater understanding of grief as an individual and collective experience and how it shows up across ages and stages in life. Additionally, practical ways that you and those you care about can actively address and process this grief will be presented.

This workshop will be led by Lisa Robinson, a Registered Social Worker with Andrea Warnick Consulting, who focuses her professional and creative energy on supporting children, youth and young adults through tough situations. Her primary focus is on the intersections between grief, anxiety and trauma.


TO REGISTER
 Contact Sue Simpson at
sue.simpson@wrfn.info


 WRFN is pleased to offer this
 workshop in partnership with:



Parents & Caregivers, you are invited to an
 informative virtual workshop presentation
 by Paul Davis on



INTERNET SAFETY
Tuesday, March 23, 2021
from 8pm via Zoom

This parent-only workshop is designed to inform and empower parents in the highly digital age we live in.

Paul Davis, a world-renowned expert on internet safety, will be talking about topics such as Snapchat, Tiktok, Instagram, Facebook, Smartphone and digital trails. He will also speak about cyberbullying, texting, image sharing, online gaming and online security.

Please mark your calendars and join us!
 Space is limited.
 Interested participants must pre-register using the link below.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/1ZEgc-2urD0vHdPc9ODkJPkA4VU-SxkM5aDJ>
 After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.


 If you have any questions,
 please reach out to
 Sue Simpson at
sue.simpson@wrfn.info


 WRFN is pleased to offer this
 workshop in partnership with:


9.2. Trustee Updates

WCDSB Board Meeting

10. Pending Items

11. Adjournment

Motion by: Kim Murphy
 Seconded: Jeanne Gravelle

12. Action Items Place Holder



Audit Committee Open Meeting Minutes

Date: **January 19, 2021**
Time: 6:15 p.m.
Location: St. Mary's Board Room (CEC Room 109a), or [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)
Next Meeting: April 7, 2021

Attendees: **Committee Members:**
Greg Reitzel, Wendy Price, Kevin Dupuis
Community Members:
Jennifer Gruber, Jessica Perkovic
Administrative Officials:
Loretta Notten, Shesh Maharaj, Laura Isaac, Shane Durham
Guests
Jenny Baker, Andrea Eltherington, Chris Demers, Toni Bui

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer Jessica Perkovic

2. Approval of Agenda
Motion: Wendy Price
Seconded: Kevin Dupuis
• *Carried by consensus*

3. Declared Pecuniary Interest
None

4. Approval of the Minutes
• Open Meeting of **November 4, 2020**
Motion: Jennifer Gruber
Seconded: Greg Reitzel
• *Carried by consensus*

5. Discussion Items

5.1 Q1 Dashboard Report (15 minutes) Laura Isaac
• Presentation of Year-end Financial Position – *information and discussion*
• Laura presented the Q1 Dashboard as at November 30, 2020 reflecting Revised Estimates

Motion: That the Q1 Quarterly dashboard report for the period ended November 30, 2020 be sent to the Board of Trustees for approval, in the consent agenda.

Motion: Greg Reitzel
Seconded: Jennifer Gruber
Carried by consensus

5.2 Audit Committee Meeting Closed Session

Motion: That the Audit Committee move into Closed Audit Committee agenda at 6:18pm

Motion: Jennifer Gruber
Seconded: Greg Reitzel
Carried by consensus

6. Pending Items

7. Adjournment at 7:19pm
Motion: Greg Reitzel
Seconded: Jennifer Gruber
Carried by consensus



Date: April 19, 2021
To: Board of Trustees
From: Director of Education
Subject: Well-being Update - Safe Schools

Type of Report:

- ☐ Decision-Making
- ☐ Monitoring
- ☒ Incidental Information concerning day-to-day operations

Type of Information:

- ☐ Information for Board of Trustees Decision-Making
- ☐ Monitoring Information of Board Policy **XX XXX**
- ☒ Information only of day-to-day operational matters delegated to the CEO

Origin: (cite Education Act and/or Board Policy or other legislation)

- Education Act: 306-311; Regulations: 37/01 (2), 106/01
- Ministry Policy & Program Memoranda 119, 120, 128, 130, 141, 142, 144, 145,
- Safe Schools Act (2000) (2009): 309-312
- Bill 13, Accepting Schools Act (2012)
- Bill 157, Keeping Our Kids Safe at School Act (Feb.1, 2010)
- Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations
- 1001: Ends

Policy Statement and/or Education Act/other Legislation citation:

- [Ontario's Well-Being Strategy](#)

Alignment to the MYSP:

Strategic Priority: Building Capacity to Lead, Learn and Live Authentically

Strategic Directions: Nurture the wellbeing of all students and staff.

Goal: Increase in student attendance and engagement

Strategic Priority: Nurturing Our Catholic Community

Strategic Directions: Promote a culture of belonging and respect, that supports success for all

Goal: Equitable Access to Learning Opportunities



Background/Comments:

At the Waterloo Catholic District School Board, we believe that every student has a right to learn in a safe, caring, and supportive environment. Our learning environments whether face to face and virtual, foster positive Christ centered relationships that are at the heart of all our efforts to promote student achievement and well-being. The WCDSB vision for safe and accepting schools clearly aligns with the publication of *Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Ontario Education (2014)*, wherein The Ministry of Education made a commitment to every student in the province of Ontario. Regardless of 'ancestry, culture, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, language, physical and intellectual ability, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, or other factors' (p. 8), all students should be able to access the curriculum, feel safe at school, and have a sense of belonging.

Over the 2020/2021 school year the WCDSB has been intentional about supporting student wellbeing during these unprecedented pandemic times. However, because of the impact due to provincial lockdowns on schools and businesses and the restrictions posed by pandemic operational guidelines some of our safe school initiatives have been paused and/or cancelled. Regrettably, the Alternative to Suspension Program in partnership with the Cambridge YMCA did not receive renewed provincial funding and has been discontinued. Our partnership and training with Community Justice Initiative (CJI) has been essentially paused due to gathering restrictions however consultation has been available as required.

Further The implementation of data collection with respect to student well-being using the MDI tool was not administered in the 2020-2021 school year. The MDI tool measures student well-being pre-covid and the data is compared to previous years' implementation. If the MDI were implemented this year the data and KPI would be measuring how students are doing in a pandemic rather than how students are doing in a regular school year. The richness of the data is rooted in the ability to tell a story over-time by examining patterns and trends. The survey will be implemented when students are face to face in school in the coming school year. This also mirrors the implementation of the MDI with the co-terminus board of education.

Administrators were encouraged to do well-being surveys and mental health check-in using the tools provided by School Mental Health Assist (SMHA).

The Ministry portfolio of SMHA is instrumental in providing mental health and wellness resources to assist advocacy with respect to mental health and well-being within their own schools in time to meet the ever-changing needs of students during this pandemic. It is our intention to continue to gauge our student well-being through our Student Census Survey in 2021 and through the administration of the MDI in 2022, as well as the upcoming School Resource Officer Survey results.



Strategic Directions: Nurture the wellbeing of all students and staff.

Goal: Increase in student attendance and engagement

The board recognizes that an inclusive, restorative, respectful and Christ-centered environment where all members of the school community feel safe, welcomed, and accepted is most conducive to learning. Positive behaviour is promoted through the Catholic Values lens as students are provided many opportunities to correct behaviours, seek reconciliation and be given opportunities to redeem themselves. Progressive discipline is an entire school approach that requires all



stakeholders to guide, support and model proper behaviour for the students. Suspensions and expulsions are part of the progressive discipline continuum with an increased level of supports, interventions and strategies.

The measurable goal and KPI for Safe Schools at WCDSB are the reduction in the number of Suspensions and Expulsions issued to students through effective utilization of restorative justice, progressive discipline, and careful consideration of mitigating and other factors. Ultimately, the Superintendent of Education for Safe Schools is responsible for ensuring the strategies are understood and fully utilized in schools. Principals are responsible for maintaining order and proper discipline in their schools. Safe School Teams in each school collaborate to develop a Safe School Plan that specifically addresses Bullying Intervention and Prevention, Progressive Discipline, Promoting a Positive School Climate, Restorative Justice and Emergency Response Procedures in accordance with Ministry and Board policies and procedures.

From a system level perspective, the analysis of data permits measurement of progress in areas of concern, identification of needs or issues, and assists with monitoring, reviewing, and evaluating the effectiveness of board policies, procedures, and practices.

Key Suspension/Expulsion Trends Summary

NOTE: To compare suspension and/or expulsion rates from the 2020-2021 school year to previous school years, many of the visualizations/data tables only considers the suspensions and/or expulsion for the first 6 months of school year (up to and including February). All data is taken from our Student Information System, facilitated by the IT department. Analysis is completed by Research Department.

We are continuing to notice fewer students who are being suspended when we look at the trends over the last three years. Controlling for similar time ranges (e.g., September to February of each school year) when looking at students who are suspended and enrollment, we are noticing that total number of students who are suspended each year (e.g., recidivism) has decreased in both panels over the past three years in the following magnitudes:

- In the **Elementary panel**, there is a decrease when we compare the proportion of students that were issued a suspension in the 2020-2021 school year when compared to four years ago (see Table 1, Figure 1) (note: a decrease of approximately 135 fewer students)
- In the **Secondary panel**, there is also a decrease when we compare the total number of students that had a suspension issued in the 2020-2021 school year when compared to four years ago (Table 2, Figure 1) (note: a decrease of approximately 168 fewer students).

We are also continuing to notice fewer overall suspensions over the last three years. Controlling for similar time ranges when looking at the total number of suspensions and enrollment (e.g., September to February of each school year), we are noticing that total number of suspensions (i.e., if a student were suspended twice, they would be counted twice in this data) has also decreased in both panels over the past three years in the following magnitudes:

- In the **Elementary panel**, there is a decrease when we compare the total number of issued suspensions in the 2020-2021 school year when compared to three years ago (see Table 3, Figure 2) (note: decrease would approximate to 205 fewer incidents).
- In the **Secondary panel**, there is a decrease when we compare the total number of issued suspensions in the 2020-2021 school year when compared to three years ago (see Table 4, Figure 2) (note: an increase, for the purpose of calculations, would approximate to 249 more students).



Table 1: Elementary Enrollment and Number of Students Issued a Suspension each school year as of last day in February

Year	Enrollment (count)	Recidivism (count)	Percent (%)
20182019	16465	231	1.40%
20192020	17048	303	1.78%
20202021	16732	100	0.60%
Average Enrollment - 3 Year (#)			16748.00
Difference as a proportion of Average Enrollment -4 Year (#)			-135.00

Table 2: Secondary Enrollment and Number of Students Issued a Suspension each school year as of last day in February

Year	Enrollment (count)	Recidivism (count)	Percent (%)
20182019	6497	166	2.56%
20192020	7074	256	3.62%
20202021	7231	10	0.14%
Average Enrollment - 3 Year (#)			6934.00
Difference as a proportion of Average Enrollment -4 Year (#)			-168.00

Table 3: Elementary Enrollment and Number of Suspensions each school year as of last day in February

Year	Enrollment (count)	Total Incidents (count)	Percent (%)
20182019	16465	314	1.91%
20192020	17048	424	2.49%
20202021	16732	114	0.68%
Average Enrollment - 3 Year (#)			16748.00
Difference as a proportion of Average Enrollment -4 Year (#)			-205.00

Table 4: Secondary Enrollment and Number of Suspensions each school year as of last day in February

Year	Enrollment (count)	Total Incidents (count)	Percent (%)
20182019	6497	242	3.72%
20192020	7074	363	5.13%
20202021	7231	10	0.14%
Average Enrollment - 3 Year (#)			6934.00
Difference as a proportion of Average Enrollment -4 Year (#)			-249.00

Figure 1: Total Number of Students issued a Suspension for each school year as of Feb.28

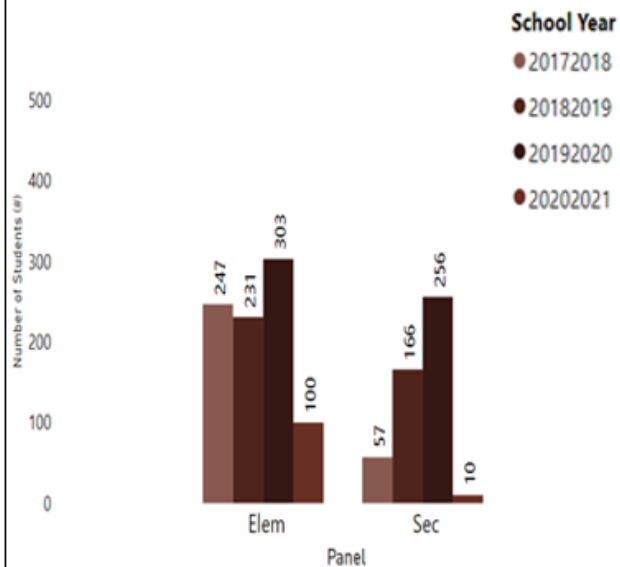
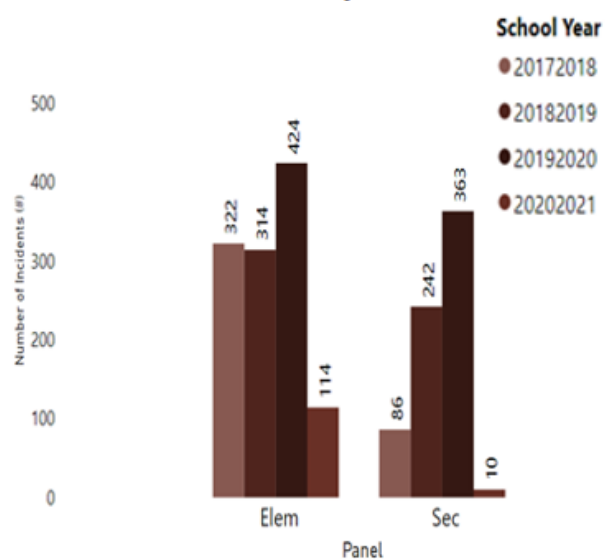


Figure 2: Total Suspensions for each school year as of February 28



To date, there have been no issued expulsions (up to and including the last day of February) in 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 school years (Figure 3). When we compare this trend to previous school years, we have a comparatively decreased number of expulsions from 2018/2019 wherein there were 4 recorded expulsions.

As always, the suspension and expulsion trends continue to prompt questions that drive system leaders' continuous efforts to support WCDSB students, staff, and parents. The work of the District Safe and Accepting Schools Committee (DSASC) continues to focus on improvement to policies and procedures that have an impact on safety in schools and improve training for students, staff, and leaders in safe and accepting schools.

We would like to acknowledge that the new ASPEN SIS system has provided some challenges when trying to look at the types of infractions as the menu options are different and do not line up with previous years. We will work collaboratively with Board staff and school Administrators to ensure that we accurately map the incident types/codes in compliance with Ministry directives.

We can assume that some of these trends may be attributed to the increased virtual component of learning modalities that students were engaged in since March 2020 (i.e., COVID-19 pandemic). In some cases, students are learning virtually (e.g., St Isidore), and/or are returning to an adapted model (e.g., Secondary Student attend virtually 75% of the time).

We will continue to review the details related to suspensions and expulsions to inform precise programming and/or resources with the goal to continually ensure that students are in a learning stance wherein mistakes and challenges are met in a productive, safe, and caring manner.

Strategic Directions: Promote a culture of belonging and respect, that supports success for all

Goal: Equitable access to learning Opportunities

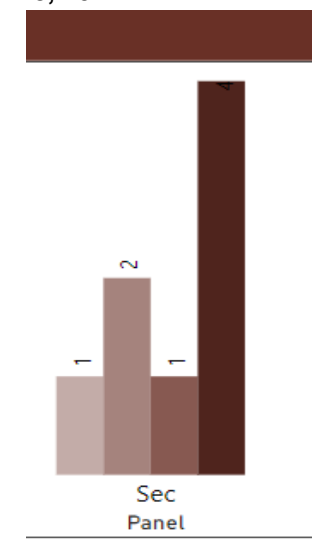
Under the guiding principle of "Reaching Every Student," secondary schools in Ontario use many strategies, interventions, and innovative alternative programs to support, assist and meet the unique learning needs of students. These options exist in schools, in other school board facilities, in partnerships with community agencies and employers and other creative learning structures.

There is a small but distinct group of students whose needs are not met by traditional in-school programs and interventions. Often, many programs have been tried but without success. These 14 to 17-year-old students are offered the Supervised Alternative Learning program as an option. The SAL Plan is created with the student, in collaboration with the school staff and the SAL coordinator. This SAL Plan will meet the unique individual needs and provide an individualized alternative learning experience which enables their progress toward their goals - which may include obtaining an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), an Ontario Secondary School Certificate (OSSC) or a Certificate of Participation.

The location of the SAL program is determined based on student need. Students can work with their school and school staff through the program or be invited to attend St. Don Bosco in either Kitchener or Cambridge.

The WCDSB St. Don Bosco sites also support our students who for various reasons, are temporarily dismissed from the school setting. The accepting and caring environments provide a positive opportunity for students to be supported in addressing students' social, emotional, mental health, and behavioral concerns. Small student-to-teacher ratios, Child and Youth Worker support and communication between stakeholders has demonstrated evidence of re-

Figure 3: Total Number of expulsions issued school year as of Feb. 28, 2021



engagement through student achievement. Strong practices for re-entry to home schools, with a restorative lens, leads students to a seamless re-engagement to their school community.

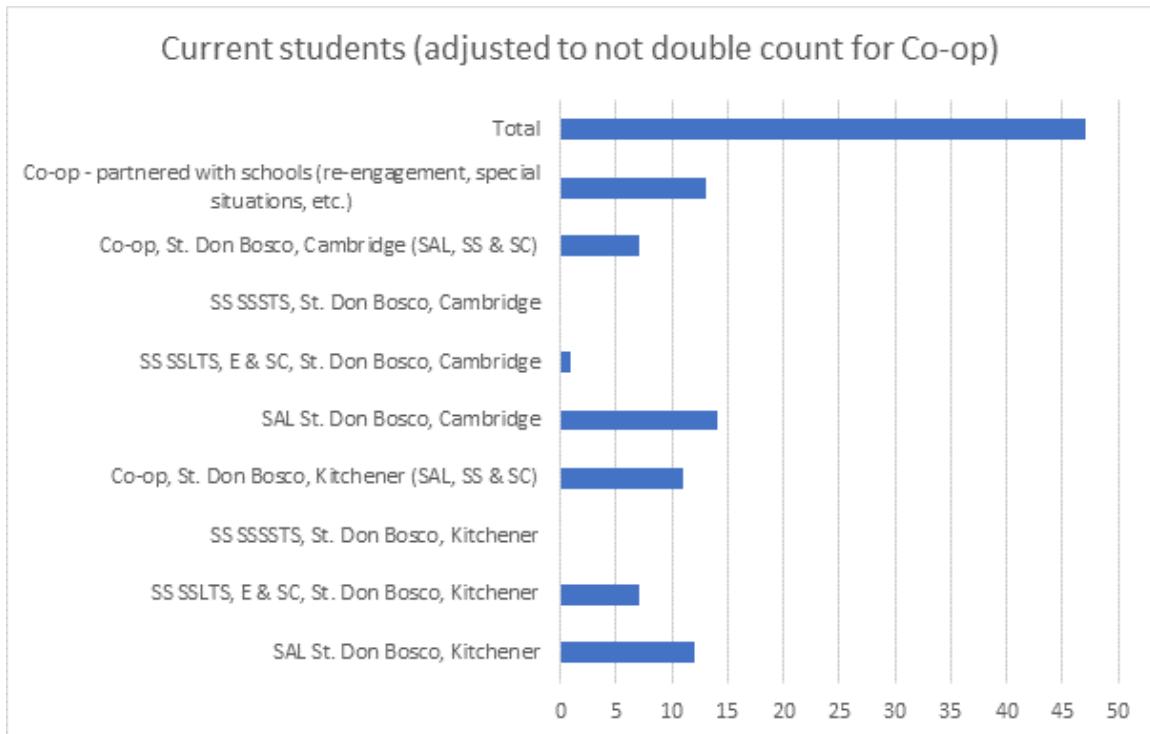
As noted below, our programs for both our safe-school students as well as our SAL students are conduits to ongoing student success. Credit accumulation through onsite work at our student's home school as well at our St. Don Bosco sites have been very positive.

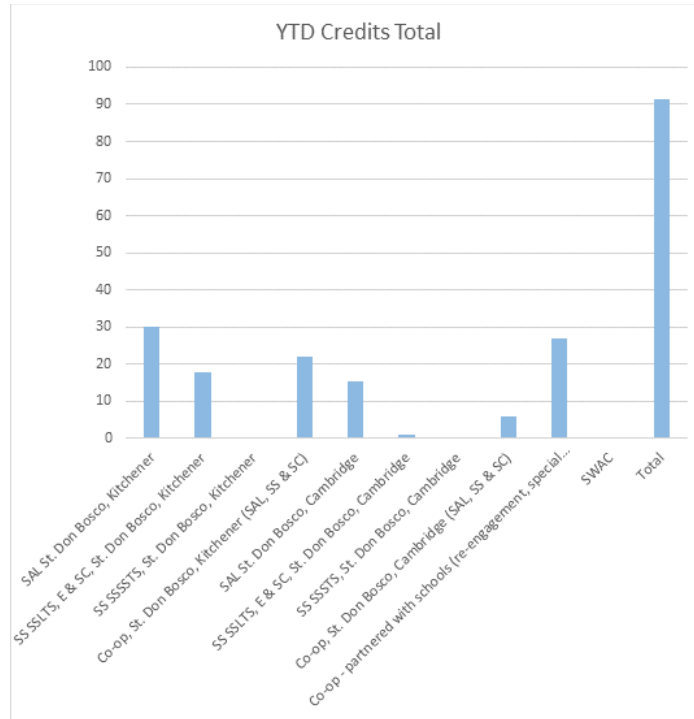
Total Safe Schools Students and SAL students supported through St. Don Bosco:

To date, 7 Safe Schools students have been supported through St. Don Bosco Kitchener and Cambridge long term suspension program this is a decrease of 16 students from the prior year. Some students that are on a long-term suspension are also supported in attaining credits. To date, all 7 students are credit supported.

The below graph indicates credits earned by our safe school students in both categories co-op and non-co-op. Due to our current circumstance many students were unable to continue co-op placements.

As indicated as well, our SAL students continue to find great success through our programming as measured through total credit accumulation:





Currently there are 26 students who are attending St. Don Bosco as SAL students at either Kitchener or Cambridge. There have been 35 students to date and a total of 17 academic credits accrued and while not reflected in this graph a combined total of 57 students have participated in a SAL placement via their home school and St. Bosco and with our robust opportunity to work for credit a total of 63 credits have been earned through co-op placements and an overall total of 91.5 credits acquired this year to date.

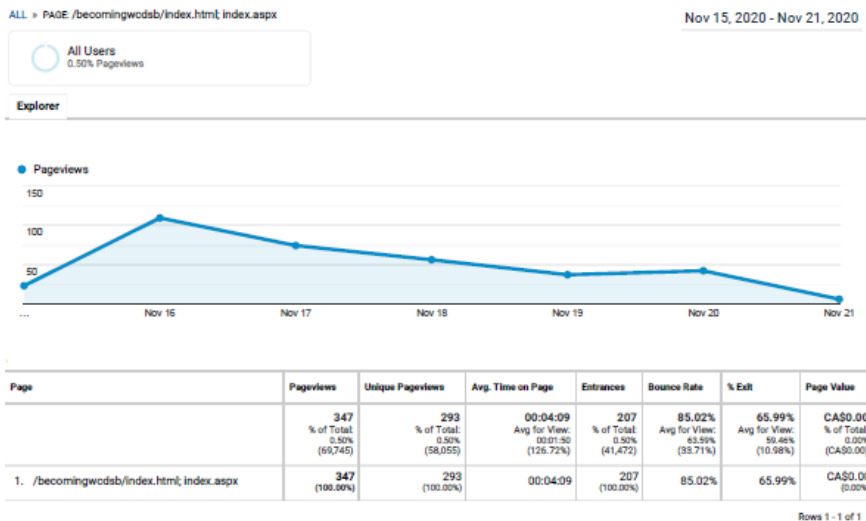
Ongoing Initiatives and Programs:

Anti-Bullying Week

Bullying has lasting effects on those who experience and witness it. During Anti- Bullying Week in November, we began our *Gathered to Become: Transforming Communities During Anti-Bullying* week project. Staff and students participated in various anti-bullying activities daily linked to our pastoral theme of Gathered to Become. Students also submitted t-shirt logo designs, poems and art demonstrating how we can become communities that support and foster inclusivity and acceptance. Winning designs below were shared via our system poster which was created and distributed to all schools. The project culminated in a virtual visit from the Minister of Education and



local MPP Amy Fee in February. Our hope for next year is to start planning earlier on a Board-wide level and increase student planning participation.



Website hits and social media indicate an active community engaged in sharing the new learning during Anti-Bullying Week.

Twitter:

Views 2800

Like: 51

Retweet: 25

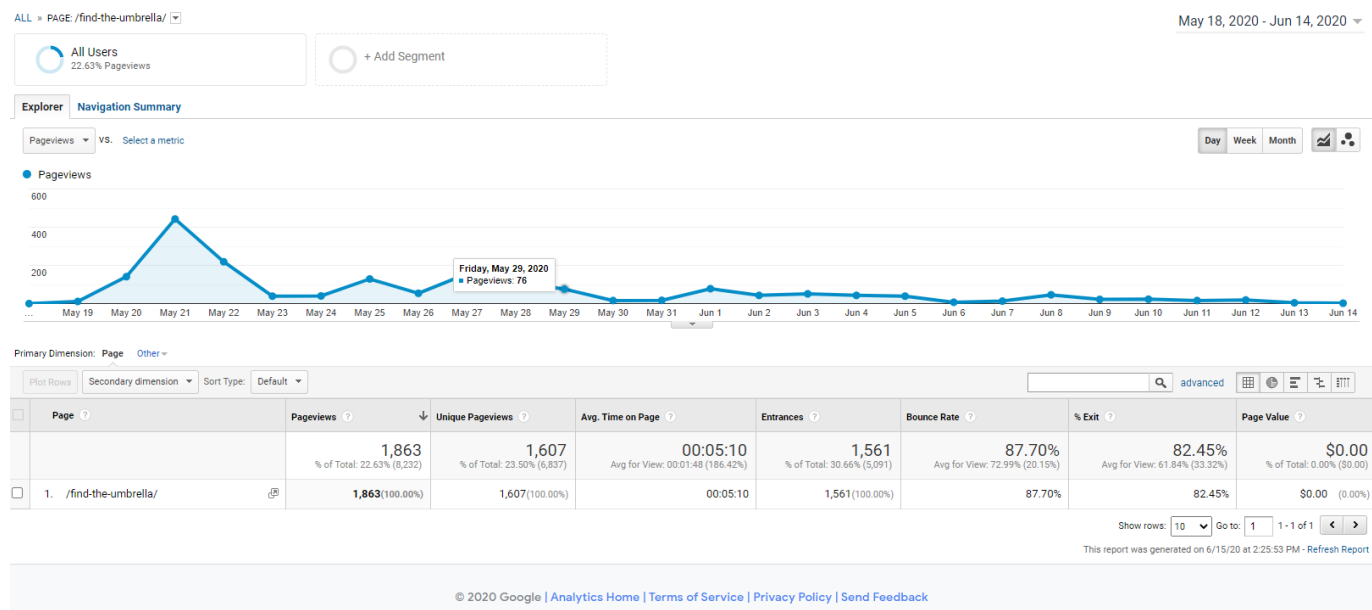
There were similar numbers for Facebook and half of that for Instagram.



The Umbrella Project



The Umbrella Project is 99% of all WCDSB Schools! The Umbrella Project which teaches well-being as a skill has been particularly relied upon to assist teachers, students and parents reframe our perception of challenges and strengthen the skills of well-being to positively cope with the everyday stresses of life. The WCDSB has created many opportunities to share the learning and in May we implemented a #WCDSBFindtheUmbrella social media campaign which garnered 1800 page views with over 1600 of them being unique views. Later this month we plan to implement an April Showers Bring May Flowers social media campaign with The Umbrella Project wherein our students and families can once again share their wellbeing skills action. Here are the final analytics from last year's campaign. Note we also gave weekly supermarket gift cards to assist with food security in our WCDSB community.



Human Trafficking and Exploitation

The WCDSB is committed to the education of and ongoing safety of our students as it relates to human trafficking. On January 18, 2021 we hosted an online Human Trafficking Presentation for parents. This presentation was in partnership with the Multidisciplinary Response to Combat Human Trafficking Committee, Waterloo Region and were pleased to have 193 registrants for this event. Additionally, beginning in September 2021, in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, we will be implementing the "Kids in the Know Program" which will support our student learning around safety, confidence, and competence as it relates to relationships and seeking help if needed. As endorsed through the Canadian Conference of Bishops this continuing education and prevention effort is geared to children and youth and will build on our existing catholic school curriculum. This program will also offer opportunity for educators and parents to receive professional development regarding child sexual abuse including non- sexual and sexual grooming.



School Resource Officer Review

The WCDSB believes that all students have the right to be safe and to learn and live-in communities where inclusion, equity and diversity are valued and promoted.

For several years, the WCDSB has worked with the Waterloo Region Police Service to implement the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program in our schools. The goals of the SRO Program are to develop a positive relationship between youth and police, reduce youth victimization, and partner with school staff to proactively address student, family, and school issues.

In January 2021, the WCDSB begun its review of the SRO Program to determine how well it is achieving its original goals. This review will answer the following questions:

1. How effectively is the original mandate of the SRO program — related to relational, proactive policing — being realized in the WCDSB?
2. How (if at all) is systemic racism experienced within the context of the SRO program?
3. Are marginalized students disproportionately suspended/expelled where SRO police involvement is also a factor?
4. How do racialized students view and experience police within the SRO program compared with police in their community?
5. What role should police have in schools to ensure equitable outcomes for all students?

To date student, staff and community surveys are complete. A total of Student (2180) Community (146) and Staff (145) have responded to date. Current interviews, small group discussions and focus groups are underway. The complete summary of the results will be available to the Board in May 2021.

Next Steps:

Safe School Ambassador Program:

To harnesses the power of students to prevent and stop bullying and mistreatment the WCDSB will be initiating the Safe School Ambassador Program as an innovative approach to improving school climate. This approach taps the power of students to change the social norms of a school culture to stop bullying and create schools and communities that are safe, welcoming, and inclusive. Aimed at secondary students who have shown interest in promoting Safe and Accepting Schools initiatives our Ambassadors will receive training from educators and guest speakers. These training sessions inspire discussions that can serve as a catalyst for projects, plans and strategies within local school communities. Each school will receive funding to support school led initiatives.

Professional Development for Educators

Training will be offered to educators to ensure they have the tools and resources needed to address bullying in schools. Educators will learn anti-bullying and de-escalation techniques to reduce instances of bullying, support victims and help students develop feelings of empathy.

Digital Citizenship and Student Aware

The co-development of a program logic model for Digital Citizenship and Student Aware will forefront a monitoring strategy which will help us better understand the WCDSB baseline and eventual relationship between preventative strategies and the numbers of investigations required through the Student Aware program.



Recommendation:

This is for the information of the Board.

Prepared/Reviewed By: Loretta Notten
Director of Education

Judy Merkel
Superintendent of Education

Kelly Roberts
Research Coordinator

*Bylaw 4.2 “where the Board of Trustees receives from the Director of Education a monitoring report that flows from a responsibility delegated to the Director under Board Policy – **except where approval is required by the Board of Trustees on a matter delegated by policy to the Board** – the minutes of the Meeting at which the Report is received shall expressly provide that the Board has received and approved of the Report as an action consistent with the authority delegated to the Director, subject in all instances to what otherwise actually occurred.”





Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association

March 17, 2021

Elena Weber-Kraljevska
Energy Conservation Officer
Waterloo CDSB
35 Weber Street
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Kitchener, ON N2H 3Z1

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T. 416.932.9460 F. 416.932.9459
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Patrick J. Daly, *President*
Michael Bellmore, *Vice President*
Nick Milanetti, *Executive Director*

Dear Elena,

On behalf of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association, I would like to thank you for your significant contributions to our "Care for our Common Home" survey. In this year of "Nurturing Hope," one priority has been celebrating the 5th anniversary of Ladauto Si' and Pope Francis' call to each person to respond to the great cultural, spiritual and educational challenge that stands before us, and our need to set out on the long path of renewal (LS, no. 202). Several Catholic schools and school boards have approached us to indicate they have been doing work on this topic locally, and it is a key area we want to continue to support as an organization. OCSTA is responding to this urgent appeal by developing a **Together in Faith: Care for our Common Home - Collection of Promising Practices**, including submissions from each of the Catholic Boards in the province.

We very much appreciate you taking the time to respond to our memorandum related to Ladauto Si' and this publication. Thank you for sharing documents and information with us related to your good works in environmental sustainability and Stewardship of Creation. Thank you also for identifying informal and/or formal activities you engage in at your board related to collaboration, communication and celebration of environmental initiatives.

At our upcoming AGM, we will introduce our new publication, with copies distributed to school boards on time to commemorate the close of this special 5th anniversary Lauduto Si' year (May 24th, 2021) where the torch will be handed off to each one of us to be protectors of God's handiwork (#217).

Yours Very Truly,

Patrick Daly
OCSTA President

cc. Loretta Notten

PROMOTING AND PROTECTING CATHOLIC EDUCATION

From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA President Response to Toronto Star article "Is it time for Ontario to end Catholic school funding?"
Date: Friday, March 19, 2021 9:08:46 AM
Attachments: [toronto-star-end-catholic-school-funding-bhepburn-march17-2021.docx](#)
[image002.png](#)
Importance: High

For April COWB ...

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Waterloo Catholic District School Board | www.wcdsb.ca

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From: OCSTA - Sharon McMillan <SMcMillan@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 19, 2021 8:24 AM
To: OCSTA - Sharon McMillan <SMcMillan@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA President Response to Toronto Star article "Is it time for Ontario to end Catholic school funding?"
Importance: High

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March 19, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Chairs and Directors of Education
• All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors

FROM: Sharon McMillan, Director of Communications

SUBJECT: Response to Toronto Star, March 17 article: “Is it time for Ontario to end Catholic school funding?”

For your reference, please see below President Patrick Daly’s response to a March 17th article in the Toronto Star by columnist Bob Hepburn titled “Is it time for Ontario to end Catholic school funding?”. While the premise of the article was not substantiated with facts, (see article attached) the statement below provides key reference points that may be useful to boards when responding to local questions on this matter.

To The Toronto Star:

Rather than consider old and tired suggestions that only serve to increase costs and distract, now is a time to work together to strengthen our Province as we move with hope to a post pandemic world. Publicly funded Catholic schools in Ontario are cause for celebration and one of the four pillars upon which the outstanding structure of education in our Province has been built. For well over 150 years, the distinct mission of each of the systems and the choice provided to parents within this structure has led to Ontario being recognized as one of the best places for children to learn and grow.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, tens of thousands of teachers, school and system leaders and education workers have worked heroically to ensure continuity of learning for students and to whatever degree possible, stability for families. Like our colleagues in other school systems, Catholic school board trustees have placed priority on the health, safety and well-being of the 550,000 students and thousands of staff in Catholic schools.

The writer knows that student enrollment is the most significant factor impacting school board revenue and expenditures. The history of amalgamation in this Province has not been successful and parents and the people of Ontario know that in each case/experience of amalgamation, costs have increased dramatically. Other than causing massive disruption and chaos, moving students from one system to another would increase cost and limit parental choice.

The four publicly funded school systems work very well together out of a shared commitment to the cognitive, social, physical and spiritual well-being of the students entrusted to their care. Particularly when there is a real need to plan for the next school year and focus on closing learning gaps exacerbated by the pandemic and supporting student mental health, the spirit of co-operation and the structure of education in Ontario is to be celebrated and strengthened.

Patrick Daly
President
Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association

Sharon McMillan
Director of Communications
Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association
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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA: Robin Reil, Trustee, CDSB of Eastern Ontario
Date: Sunday, March 21, 2021 11:18:29 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

For April COWB...

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Waterloo Catholic District School Board | www.wcdsb.ca

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519-578-3660 | loretta.notten@wcdsb.ca



**Waterloo Catholic
District School Board**
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

From: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2021 11:04 AM
To: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA: Robin Reil, Trustee, CDSB of Eastern Ontario

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TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
• **All Catholic District School Boards**
CC: OCSTA Directors & Staff
Board Secretaries & Administrative Assistants

We are saddened to inform you of the passing of **Robin Reil, Trustee, CDSB of Eastern Ontario**. Robin was a dedicated Catholic Trustee serving on the Board of Directors for nearly 18 years including as Vice Chair 2016-2017. Robin was a former teacher, Principal and Vice Principal with the Lanark, Leeds and Grenville RCSSB.

We ask you to join us in praying for the repose of the soul of Robin, for his family and the Eastern Ontario Catholic Board and School community.

Following is the CDSBEO Media Release.

CDSBEO Mourns the Passing of Trustee, Robin Reil



Kemptville – The CDSBEO is saddened to share that Robin Reil, Trustee for the City of Brockville, Town of Smiths Falls, and Leeds County, has passed away at the age of 72 years.

Trustee Reil served on the Board of Trustees for nearly 18 years, serving as Vice-Chair for 2016-2017. After graduating from Teachers College in Ottawa in 1969, Trustee Reil was hired to his first teaching position with the Lanark, Leeds & Grenville Roman Catholic Separate School Board at Sacred Heart of Jesus in Lanark. Between 1969 and 2001, he held positions in Lanark, Perth, Westport, Brockville and Prescott as teacher, vice-principal, and principal.

Throughout his many years in education, Trustee Reil set a great example as a faith leader and dedicated Catholic educator who always held student well-being as his highest priority. “I believe in the dignity and self-worth of each individual child,” he once wrote in a letter to the Board. “The more positive the child’s self-image, the more receptive that child is to learning. The same holds true for each staff member.”

Trustee Reil was also well known as a pioneer in energy conservation and environmental awareness, and his active role in these initiatives led to many exemplary school programs and activities.

“Trustee Reil has been a champion for Catholic schools and our board for over 50 years,” said Board Chair, Todd Lalonde. “His dedication and enthusiasm as an educator and trustee is unparalleled, and we will miss his presence at the Board table immensely. Robin truly enjoyed being in our schools and was very proud of the work and accomplishments of our students and staff. He has, on many occasions, shared fond stories of his time as an educator, and I can say that we have truly lost not only a dear friend, but a strong advocate for Catholic education.”

“As a valued member of our Catholic school community, Trustee Reil’s absence will undoubtedly leave a significant void. He has been an outstanding leader, a colleague, and a friend for many, many years, and he has served this community with devotion, passion, and pride,” noted John Cameron, Director of Education.

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario operates 39 elementary and 10 secondary schools across eight counties. The CDSBEO offers excellence in Catholic education through provincial-leading programs to approximately 13,000 students.

CONNIE ARAUJO-DE MELO | Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association | 1804-20 Eglinton Avenue West, Box 2064, Toronto, ON M4R 1K8 | t 416-932-9460 ext. 226

CATHOLIC EDUCATION: *Nurturing Hope*

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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA: Provincial Budget Announcement 2021-2022
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 7:39:41 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

For April COWB....

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

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From: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 6:14 PM
To: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA: Provincial Budget Announcement 2021-2022

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**Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association**

March 24, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
• All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff
Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: Provincial Budget Announcement 2021-2022

On Wednesday March 24, 2021 the Ontario Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy, released the 2021-22 provincial budget.

The budget included the following new funding initiatives that will be of interest to Catholic boards:

- \$40 million in new funding over two years to improve remote learning technology, including connectivity within school buildings.
- Doubling the Ontario COVID-19 Child Benefit to \$400 per child and \$500 per child with special needs.
- \$1.6 million over two years to support the Anti-Racism and Anti-Hate Grant program, which will support community based anti-racism initiatives focusing on anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous racism, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia. This builds on a \$60 million investment in the Black Youth Action Plan announced in November 2020.
- \$175 million in mental health funding in 2021–22 as part of the investment of \$3.8 billion over 10 years.
- 20% enhancement of the CARE tax credit for 2021, an increase in support from \$1,250 to \$1,500, on average, in additional support for the child care expenses.
- \$240 million over four years, beginning in 2021–22 for children with special needs to access services such as early intervention rehabilitation and Preschool Speech and Language Program services.
- Providing an additional \$39.6 million over three years, beginning in 2021–22, to expand the Specialist High Skills Major program.
- Investing \$3 million over three years in a new pilot bursary program for hands-on learning in the skilled trades.

Below is a chart of the projected Education expenditures to 2022-23.

Expenditure	Actual 2018-19	Actual 2019-20	Interim 2020-21	Planned 2021-22
Education (Base)	28,742	30,177	30,561	31,263.00
Education — Teachers' Pension Plan¹¹	1,678	1,570	1,608	1,630.90
Education — COVID-19 Time-Limited Funding¹²	—	—	1,573	59.3
Education (Total)	30,420	31,748	33,742	32,953.20

The OCSTA will, on behalf of Catholic School Boards, advocate strongly for additional funding with regard to planning for the 2021/2022 school year. We will continue to impress upon the Ministry of Education the need to provide sufficient resources to support the health and safety of students and staff as well as the necessary funding for mental health and the closing of learning gaps exacerbated throughout the pandemic.

Further details on the budget, see <https://budget.ontario.ca/2021/index.html>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me, Dan Duszczyzyn, Senior Policy Advisor (DDuszczyzyn@ocsta.on.ca), Steve Andrews (sandrews@ocsta.on.ca) or me (pdaly@ocsta.on.ca).

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'D' followed by a series of loops and a long, sweeping tail.

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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA: Ontario News Release - Ontario's Action Plan: Protecting People's Health and Our Economy
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 7:43:38 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

For April COWB....

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

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From: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 4:59 PM
To: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA: Ontario News Release - Ontario's Action Plan: Protecting People's Health and Our Economy

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March 24, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
• All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff

Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, OCSTA President

SUBJECT: Ontario News Release - Ontario's Action Plan: Protecting People's Health and Our Economy

Please see Ontario news release below regarding the 2021 budget, sent to you for your information. We will provide some analysis tomorrow.

Please do contact me if you have any questions or concerns.



News Release

Ontario's Action Plan: Protecting People's Health and Our Economy

March 24, 2021

2021 Budget Brings Province's COVID-19 Response to \$51 Billion

TORONTO — Today, Minister of Finance and President of the Treasury Board Peter Bethlenfalvy released [Ontario's Action Plan: Protecting People's Health and Our Economy](#). The 2021 Budget is the next phase of Ontario's response to COVID-19 and is the second Budget the government has delivered during the pandemic.

"You can't have a healthy economy without healthy people," said Minister Bethlenfalvy. "For the past year, we have been focused on protecting people from COVID-19. Many challenges lie ahead. But with vaccines being distributed in every corner of the province, hope is on the horizon. We are ready to finish the job we started one year ago."

The *2021 Budget* builds on the government's record investments in response to the global pandemic, bringing total investments to \$16.3 billion to protect people's health and \$23.3 billion to protect our economy. Ontario's COVID-19 action plan support now totals \$51 billion.

"Eventually the pandemic will be behind us. It is months, not years away," said Minister Bethlenfalvy. "We will get to that day through the hard work and sacrifice of Team Ontario. Our government is going to be there every step of the way to make good on our commitment to protect people's health and jobs. When this chapter is finally closed, I'm confident that the people of Ontario are going to unleash the economic growth that is necessary for job creation, prosperity and a stronger province."

Protecting People's Health is the first pillar of the *2021 Budget*. It includes measures for defeating COVID-19, fixing long-term care and caring for people.

"Vaccines are the light at the end of the tunnel, and boots are on the ground to get vaccines into arms as they arrive in the province," said Minister Bethlenfalvy. "We will continue to invest in our health care system today and for the long term, building on record investments since the start of the pandemic to create more hospital beds, build and improve hospitals, increase testing and fix long-term care."

Highlights of Ontario's plan to **defeat COVID-19**:

- To vaccinate every person in the province who wants to be vaccinated, Ontario has made more than \$1 billion available for a provincewide vaccination plan. Ontario is also making it safer to re-engage with workplaces, businesses and communities with \$2.3 billion for testing and contact tracing.
- To protect the frontline heroes and vulnerable people, Ontario has made available \$1.4 billion for personal protective equipment, including more than 315 million masks and more than 1.2 billion gloves.
- To ensure that every person who requires care in a hospital can access a bed, even during the worst of the pandemic, the government is investing an additional \$5.1 billion to support hospitals since the pandemic began, creating more than 3,100 additional hospital beds. This includes \$1.8 billion in 2021–22 to continue providing care for COVID-19 patients, address surgical backlogs and keep pace with patient needs.

Highlights of Ontario's plan to **fix long-term care**:

- To address decades of neglect and help those waiting to get into long-term care, Ontario is investing an additional \$933 million over four years, for a total of \$2.6 billion, to support building 30,000 new long-term care beds. Ontario is also investing \$246 million over the next four years to improve living conditions in existing homes, including ensuring that homes have air conditioning for residents, so loved ones can live in comfort and with safety, dignity and respect.
- To protect loved ones in long-term care from the deadly COVID-19 virus, Ontario is investing an additional \$650 million in 2021–22, bringing the total resources invested since the beginning of the

pandemic to protect the most vulnerable to over \$2 billion.

- To ensure loved ones receive the best quality care in Canada, Ontario is investing \$4.9 billion over four years to increase the average direct daily care to four hours a day in long-term care and hiring more than 27,000 new positions, including personal support workers (PSWs) and nurses.

Highlights of Ontario's plan to **care for people**:

- To address the need for more health care services, Ontario is making investments to support historic hospital expansion and construction projects, including a new inpatient wing at William Osler Health System's Peel Memorial, and ongoing planning of a new regional hospital in Windsor-Essex.
- To help the thousands of people struggling with mental health and addictions issues, Ontario is providing additional funding of \$175 million in 2021–22 as part of a historic investment of \$3.8 billion over 10 years, to provide more and better care for everyone who needs it.

[Learn more about Ontario's plan to protect people's health.](#)

Protecting Our Economy is the second pillar of the *2021 Budget*. It outlines Ontario's plan to support families, workers and employers.

“The necessary public health measures have come at a cost for workers, families and business owners, but there is no question that they have saved lives,” said Minister Bethlenfalvy. “We recognize the sacrifices that have been made. We are taking further steps to provide additional relief and support to those who have been most impacted by the pandemic, including providing a third round of direct payments to parents, doubling the Ontario Small Business Support Grant, and helping workers with their training expenses.”

Highlights of Ontario's plan to **support workers and families**:

- To help workers with their training expenses, the government is proposing a new Ontario Jobs Training Tax Credit for 2021. It would provide up to \$2,000 per recipient for 50 per cent of eligible expenses, for a total of an estimated \$260 million in support to about 230,000 people in 2021.
- To help families — who have faced new pressures and expenses due to the pandemic — keep more money in their pockets, the government is providing a third round of payments to support parents through the Ontario COVID-19 Child Benefit, totalling \$1.8 billion since last March. The payment will be doubled to \$400 per child for this round and \$500 for each child with special needs, which means a family with three young children, one of whom has special needs, will receive \$2,600 in total after the third round of payments.
- To support parents with the cost of child care and help them get back to the workforce, the government is proposing a 20 per cent enhancement of the CARE tax credit for 2021. This would increase support from \$1,250 to \$1,500, on average, providing about

\$75 million in additional support for the child care expenses of over 300,000 families.

Highlights of Ontario's plan to **support jobs**:

- To help small businesses that have been most affected by the necessary restrictions to protect people from COVID-19, Ontario is providing a second round of Ontario Small Business Support Grant payments to eligible recipients. Approximately 120,000 small businesses will automatically benefit from an additional \$1.7 billion in relief through this second round of support in the form of grants of a minimum of \$10,000 and up to \$20,000 — bringing the estimated total support provided through this grant to \$3.4 billion.
- To support Ontario's tourism, hospitality and culture industries that have been among the most heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, Ontario is investing an additional \$400 million over the next three years in new initiatives to support these sectors. This builds on previously announced investments of \$225 million, bringing the total to more than \$625 million since the pandemic began.
- To connect homes, businesses and communities to broadband — which COVID-19 has demonstrated is a necessity, not a luxury — Ontario is investing \$2.8 billion, bringing the Province's total investment to nearly \$4 billion over six years beginning 2019–20.

Highlights of Ontario's plan to **support communities**:

- To support faith-based and cultural organizations that are struggling due to the additional costs caused by COVID-19, Ontario will be making up to \$50 million available for grants to eligible organizations.
- To support Ontario's 444 municipalities, the Province's key partners in the fight against COVID-19, the government is providing almost \$1 billion in additional financial relief in 2021 to help preserve vital public services and support economic recovery.

[Learn more about Ontario's plan to protect our economy.](#)

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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA: Memo re: Anti-Human Trafficking Submission
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2021 6:26:49 PM
Attachments: [OCSTA Response Policy AntiHuman Trafficking FINAL Mar 18 21.pdf](#)
[image005.png](#)

For April COWB...

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Waterloo Catholic District School Board | www.wcdsb.ca

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519-578-3660 | loretta.notten@wcdsb.ca



**Waterloo Catholic
District School Board**
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

From: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 1:05 PM
To: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA: Memo re: Anti-Human Trafficking Submission

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March 25, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education

- All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff
Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: Anti-Human Trafficking Submission

Attached is our submission in response to the Ministry of Education questionnaire on helping to combat human trafficking of Ontario students, for your information.

MARIE PALOMBI
Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association
1804 – 20 Eglinton Avenue West
Toronto, ON M4R 1K8
416-932-9460 Ext. 234 | Website: www.ocsta.on.ca

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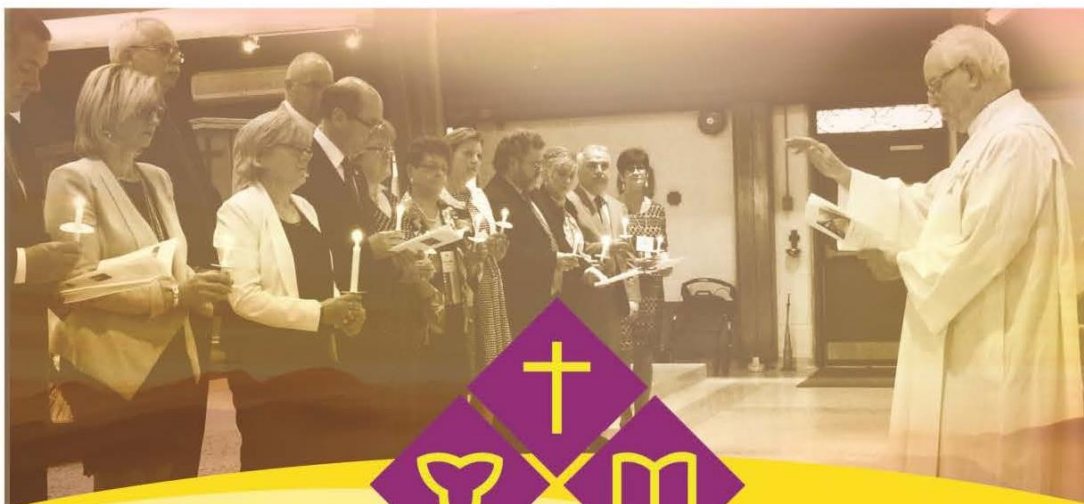
Submission to

The Ministry of Education
on
Anti-Human Trafficking

March 18, 2021



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association



Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association

Mission Statement

Inspired by the Gospel, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association provides the provincial voice, leadership and service for elected Catholic school trustees to promote and protect publicly funded Catholic education in Ontario.

Vision Statement

Ontario is enriched by a publicly funded Catholic education system, governed by locally elected Catholic school trustees who serve with faith, commitment and compassion.

OCSTA Response to the Ministry of Education Regarding Anti-Human Trafficking Policy Framework for the Education Sector

Introduction

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association welcomes the opportunity to provide input on the development of the Ministry of Education's anti-human trafficking policy framework for the education sector that comprises a key component of the government's anti-human trafficking strategy. In developing this submission, OCSTA consulted widely with our 29 Catholic school boards and this document represents the priorities, perspectives and policy suggestions of our Catholic boards in response to the questionnaire circulated by the Ministry in late February 2021.

OCSTA fully supports the government's objective of developing a proactive and comprehensive strategy to combating human trafficking and child sexual exploitation, with actions across government designed to raise awareness of human trafficking, protect victims, intervene early, support survivors and hold offenders accountable. We also applaud the government for its commitment to consult with key stakeholders in the education sector, police, child welfare, parent groups, student organizations, religious institutions and indigenous communities in the development of this strategy.

OCSTA also supports the government motion that mandated a collaborative approach between school boards, community police services and other partners, to develop and adopt anti-human trafficking protocols to help prevent, identify (recognize signs) and appropriately respond to suspected instances of human trafficking through early intervention, including connecting victims and survivors to supportive services. We also welcome creation of the Anti-Human Trafficking Working Group by the Ministry of Education to support the development of the education policy framework.

The Catholic Church and Human Trafficking

The Catholic Church is fundamentally opposed to human trafficking in all its forms. In addition, Vatican II denounces human trafficking, and many statements by Popes have made it clear that the Church stands against this practice. Recently Pope Francis stated "Human trafficking is an open wound on the body of contemporary society, a scourge upon the body of Christ. It is a crime against humanity."¹

The Canadian Council of Catholic Bishops, various Catholic Religious orders and Catholic school boards have been working for many years to raise awareness and combat human trafficking in all its forms.²

¹ See <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/apr/10/pope-francis-human-trafficking-crime-humanity>.

² See <https://www.cccb.ca/document/pastoral-letter-on-human-trafficking/> pastoral letter on Human Trafficking, 2010.

Response to Survey from the Ministry of Education

Overview

OCSTA recognizes that publicly funded schools can play an important and unique role in protecting students against human trafficking and in supporting survivors. As noted in the survey, in Ontario, most human trafficking incidences involve sexual exploitation. The average age of recruitment into sex trafficking is 13 years old, and over 80% of persons who have been trafficked indicated they were first trafficked as children. OCSTA believes that our Catholic boards can and are critical resources in identifying, responding to, and preventing sex trafficking, including connecting victims and survivors to supportive services.

Q.1 With respect to each of the following items, what role(s) do you think schools/school boards could play in effectively combatting sex trafficking?

Awareness to support effective prevention, identification and response:

OCSTA believes our boards are in a unique position to offer comprehensive training and support to all teachers and other education staff, volunteers, parents and students regarding sex trafficking. We also believe it is important for boards to collaborate with community partners with expertise in this area such as child welfare agencies, law enforcement, advocacy and support groups, in an effort to develop comprehensive education resources, policies and programs to combat sex trafficking.

Prevention/protecting students:

Boards can and currently do provide a range of education programs and services to ensure our students are protected from sex trafficking. For example,

- Awareness and information on the impacts of sex trafficking designed to counter the normalization or glamorization of sexual exploitation;
- The safe use of social media to protect against the online violent depiction of sexual activity;
- Protocols that enable students to bring forward concerns and risks to a caring adult or through an anonymous reporting mechanism;
- Targeted after-school supports to students who are at the greatest risk for sex trafficking.

Identification/early intervention:

OCSTA believes that boards can play a significant role in identifying how students are often lured into sex trafficking and developing early intervention strategies to mitigate against this threat. Educators and staff are well situated to identify the signs and indicators that a student is being targeted or groomed for trafficking due to their close relationship. Boards can also provide the following resources and supports regarding identification and early intervention:

- Providing direction to staff on how to support a student making a disclosure;
- Ensuring the appropriate processes are in place to support the safety of students who are at risk of being trafficked;
- Developing a process or protocol for responding to disclosures from those who are suspected of being trafficked (e.g., duty to report, notification of parents/guardians/caregivers, as appropriate, etc.);
- Managing a process for identifying and responding to possible sex trafficking recruitment by predators targeting students;
- Providing information on personal supports and resources for school/school board staff receiving disclosures from students.

Response/supporting survivors:

Catholic boards across Ontario work closely with various community agencies and relevant experts to develop resources to support students that have been exploited by sex trafficking. For example,

- Referrals to culturally sensitive, trauma-informed, specialized supports;
- Direction on how parents/guardians/caregivers of students who have been trafficked, can access these specialized supports;
- Supports for student peers referring students who have been trafficked, to specialized supports, as necessary;
- Direction on developing support and safety plans for student survivors.

Q.2 What could school/school board staff be doing to help protect students from online grooming and luring for sex trafficking?

The Canadian Centre for Child Protection is reporting a significant increase in online victimization since the start of the pandemic.³ In order to eliminate online grooming and luring, OCSTA believes that components within the curriculum should be expanded to better inform students on the nature of human trafficking. In addition, specific, evidence-based safe online practices for students should also be a focus for instruction. Further, additional training for education staff on the signs and indicators regarding this predatory activity is required.

As suggested by the Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking, the following are practices boards could follow:

- Teachers and administrators should know and recognize the signs of trafficking to better support healthy learning environments and ensure student safety.
- Administrators should consider inviting a local organization or police service which specializes in anti-human trafficking education and awareness training to come and talk to students and staff. These conversations sometimes lead to disclosure of trafficking or sexual exploitation from youth and provide an opportunity to access support services.

³ See <https://www.protectchildren.ca/en/press-and-media/news-releases/2021/tipline-sees-rise-in-reports-of-sex-tortion>. Also the Globe and Mail Monday March 15, 2021 A 4 reports that the centre reported an 88% in on-line child sex exploitation.

- School staff should develop a comprehensive anti-trafficking policy and ensure all staff are properly trained.
- Ensure that school safety policies are enforced, especially visitor policies.
- Schools should download and post the [Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline posters](#) around campus in students and staff frequented areas like cafeterias, lounges and washrooms.⁴

Q.3 What steps could schools take to ensure that their approach to help combat sex trafficking and support victims and survivors is culturally safe, as well as respectful of and culturally responsive to the needs of the following groups?

OCSTA supports the goal of ensuring all intervention measures used to combat sex trafficking are sensitive to the local needs of our boards' student population. Boards should use culturally appropriate programs that have been designed for specific groups of students. For example, the [Speak Out: Stop Sex Trafficking](#) program is an Indigenous-focused anti-human trafficking educational website with downloadable materials for distribution in communities, and culturally relevant activities to help leaders and caregivers facilitate conversations with youth, to raise awareness and provide support.⁵

Boards are encouraged to consult with various advisory committees, parent councils, child welfare organizations, cultural organizations, police services and survivor groups to ensure the education resources developed meet the needs of their students. For racialized and 2SLGBTQQIA+ students, the involvement of students in the design of supports and programs will be critical to ensure they meet the specific needs and vulnerabilities experienced by these students.

Q.4 What role should the following partners play in the development and implementation of school board policies to help combat sex trafficking of students?

As noted previously, OCSTA believes various community organizations, survivor groups, law enforcement, Indigenous leaders, parent groups, child welfare organizations and students should be involved in the design of board programs, policies and supports to combat sex trafficking. Given the nature of sex trafficking and how different groups of students are targeted, a coordinated approach with the broader community will result in programs, services and policies that best support students.

Q.5 Are you aware of any useful resources or tools that could support the following members of the school community with anti-sex trafficking efforts, including awareness-raising, prevention/protecting students, identification/early intervention, and/or response?

OCSTA is aware of several organizations that provide educational resources to boards and other groups to raise awareness while providing services and supports for students related to human

⁴ See <https://www.canadiancentretoendhumantrafficking.ca/back-to-school-actions-to-keep-students-safe/>

⁵ See <https://settlement.org/news/ontario/new-campaigns-will-educate-youths-and-crack-down-on-human-trafficking/>

trafficking. Many Catholic boards currently work with many local organizations that provide services and supports geared towards the needs and background of students in their communities. For example:

- Kids in the Know—provides educational services for students in Kenora, Ontario;
- Canadian Centre for Child Protection—provides a wide range of training services and other education resources for educators, parents and students;
- Sisters of Notre Dame—provides educational and interventions services across North America;
- Catholic Children’s Aid—intervention services across Ontario;
- Persons Against the Crime of Trafficking in Humans--PACT Ottawa has been working to prevent the trafficking of persons and to increase the protection of victims through education, advocacy, networking and support services; info@pact-ottawa.org
- Ontario Women’s Native Association—provides a range of resources and services for Indigenous women and girls, for example, the [Indigenous Anti-Human Trafficking Liaison \(IAHTL\) Program](#) supports Indigenous communities in providing survivor focused and localized responses to Human Trafficking. The IAHTL initiative was created by and for Indigenous people in order to end human trafficking in Indigenous communities;
- PROJECT (<https://protectnow.org/k-12-human-trafficking-prevention-education/>) a US based training program for educators;
- FAST 101 (Fighting Against Sex Trafficking) for Kingston.

Q.6 For each of the categories listed below, what best or promising practices may be applicable to schools in their approach to help combat sex trafficking of students? Select all that apply and describe (awareness-raising, prevention/protecting students, identification/early intervention, and/or response).

Awareness Practices:

One awareness and prevention program that was suggested in the federal government’s National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking (2019-2024) is the **Engaging Youth Through Hackathons** in which students, software developers and socially responsible technology companies will be brought together to develop ideas on how technology, such as blockchain technology, and social media can be used to combat human trafficking. This will also be a venue to teach youth (under the age of 18) about their rights as outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as they are one of the primary vulnerable groups at-risk of being trafficked.

Prevention Programs:

According to the US President’s Advisory Council on Human Trafficking 2020 Annual Report (“Report”), prevention best practices include peer-to-peer support and youth empowered programs. In addition, the Report indicates that Youth clubs can be founded to build community and accountability between middle- and high-schools to educate youth about how to identify and

safely respond to trafficking and exploitation and teach positive life lessons, including planning for the future and building healthy relationships.⁶

Identification and Early Intervention Programs:

The development of identification programs applicable for boards, requires a coordinated effort with child welfare agencies, and survivor groups to assist in creating screening tools and protocols for identifying at risk youth—those suffering homelessness, mental health issues, and other factors that make them more vulnerable to traffickers.

Early intervention can be understood as providing an immediate response to trafficking as it occurs. It involves the provision of basic services, including emergency and medical care that address short-term needs. Creating sensitive intervention policies and programs similarly require boards to consult with agencies and groups with expertise in this area.

The recent program announced by the Ontario government-- the creation of a youth response team at the **Ontario Native Women's Association** to provide early intervention, street-based outreach, immediate response and referrals in 10 locations across the province, including Niagara, Ottawa, Thunder Bay and Toronto is a good example of early intervention/response program that boards could refer students to as required.

Conclusion

OCSTA and its 29 Catholic school boards commend and are committed to assisting the Ministry of Education as we collaborate to develop an education policy framework regarding anti-human trafficking. We look forward to further consultations with the Ministry and the Working Group on anti-human trafficking.

⁶ USA President's Advisory Council on Human Trafficking 2020 Annual Report p. 19-20. Retrieved from <https://www.state.gov/united-states-advisory-council-on-human-trafficking-annual-report-2020/>.

Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association
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2020-2021

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Michael Bellmore, Vice President	Sudbury Catholic District School Board
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NOTES



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

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Tel: 416-932-9460 Fax: 416-932-9459 Email: ocsta@ocsta.on.ca Website: www.ocsta.on.ca

From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA MEMO: His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins March 23, 2021 Letter - June, Celebrated as the Month of the Sacred Heart
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 12:37:57 PM
Attachments: [Cardinal Collins - Sacred Heart of Jesus - Directors and Trustees - March 23 2021.docx.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

For April COWB

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Waterloo Catholic District School Board | www.wcdsb.ca

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**Waterloo Catholic
District School Board**
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

From: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2021 10:40 AM
To: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA MEMO: His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins March 23, 2021 Letter - June, Celebrated as the Month of the Sacred Heart

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Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

March 26, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
• All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff
Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins March 23, 2021 letter – June Celebrated as the Month of the Sacred Heart

The attached inspiring letter from His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins was sent to us. With Cardinal Collins permission, we provide it to you for your information and reflection.



CONNIE ARAUJO-DE MELO | Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association | 1804-20 Eglinton Avenue West, Box 2064, Toronto, ON M4R 1K8 | t 416-932-9460 ext. 226

CATHOLIC EDUCATION: *Nurturing Hope*

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March 23, 2021

To the Trustees and Directors of Education in the Catholic School Boards, and to all Catholic educational institutions, in the Archdiocese of Toronto:

“Come to me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” (Matthew 11: 28-29)

After a year of Covid-19, we are all heavy laden. The spectre of sickness and death wears us down, as does the devastating effect of pandemic restrictions. This is nowhere more evident than in schools. But quite apart from the pandemic, these are days of much suffering, with so much conflict in the world, and so much contention in society. Across the globe, refugees flee oppressive regimes, and the blood of martyrs rebukes us in our comfortable Christianity. In our own country, social trends antagonistic to the Gospel gather strength.

To move outward with compassionate love, we need first to go deeper in our life of faith, through prayer, through meditation on sacred Scripture, especially the Gospels, and through the sacraments. As the prophet Isaiah says: “with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.” (Isaiah 12:3) To give us the guidance and strength required to fulfil our mission more effectively, we also need to rediscover a treasure, central to our life in Christ, that is hidden in plain sight in our Catholic spiritual heritage. It seems ever more clear to me that especially in these days we would all do well to meditate upon the symbol of the compassionate love of Christ: the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Even in our secular society, the heart is the common sign of love, as we see every Valentine’s Day, but for a Christian the Sacred Heart signifies the steady, reliable, faithful, life-giving love which we experience in Jesus as we encounter him both in the Gospels and in our life of faith; we are called to imitate that faithful love.

The traditional image of the Sacred Heart is surmounted by a cross, the primary symbol of Christian faith: it draws us to contemplate the generous and sacrificial love of Jesus, as he lays down his life for us on the cross. We are called to show that same generous and sacrificial love, as we take up our cross and follow him each day. The Sacred Heart is crowned by the Crown of Thorns, which reminds us of the cost of discipleship. It is surrounded by flames: our love for others, in imitation of Christ, must not flicker but burn brightly with light and warmth in a world so often dark and cold.

Sometimes, Jesus points to the Sacred Heart, inviting us to come to him when we labour and are heavy laden; sometimes the arms of Jesus reach outward, welcoming everyone, as he calls us to do. The Sacred Heart is a sign of the love of Jesus, which we are invited to imitate. More than ever before, our world now needs the love symbolized by the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

I am inviting all Catholics, in all our parishes, and in all the hospitals, schools, and institutions within the archdiocese, to focus on the significance of this sign of the sacrificial and compassionate love of Christ: the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

In our families and in our parishes we all need to ponder the love of the Sacred Heart, and to live accordingly; on the Fourth Week of Lent I preached on this theme at the live-streamed Mass at the Cathedral, and will continue to do so in other contexts. Shortly before that I emphasized it at the Lenten retreat for the priests of the archdiocese, encouraging them to emphasize this sign of Christ’s love in their ministry.



I am also writing to you, who are responsible for the Catholic Schools in our archdiocese, because you are entrusted in a particular way with the sacred duty of caring for the young people of our community. Like us all, they deserve and they need life-giving spiritual nourishment, clear guidance in life, and the true compassionate love that Jesus teaches us in the Gospel, and models for us, and challenges us to imitate. The symbol of the Sacred Heart is the sign of that love in our Catholic Christian tradition.

This year the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is on Friday, June 11th, and I encourage all Catholics to prepare to celebrate it with renewed appreciation. In fact, each year the Church celebrates the whole month of June as the Month of the Sacred Heart. I am inviting everyone in the archdiocese to devote that month to meditating on the Sacred Heart, and to deepening our commitment to imitate the compassionate love of Jesus, a love that reaches out to the lonely, to the isolated, to the sick, and to all those who are rejected. Along with the cross, the symbol of the Sacred Heart is the Catholic Christian sign of that love.

And so I ask all Catholic schools to focus throughout June, the Month of the Sacred Heart, on this profound symbol of what our life in Christ is all about – of what Catholic education is all about.

As I announced in January at the meeting with the Chairs and Directors of Education, I will publish a pastoral letter to offer a more extended meditation on the insights of our Catholic tradition regarding this fundamental symbol of the compassionate love of Christ. More resources and suggestions for prayer, thought, and action will be forthcoming. But for now, I encourage all of us to reflect prayerfully upon the Sacred Heart, this sign of the love of Jesus, and to live accordingly.

Thank you for all that you continue to do to support and strengthen Catholic education. May God bless you always.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Thomas Card. Collins

Thomas Cardinal Collins
Archbishop of Toronto

From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA Statement Regarding the Government's Proposed Plan for Remote Learning
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 3:24:57 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
Importance: High

Hi Alice
For April COWB...

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

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**Waterloo Catholic
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From: OCSTA - Sharon McMillan <SMcMillan@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2021 10:02 AM
To: OCSTA - Sharon McMillan <SMcMillan@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA Statement Regarding the Government's Proposed Plan for Remote Learning
Importance: High

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To: All Chairs and Directors of Education
From: Sharon McMillan, Director of Communications

Please see below the OCSTA statement regarding the government's proposed plan for remote learning:

“Reports that the government is considering expanding access to on-line and remote learning threatens to undermine the quality of education for students and is of deep concern to Ontario's 29 publicly funded Catholic School Boards.

These significant concerns and serious implications include;

- Negatively impacting the quality of learning experiences and equity in opportunity for students.
- Immediate and long term reductions in funding.
- The ability of Catholic and other school systems to realize their distinct missions.”

**Patrick Daly, President
OCSTA**

Sharon McMillan
Director of Communications
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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA: 2021 AGM Resolutions & 2020 Resolutions Final Status Chart
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 3:27:48 PM
Attachments: [2021 AGM Resolutions Pckg \(Full\).pdf](#)
[Status Chart 2020.docx.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

For April COWB...

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Waterloo Catholic District School Board | www.wcdsb.ca

35 Weber St W Unit A, Kitchener, ON, N2H 3Z1

519-578-3660 | loretta.notten@wcdsb.ca



**Waterloo Catholic
District School Board**
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

From: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2021 1:06 PM
To: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA: 2021 AGM Resolutions & 2020 Resolutions Final Status Chart

Caution - External Email - This Message comes from an external organization. Do NOT click on unrecognized links or provide your username and/or password.

TO: Chairpersons, Directors of Education and OCSTA Directors

CC: Board Secretaries/Administrative Assistants & OCSTA Staff

Please provide a copy of this communication and the attached documents to all trustees on your Board.

2021 AGM Resolutions

In order to ensure that the resolutions and the process for handling them at the Annual General Meeting are considered and understood by all delegates, we ask that you provide a copy of the attached **2021 AGM Resolutions Package** to each of your trustees and ensure that it is reviewed by your board prior to the OCSTA Virtual AGM.

2020 Resolutions Final Status Chart

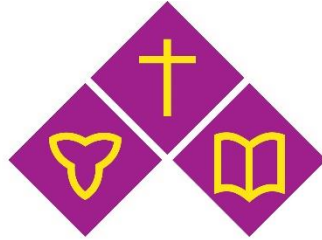
The attached chart reflects the disposition and status of the 2020 Resolutions

Thank you.

CONNIE ARAUJO-DE MELO | Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association | 1804-20 Eglinton Avenue West, Box 2064, Toronto, ON M4R 1K8 | t 416-932-9460 ext. 226

CATHOLIC EDUCATION: *Nurturing Hope*

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Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

RESOLUTIONS



Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association

Our Mission

Inspired by the Gospel, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association provides the provincial voice, leadership and service for elected Catholic school trustees to promote and protect publicly funded Catholic education in Ontario.

Our Vision

Ontario is enriched by a publicly funded Catholic education system governed by locally elected Catholic school trustees who serve with faith, commitment and compassion.

Explanation of Committee Recommendations & Resolution Session Procedures in a Virtual Meeting Atmosphere

Resolution sessions will be conducted using “**Robert’s Rules of Order**” and the provisions of the OCSTA Constitution. The chairperson of the session will ensure compliance with their rules.

Explanation of Committee Recommendations

The **Resolutions** Committee will study the resolutions and offer recommendations on the best way to meet their intent. The recommendations and their implications are:

- i. **Approve**
The direction given in the “therefore be it resolved” section of the resolution will be carried out.
- ii. **Approve and refer to the committee for appropriate implementation.**
The resolution will be forwarded to the designated committee for implementation.
- iii. **Receive and refer to the committee for study.**
The resolution will be forwarded to the designated committee for study. Following the study and receipt of the committee’s recommendation, the Board of Directors will determine whether or not the resolution will be implemented.
- iv. **Not support**
No action will be taken.
- v. **No recommendation**
The committee is not making any recommendation with respect to the resolution.
- vi. **No action required**
The intent of the resolution has been met. No further action will be taken.

Resolution Session Virtual Procedures

Delegates wishing to speak to a resolution must “**Raise their Hand**” **virtually**. The delegate’s microphone will be unmuted and they will be called upon to state their name and the name of their respective Board.

The mover of a resolution will have the opportunity to be the first and last to speak to that resolution. Other trustees may speak **once** to a resolution.

The chairperson may declare a motion out of order giving the reasons for doing so. The chairperson’s decision may be challenged by a majority vote of those voting delegates at the session when the vote is called.

Voting on resolutions, including, proxies, will be conducted by a virtual “Raised Hand” after each resolution is presented and discussed.

Note Re Quorum: *Quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Members shall require the presence in person (virtually) or by proxy of not less than a total of forty (40) current Members.”*

Grouped Resolutions

- a. the chair of the session will ask for a mover and seconder to approve the **grouping** of various related resolutions.
- b. the chair of the session will ask for movers and seconders for the committee recommendation for each group.
- c. delegates will vote on the committee recommendation for each group.

Delegates may request that any resolution(s) be removed from a “group” to be handled individually. These will be addressed when the group from which they have been removed has been dealt with.

Resolutions Handled Individually

A. Resolutions with committee recommendations

1. The chair of the session will announce the resolution number and the name of the sponsoring board:
 - ☐ the chair will call for the sponsoring board to move and second **the committee recommendation;**
 - ☐ delegates will speak to the committee recommendation;
 - ☐ delegates will vote on the committee recommendation.
2. If the sponsoring board does not move the committee recommendation:
 - ☐ the chair will call for the sponsoring board to move their **original resolution;**
 - ☐ delegates will speak to the resolution;
 - ☐ delegates will vote on the resolution.
3. If the original resolution is not moved by the sponsoring board, the resolution will be withdrawn.

B. Resolutions without committee recommendations

1. These resolutions will be handled as follows:
 - ☐ the chair will call for the sponsoring board to move their **original resolution;**
 - ☐ delegates will speak to the resolution;
 - ☐ delegates will vote on the resolution.
2. If the original resolution is not moved by the sponsoring board, the resolution will be withdrawn.

C. Amendments

Amendments relate to the “therefore be it resolved” section of the resolution and **must be submitted in writing** to the chairperson, through the Q & A Chat feature of the webinar.

The chairperson will consider the amendment and, if necessary, discuss it with the parliamentarian or others to ensure that it is clearly understood.

- ❑ the chair will **read** the amendment;
- ❑ delegates will speak to the amendment;
- ❑ delegates will vote on the amendment;
- ❑ delegates will vote on the resolution as amended.

If the amendment is defeated:

- ❑ delegates will be asked to speak to the original resolution;
- ❑ delegates will vote on the original resolution.

D. Members' Discussion Rights

Under Article 6.11 (*Members Discussion Right*), any Member entitled to vote at an Annual Meeting is entitled to raise for discussion at that meeting any matter with respect to which the Member would have been entitled to submit a proposal, subject to the conditions outlined in Sections 5.10.1 to 5.10.5⁸, and provided that:

- 6.11.1 if such Member continues such discussion for three minutes or more, the Chair of the meeting may interrupt the Member and permit others to speak to the discussion item, for up to three minutes per member; and
- 6.11.2 no discussion item shall be put to the membership for a vote at the meeting at which it was raised for discussion.

Revised February 17, 2021

MOTION TO DEAL WITH RESOLUTIONS IN GROUPS

MOVED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

THAT: **the grouping of the Resolutions be approved.**

RESOLUTIONS # 1 - 2

APPROVE

RESOLUTION 1-21

Moved by: Trustee Bruno Iannicca

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Shawn Xaviour

Topic: **Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grants**

Whereas: the Ministry of Education recognizes and acknowledges that parents are a key part of their children's learning and has supported Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grants to school councils since 2006; and

Whereas: PRO Grants are designed to support parents in identifying barriers to parent engagement in their community and to find local solutions to involve more parents in support of student achievement and well-being; and

Whereas: Catholic School Councils rely on the PRO Grants to offset the costs of parent engagement events; and

Whereas: the Ministry of Education has reduced funding for a number of programs, including the PRO grants; and

Whereas: the long-term effects of this funding reduction will have a detrimental effect on parent council activity and support of increased community engagement;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA advocate on behalf of Catholic School Councils to increase the PRO Grant funding to support Catholic School Councils in providing community engagement activities, outreach programs and opportunities to keep families informed and active in their children's education experience.

Committee Recommendation

Approve.

RESOLUTION 2-21

Moved by: Trustee Luz del Rosario

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Mario Pascucci

Topic: **Funding for Retrofitting/Renovating Schools**

Whereas: keeping schools in a state of good repair is essential to providing safe and healthy learning environments for students and staff; and

Whereas: funding levels for school renewal, repairs and retrofits have not been sufficient to reduce the overall deferred maintenance backlog; and

Whereas: stable and reliable school renewal funding is necessary to make strategic, long-term investments to ensure that learning environments can support high levels of student achievement and well-being; and

Whereas: retrofits and renovations in schools are necessary to support modernized, 21st century learning and technologies that will enable our students to have the knowledge and skills required for advanced education and careers of the future; and

Whereas: improving ventilation and maintaining optimal air quality in school buildings are known to complement other public health measures to reduce COVID-19 transmission and enhance the general health and comfort of all students and staff;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association petition the Ministry of Education to provide stable, reliable multi-year funding to support school renewal, renovations and retrofits that will keep schools in a state of good repair and provide students and staff with environments to support 21st century learning.

Committee Recommendation

Approve.

RESOLUTIONS # 3 - 7

**APPROVE & REFER TO
POLITICAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE**

RESOLUTION 3-21

Moved by: Trustee Luz del Rosario

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Thomas Thomas

Topic: **Funding for Students with Diverse Learning Needs, including Special Education Needs**

Whereas: the principles of the draft ministry resources *Learning for All: K-12*, the aligned Inter-Ministerial Provincial Transition Framework and commitments to supporting successful transitions for all students (PPM 156) are founded on beliefs that all students can succeed and that student well-being, achievement, student voice and engagement need to be supported in an inclusive learning environment; and

Whereas: school boards continue to be challenged in their ability to design effective school and system improvement plans when funding and other pressures may arise in delivering a ministry-mandated criterion-referenced curriculum with related expected practices while adhering to a universal design for learning approach which honours success for all through personalized instruction; and

Whereas: building capacity of staff through professional learning in support of all diverse learners is critical to student well-being and student achievement; and

Whereas: the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Child and Youth Services and Ministry of Health's mental well-being, special education and renewed mathematics strategies will need sustainable commitments to keep pace with growth communities and to respond to changing needs; and

Whereas: school boards continue to be faced with challenges related to providing specialized programming, support and human resources to ensure that all students achieve their fullest potential;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association petition the Ministry of Education to review on-going equitable and sustainable funding and continue to address the changing nature and complexity of student needs and required supports by providing adequate funding that reflects the actual need and not just a reallocation of funding from other budget lines.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 4-21

Moved by: Trustee Anna Da Silva

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Bruno Iannicca

Topic: **Technology Funding**

Whereas: technology is progressively more prevalent and infused throughout curriculum delivery; and

Whereas: technology is increasingly linked to equity of access and student engagement; and

Whereas: the Ministry of Education funding for technology and related infrastructure fluctuates from year to year and previously provided Technology Learning Funds (TLF) have been discontinued; and

Whereas: board technologies, related programs, and overall board infrastructure need to be updated and/or replaced on a regular basis, particularly vis-à-vis aging hardware; and

Whereas; the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) funding does not address technology needs for corporate functions, including Financial, Plant and Maintenance work order systems, payroll systems, student information systems and Human Resources and Employee Relations reporting; and

Whereas: the Ministry of Education has a stated focus on increasing the amount of e-learning in secondary schools;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to support learning through sustainable technology and infrastructure funding. Aligned to the province's focus on modernizing learning and modernizing classrooms, school boards would benefit from increased and stable funding to support technology priorities.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 5-21

Moved by: Trustee Brea Corbet

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Darryl D’Souza

Topic: **COVID-19 Recovery Funding**

Whereas: the safety of students and staff is essential in maintaining a positive learning environment and is the number one priority of school boards, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas: additional staff, technology and equipment have been required to meet the demand for an increased number of students participating in remote learning; and

Whereas: board technologies and infrastructure have needed to be updated and/or replaced due to the increased demands of remote learning; and

Whereas: funding levels for boards to meet the demands of remote learning and other COVID-19 impacts on infrastructure and resources have not been sufficient; and

Whereas: the Ministry of Education has a stated mandate that school boards provide opportunities to engage in synchronous learning, even when not physically present at school;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to support COVID-19 related shortfalls due to the requirements for increased numbers of staff, technology, equipment and other resources. Aligned to the province’s mandate that school boards provide, synchronous, remote learning opportunities for students, school boards would benefit from additional funds to make up for financial shortfalls related to this endeavour.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 6-21

Moved by: Trustee Shawn Xaviour

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Frank Di Cosola

Topic: **Funding to Address Anti-Black Racism**

Whereas: removing systemic barriers ensures that school and classroom practices reflect and respond to the diversity of students and staff; and

Whereas: the safety of students and staff is essential for the maintenance of a positive learning environment and is the number one priority of school boards; and

Whereas: anti-Black racism is contrary to Catholic social teachings and is a direct contributor to disproportionality in representation of Black students in the areas of discipline, course streaming, regional programs, and achievement; and

Whereas: the Provincial government has prioritized developing and implementing anti-Black racism capacity- and competency-building programming for government employees and its institutions; and

Whereas: addressing anti-Black racism in all its forms requires specific, targeted, and sustainable efforts at all levels of the organization;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to support funding specifically allocated to addressing anti-Black racism in education through regular collection and analysis of identity-based data, and community consultation supporting development of appropriate professional learning, policy, and mentoring resources. The provision of funding to support appropriate responses to identify and eliminate anti-Black racism and other oppressions would benefit all school boards.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 7-21

Moved by: David Bernier **Peterborough Victoria Northumberland
& Clarington CDSB**

Seconded by: Michelle Griepsma

Topic: **Ontario Regulation 191/11 Accessibility for Ontarians with
Disability Act (AODA)**

- Whereas:** All Catholic School boards in the Province of Ontario have obligations to meet under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability Act and Regulations including Part IV.1 of Regulation 191/11, as amended: Accessibility Standards for the Built Environment, and
- Whereas:** According to Section 80.2 (3) of the Regulation 191/11, as amended, refers to the obligated organization that conducts or redevelops any public space to which this Part applies; and
- Whereas:** According to Section 80.44 in addition to the accessibility plan requirements...shall ensure that their multi-year accessibility plans include... (1) procedures for preventative and emergency maintenance of the accessible elements in public spaces; and
- Whereas:** Boards are morally obliged to make operational and accessible ALL school sites including those built prior to the date specified in the regulation (January 1, 2016); and
- Whereas:** According to Section 80.46 (2.3) persons with disabilities must be given an opportunity equal to that given to others to obtain, use, and benefit from the goods, services, and facilities; and
- Whereas:** The Ministry has provided older and more antiquated school buildings with just-in-time remuneration for new HVAC systems implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic and return to schools;

Therefore, be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to review and provide from this year forward up to and including the school year 2025 the specific and systematic funding necessary to meet AODA requirements in school buildings that require ongoing assessment and renovation of the facilities to meet this obligation.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTIONS # 8 - 17

**RECEIVE & REFER TO
POLITICAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE**

RESOLUTION 8-21

Moved by: Trustee Carol Corriveau-Truchon

Simcoe Muskoka CDSB

Seconded by: Vice Chair Janice Hutchison

Topic: **Improving Broadband and High-Speed Internet for Educational Purposes (Home and Schools)**

Whereas: Access to broadband is a core component of both the province's Learn at Home plan and is critical for the future evolution of virtual learning; and

Whereas: Reliable Internet, particularly in rural and regional areas, is essential to supporting students' success in education for both within the school and home; and

Whereas: The provincial government recently called on the federal government to take immediate action to improve Internet connectivity for Ontario Students; and

Whereas: As many as 12 percent of households in Ontario, mostly in rural, remote or Northern areas, are underserved or unserved, according to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission; and

Whereas: Minister Lecce said: "Access to high-speed Internet is foundational to our young people's success in learning, working, and innovating, today and into the future,"; and

Whereas: Broadband brings the opportunity for direct access to education for rural residents who are otherwise forced to travel long distances for educational opportunities. Rural libraries newly enhanced by high-speed Internet often experience a resurgence of community interest and participation which also enables educational activities;

Therefore, be it resolved that:

The government takes positive and concrete action in connecting all schools and associated communities to broadband, starting with OCSTA to create a forum to address the Province to quickly adopt a provincial wide approach so all Ontario schools and students have equitable access to learning via the Internet.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 9-21

Moved by: Trustee Luz del Rosario

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Frank Di Cosola

Topic: **STEM Funding**

Whereas: the importance and impact of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) are ever increasing in society and in education; and

Whereas: the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has identified and highlighted the importance of skills and competencies required of young people to be successful throughout the 21st century; and

Whereas: the skills and competencies highlighted by OECD are crucial for young people to acquire in order to be successful in careers and vocations related to STEM subject areas; and

Whereas: school boards do not have enough funds to meet the technological demands of ensuring students have learning opportunities that will adequately foster all of the skills necessary for 21st century careers and vocations; and

Whereas: to ensure students have the access to technology that is required for developing technological skills, as well as to ensure that curriculum resources are as up-to-date as possible by leveraging digital and/or online resources; and

Whereas: the Ministry of Education has a stated focus on STEM learning to meet the demands of the global economy and society;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to support STEM related learning through the additional funding of technology for schools and student use. Additional funding would help fill current technological gaps and allow boards to address: students missing out on advancing their technological skills; the usage of outdated curriculum resources, financial inefficiencies of using outdated physical resources; and the efficiency of more convenient access to resources and materials for both staff and students.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 10-21

Moved by: Trustee Catherine MacDonald

Simcoe Muskoka CDSB

Seconded by: Vice Chair Janice Hutchison

Topic: **Importance of Ventilations in Schools**

Whereas: The Public Health Agency of Canada acknowledges the aerosol transmission of COVID-19; and

Whereas: COVID-19 control strategies that target close-proximity transmission, such as physical distancing, mask wearing and deep cleaning are well established critical protocols and remain key to reducing aerosol transmission risk; and

Whereas: There is a clear increased risk of shared room air transmission in crowded, *poorly ventilated* spaces and from activities that increase the production of aerosols (speaking, singing, shouting, heavy breathing); and

Whereas: Canada's Chief Advisor Expert Panel on COVID-19 stresses the importance of high-yield short-term and long-term goals to reduce indoor transmission for COVID-19 and improve air quality; and

Whereas: Ventilation and air filtration are an important additional measure to reduce the aerosol transmission risk; and

Whereas: From a provincial perspective some school buildings do have substandard ventilation; and

Whereas: Experts warn that future respiratory viral pandemics are likely and investing in ventilation and indoor air quality now will save lives and prevent economic hardship in the future;

Therefore be it resolved that:

OCSTA recommend to the Province of Ontario to:

- 1) Mandate and fund engineered ventilation assessments and required upgrades of all Ontario Schools;
- 2) Encourage the use of portable air filtration (HEPA) units or the use of MERV-13 filters.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 11-21

Moved by: Trustee Dall **Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB**

Seconded by: Trustee Turkington

Topic: **Inaugural Meetings and the *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017***

- Whereas:** The *Education Act* s61 defers to the *Municipal Elections Act* for the purposes of conducting elections to the boards of trustees; and
- Whereas:** The *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017* (s8.1-8.3) amended the *Municipal Elections Act* (s6.1-6.1.1) such that all municipal elections following the 2018 election cycle will see municipally-elected officials take office as of November 15 rather than December 1 of the election year; and
- Whereas:** The *Education Act* (s208.2) states that the first meeting of a board elected under a regular election of the *Municipal Elections Act* shall take place not later than seven days after the day on which the term of office of the board commences; and
- Whereas:** The *Education Act* also states that the term of office shall begin on December 1 rather than November 15 (*EA* s61.6) and that the first meeting in December rather than the first meeting after November 15 shall elect the chair (s208.4-208.5);

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education for clarification on the impact of the *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017* on future inaugural meetings of school boards, particularly as it concerns the swearing of oaths of office and election of Chairs of the board of trustees.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 12-21

Moved by: Trustee Speagle **Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB**

Seconded by: Trustee Shea

Topic: **OSAP Access for Certification Program Students**

Whereas: Certification programs for adult students (such as Personal Support Worker programs) administered by school boards support a provincial goal of opening multiple pathways to employment and result in the same certification as students attending private career colleges and community colleges; and

Whereas: Students who attend certification programs administered by school boards are required to pay fees to cover supplies, materials, and component certifications similar to programs administered by private career colleges and community colleges; and

Whereas: The lower average tuition fees charged by certification programs administered by school boards (as compared with private career colleges and community colleges) means that these programs provide equitable access to employment training; and

Whereas: Students in the same certification programs administered by private career colleges and community colleges are eligible to apply for Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) support, but students in certification programs administered by school boards are not;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Colleges and Universities to reform OSAP eligibility requirements such that students pursuing a certification program administered by a school board have equitable access to OSAP applications in comparison with students of the same programs in private career colleges or community colleges.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 13-21

Moved by: Trustee Dall **Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB**
Seconded by: Trustee Wright
Topic: **Broadband Modernization Program & E-Learning Strategy**

Whereas: the Broadband Modernization Program designed to enhance broadband services for students was announced in a Ministry of Education memo on October 21, 2016; and

Whereas: the Ministry of Education's new vision for education cites that this project will be completed by 2021-22 which will include all boards, schools and students; and

Whereas: completion of the Broadband Modernization Program is necessary to reduce barriers to internet access in rural and remote communities, and to provide equitable access to communities encountering socio-economic disadvantages; and

Whereas: the Ministry of Education's new vision for education cites secondary students take a minimum of two e-learning credits out of the 30 credits to fulfill the requirements for achieving an Ontario Secondary School Diploma; and

Whereas: these changes will be phased in, starting in 2020-2021;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education to re-think its vision for e-learning given the conflict in completion and start dates for the Broadband Modernization Program and the e-learning strategy respectively. In addition, to strongly consider the socio-economic realities of rural, remote, and disadvantaged communities in having unfettered access to the internet and the technology to meet the standard set out in the new e-learning mandate.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 14-21

Moved by: Carol Cotton **York CDSB**

Seconded by: Jennifer Wigston

Topic: **Transportation Funding for French Immersion Students**

Whereas: Living and working in a bilingual country/province makes competency in the French language a valuable skill for graduates of Ontario's publicly funded education system.

Whereas: There is currently a critical shortage of qualified French teachers in Ontario.

Whereas: Major inequities exist between School Boards across Ontario as to the funding that they receive and thus are able to allocate to the transportation of French Immersion students.

These inequities have existed since the Ministry set an arbitrary base for Board Transportation Funding more than a decade ago. Countless provincial transportation reviews since that time have failed to correct these inequities.

Boards, mostly Public Boards, who were operating French Immersion programs prior to that date had those costs included as part of that arbitrary base. Other Boards, who have initiated and/or added to their French Immersion programs since that time have never received funding to do so. Funds have had to be allocated from other parts of their budgets and thus have negatively impacted other programs.

Whereas: Other than in a very few urban areas, well-served by public transit, students are unable to access French Immersion programs without Board Transportation services.

Whereas: There is currently another Provincial Transportation Funding Review taking place.

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry and advocate on our behalf for specific and equitably allocated French Immersion transportation funding to be provided to all Boards in the province.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 15-21

Moved by: Vice Chair Janice Hutchison

Simcoe Muskoka CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Carol Corriveau-Truchon

Topic: **Special Education Virtual Mode Support**

Whereas: Special Education is an area of teaching and learning that requires specialized instructional strategies and trained personnel to support student achievement; and

Whereas: Students with identified special education needs cannot access the same level of instruction through the virtual mode given that staff is not assigned on a one-to-one basis in all situations; and

Whereas: School boards continue to be challenged with providing programming and support to ensure that all students achieve their fullest potential.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education for additional funding for the hiring of special education resource teachers and educational assistants to support the individual needs of students with identified special needs who must participate in their learning through the virtual mode during any provincially- mandated school closure.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 16-21

Moved by: Vice Chair Janice Hutchison

Simcoe Muskoka CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Francis Smith

Topic: **Special Education Parent Funding Support for the Involvement of Third-Party Providers in the Home During the Pandemic and Beyond**

Whereas: We recognize and respect that parents/guardians are their child's first teacher and caregiver; and

Whereas: We recognize and understand that the Face-to-Face learning mode is the ideal learning and teaching environment for children with significant/complex special education needs; and

Whereas: We recognize that many parents/guardians who have children with significant/complex special education needs have made the difficult decision to keep their child(ren) home during the pandemic due to individual medical conditions or medical fragility; and

Whereas: We recognize that many parents/guardians who have children with significant/complex special education needs are not able to access or receive the same level of service delivery during the pandemic if their child is learning through the virtual mode; and

Whereas: We recognize that children with significant/complex special education needs most often need and depend on a human resource to access curriculum and therapies; and

Whereas: Third party providers, i.e., personal support workers, offer valuable services to parents/guardians of children with significant/complex special education needs outside of school and within the community;

Therefore, be it resolved that:

OCSTA recommends to the Province of Ontario that one-time funding be provided to parents/guardians of children with significant/complex special education needs to hire qualified third-party providers to support their child's individualized learning goals during any provincially mandated school closure.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTION 17-21

Moved by: Trustee Smith

Simcoe Muskoka CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee MacDonald

Topic: **Carbon Monoxide Sensors/Detectors**

Whereas: The health and safety of our students and staff is the ultimate goal of every school board; and

Whereas: A recent carbon monoxide event at one of our elementary schools during the regular school day resulted in a complete evacuation of all staff and students; and

Whereas: There are no governing regulations for K-12 educational institutions in Ontario for the installation of carbon monoxide sensors/detectors; and

Whereas: Carbon monoxide is deadly because it is very difficult to detect without a carbon monoxide sensor/detector; and

Whereas: Once carbon monoxide passes into your lungs, it binds with your red blood cells and starves your body of oxygen;

Therefore be it resolved that:

OCSTA create a forum to study the need and address this health and safety concern with a Province-wide approach to make carbon monoxide sensors/detectors mandatory in all Ontario schools.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee.

RESOLUTIONS # 18 - 24

TO BE CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY

RESOLUTION 18-21

Moved by: John Curry

Ottawa CSB

Seconded by: Cindy Simpson

Topic: **Racism Module in Training**

Whereas: a deeper understanding of racism in all of its forms is needed in today's world; and

Whereas: systemic racism exists in today's education system; and

Whereas: equity pertaining to racism can only truly be realized through the sharing of knowledge and information based on research and data; and

Whereas: trustees as part of the education system need a deeper understanding of the impact of racism on the lives of students, staff and administrators in the system; and

Whereas: it is the responsibility of trustees to know and learn about racism in all its forms and then take appropriate actions to combat such racism; and

Whereas: strategies and tools must be available throughout the system to implement equity in classrooms, schools and board offices; and

Whereas: the current and future generations of students and staff will only be able to overcome racism in all its forms if provided with the education environment in which learners can understand and fight racial injustices;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association add a module about racism and particularly the signs of systemic discrimination in its offering of trustee governance training modules that are available to all trustees online.

Committee Recommendation

Approve and Refer to Catholic Education and Trustee Enrichment Committee.

RESOLUTION 19-21

Moved by: John Curry

Ottawa CSB

Seconded by: Sandra Moore

Topic: **History Focus for Catholic Education Week 2022**

Whereas: the first Catholic school in Ontario opened in 1842 following passage of the province's initial School Act legislation in 1841 which permitted the establishment and funding of denomination schools; and

Whereas: 2022 will mark the 180th anniversary of the opening of this first such Catholic school; and

Whereas: an appreciation of the history of the province's rich and now flourishing Catholic education system is a key ingredient to its ongoing success; and

Whereas: every student, parent, staff member and taxpayer in today's Catholic school system in the province should be aware of this 180-year history of Catholic education in the province; and

Whereas: every member of a local Catholic school's community should know the historical story of that particular school;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

the theme for Catholic Education Week 2022 be set to revolve around the history of Catholic education in the province and the history of each particular Catholic school in the province.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Catholic Education and Trustee Enrichment Committee.

RESOLUTION 20-21

Moved by: Trustee Dall **Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB**
Seconded by: Trustee Wright
Topic: **Executive Compensation**

Whereas: the Compensation Framework Regulation (O. Reg. 406/18) under the Broader Public Sector Executive Compensation Act, 2014 freezes executive compensation as of August 13, 2018; and

Whereas: the Education sector had done considerable work at great expense to comply with the prior regulation to rectify freezes in compensation since 2010; and

Whereas: the President of the Treasury Board was required to review the new regulation again before June 7, 2019; and

Whereas: the new framework cites that executive compensation be the sum of salary and performance pay;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA petition the Ministry of Education and the Treasury Board to work with ECCODE to develop a mutually acceptable compensation framework in a timely fashion so that boards can continue to build leadership capacity, nurture greater retention and create recruitment opportunities for senior staff.

Committee Recommendation

Receive and Refer to Labour Relations Committee.

RESOLUTION 21-21

Moved by: Trustee Darryl D’Souza

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Frank Di Cosola

Topic: **Student Transportation Funding**

Whereas: funding for student transportation by the Ministry of Education has not been reviewed in a comprehensive manner for several years; and

Whereas: the provision of student transportation services is paramount in ensuring school safety and safe arrival of students to and from school; and

Whereas: issues related to driver retention, late bus routes and cancelled bus routes have impacted many families who rely on student transportation services to transport their children, including some of our most vulnerable students with special needs; and

Whereas: costs associated with transportation have increased substantially across the province (i.e., fuel costs, cap and trade program, fleet costs, etc.); and

Whereas: cost adjustment increases have been provided only to school boards with transportation deficits;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association petition the Ministry of Education to review transportation funding in an effort to increase funds to allow school boards to provide a level of service that meet the needs of all eligible students and families within their respective districts.

Committee Recommendation

No action required – in progress.

Student Transportation Funding was addressed in OCSTA’s Submission to the *Minister of Education re Grants for Student Needs* (January 21, 2020).

OCSTA has representation on the Ministry of Education Student Transportation Advisory Group to review transportation funding reform.

RESOLUTION 22-21

Moved by: Trustee Thomas Thomas **Dufferin-Peel CDSB**

Seconded by: Trustee Brea Corbet

Topic: **Qualified French Teacher Recruitment & Retention**

Whereas: school boards across the province are experiencing persistent challenges with the recruitment of qualified French Teachers; and

Whereas: Catholic District school boards have a smaller pool for recruitment of teachers as they must be Catholic and qualified to teach French; and

Whereas: despite the repeal of Regulation 274, the central agreement with the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) still requires Catholic school boards to hire based on seniority (consistent with Regulation 274) and thus, all new French teachers in Catholic school boards must still be placed on the occasional teachers list for daily supply work as one of the eligibility requirements for full time consideration; and

Whereas: teachers are able to request assignments outside of French (within their areas of qualification) as soon as they are offered permanent placement; and

Whereas: all school boards have difficulty in recruiting and retaining teachers who are qualified to teach French in volumes that are consistent with the increasing demand for the expansion of French language programs across the province;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association petition to the Ministry of Education to repeal the integration of Regulation 274 from all collective agreements that reference seniority-based hiring. The removal of regulation 274 from all collective agreements would ensure consistency with processes already implemented in public school systems, and eliminate some of the disadvantages that Catholic school boards face in attracting candidates who are qualified in French and from diverse backgrounds.

Committee Recommendation

No action required.

RESOLUTION 23-21

Moved by: William Hall **London DCSB**

Seconded by: Mary Holmes

Topic: **Student Representation on the OCSTA Board of Directors**

Whereas: OCSTA is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of a President, a Vice-President, a Past President and 15 additional trustees elected from 12 regions;

Whereas: OCSTA does not have Student representation on the Board of Directors; and

Whereas: all Catholic School Boards have Student Trustees to express the student voice at their Board tables.

Therefore be it Resolved that:

OCSTA add a Student representative, as a non-voting member with a one-year term, to the OCSTA Board of Directors to express the student voice at meetings of, and in decision-making at, the Board of Directors.

Committee Recommendation

Not support.

RESOLUTION 24-21

Moved by: Trustee Bruno Iannicca

Dufferin-Peel CDSB

Seconded by: Trustee Stefano Pascucci

Topic: **Hard Caps in Kindergarten Classes**

Whereas: school boards are staffing Kindergarten classes based on an average class size of 26; and

Whereas: school boards across the province are experiencing inequitable distribution of students in Kindergarten classes; and

Whereas: some classes are very small, with less than 16 students, so that a Designated Early Childhood Educator is not required; and

Whereas: school boards are dealing with safety issues in large Kindergarten classes;

Therefore be it Resolved that:

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association petition the Ministry of Education to impose a hard cap for Kindergarten classes and funding to sustain increased space requirements within schools to ensure equitable, consistent staffing in all Kindergarten classes.

Committee Recommendation

Not support.

OCSTA 2020 Resolutions Status Chart



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

	Board	Topic	AGM Decision	Action Taken	Status
A-20	OCSTA	Resolution to Amend OCSTA By-Law 2019-01	Approve	By-Laws were amended	Complete
1.	Dufferin-Peel	OCSTA Vote Allocations	That OCSTA develop an Ad Hoc Committee comprised of up to 7 members of the OCSTA Board of Directors to consider and research resolutions 1-6 and other governance and operating issues relating to OCSTA.	An OCSTA Ad Hoc Committee has been established to review the resolutions. An update will be provided at the 2021 AGM.	In progress
2.	Toronto	OCSTA Membership Fee Structure	That OCSTA commission a study to be conducted by an independent organization to research and recommend how OCSTA determines its membership fees through the OCSTA Board of Directors prior to the 2021 OCSTA AGM.	An OCSTA Ad Hoc Committee has been established to review the resolutions. An update will be provided at the 2021 AGM.	In progress
3.	Halton	Amendment to OCSTA By-Law relating to Class of Membership & Criteria for Determining Regions & Representation	That OCSTA develop an Ad Hoc Committee comprised of up to 7 members of the OCSTA Board of Directors to consider and research resolutions 1-6 and other governance and operating issues relating to OCSTA.	An OCSTA Ad Hoc Committee has been established to review the resolutions. An update will be provided at the 2021 AGM.	In progress
4.	Halton	Amendments to the By-Laws Relating Generally to the Conduct of Its Affairs	That OCSTA develop an Ad Hoc Committee comprised of up to 7 members of the OCSTA Board of Directors to consider and research resolutions 1-6 and other governance and operating issues relating to OCSTA.	An OCSTA Ad Hoc Committee has been established to review the resolutions. An update will be provided at the 2021 AGM.	In progress
5.	Toronto	Association Name Change	Defeated	No action required.	Complete
6.	Waterloo	Term Limit for Regional Directors	That OCSTA develop an Ad Hoc Committee comprised of up to 7 members of the OCSTA Board of Directors to consider and research resolutions 1-6 and other governance and operating issues relating to OCSTA.	An OCSTA Ad Hoc Committee has been established to review the resolutions. An update will be provided at the 2021 AGM.	In progress
7.	Dufferin-Peel	Funding for Students with Diverse Learning Needs, including Special Education Needs	Approve	Included in the Pre-Budget Submission Oct 6/20 and in the Dec 2020 Finance Brief.	Complete

OCSTA 2020 Resolutions Status Chart



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

	Board	Topic	AGM Decision	Action Taken	Status
8.	Dufferin-Peel	Student Transportation Funding	Approve	Included in the Pre-Budget Submission Oct 6/20, Finance Brief Dec 7, 2020 and OCSTA is a representative on the Student Transportation Working Group to review transportation funding reform.	Complete
9.	Dufferin-Peel	Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grants	Approve	Included in the Dec 2020 Finance Brief – the need to continue and increase funding.	Complete
10.	Dufferin-Peel	Technology Funding	Approve	Included in the Pre-Budget Submission Oct 6/20 and in the Dec 2020 Finance Brief – the need for sustainable funding for IT infrastructure including funding for replacing devices.	Complete
11.	Dufferin-Peel	Funding for Retrofitting/Renovating Schools	Approve	Addressed in the Pre-Budget Submission Oct 6/20 and in the Dec 2020 Finance Brief – the need to include OCSTA in review panel regarding construction capital benchmarks, establish multi-year capital funding process and provide increased local autonomy.	Complete
12.	Algonquin & Lakeshore	Broadband Modernization Program and E-Learning Strategy	Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee	E-learning strategy included as part of OCSTA's advocacy efforts with regard to Bill 197 (letter to Minister of Education July 21/2020 re: mandate of TVO) and Broadband Modernization Program included in the Dec 2020 Finance Brief.	Complete
13.	Ottawa	Price on Pollution Funding	Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee	Letter sent to Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks on Sept 14/2020. Response received from Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks via letter dated Oct 19/2020 – negotiations with Federal government to distribute funds to school boards are ongoing.	Complete
14.	Ottawa	PsychoEd Assessments & Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder	Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee	Letter to Minister Lecce (Sept 14/2020).	Complete
15.	Ottawa	Single Use Plastics	Approve and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee	Letter sent to Minister of Education on Oct 28/2020. Response received Dec 14/20 government to continue exploring opportunities for outdoor education and	Complete

OCSTA 2020 Resolutions Status Chart



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

	Board	Topic	AGM Decision	Action Taken	Status
				yearly outdoor education fund given to school boards.	
16.	Algonquin & Lakeshore	Executive Compensation	Receive and Refer to Labour Relations Committee	Letter sent to originating Board March 2021.	Complete
17.	Dufferin-Peel	Hard Caps in Kindergarten Classes	Receive and Refer to Labour Relations Committee	Kindergarten class size is set out in Ontario Regulation 132/12, which was amended Sept 3/20 to reflect education sector central bargaining discussions, and which provides for an average board wide kindergarten class size of 26, with a class size limit of 29. (An upper limit of 32 is available in up to 10% of classes in certain circumstances.) OCSTA's consultation with member boards indicates a substantial preference to maintain average class size parameters.	Complete
18.	Algonquin & Lakeshore	OSAP Access for Certification Program Students	Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee	Letter sent to originating Board on Jan 26, 2021 indicating no action to be taken at this time. Further information needed to fully understand implications to school boards.	Complete
19.	Waterloo	Teacher Learning and Leadership Program (TLLP)	Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee	Letter to Minister Lecce (Feb 8/21) outlining the need to continue funding for teacher learning and leadership programs.	Complete
20.	Waterloo	Renew and increase Funding for Summer Learning Program (CODE Project)	Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee	Letter to Minister Lecce (Jan 27/21) requesting renewal and increase to funding for Summer Learning Program.	Complete
21.	Dufferin-Peel	Qualified French Teacher Recruitment & Retention	Receive and Refer to Political Advocacy Committee	Letter to be sent to Minister of Education pending Board approval.	-
22.	Toronto	Eco School Catholic Board Partnership	Approve and Refer to Catholic Education & Trustee Enrichment Committee	CETE Committee passed a motion to survey all Catholic school boards with regards to best practices in promoting and developing good stewardship of creation as well as their involvement with EcoSchools. Summary of best practices to be completed by end of May, 2021	In progress

2020 (24) OCSTA=2, Algonquin & Lakeshore (3), Dufferin-Peel=(8), Halton=(2), Ottawa=(3), Waterloo=(3), Toronto=(3)

2019 (37) OCSTA=1, Dufferin-Peel=15, Hamilton=1, Northwest =1, Ottawa=4, Peterborough=1, Simcoe Muskoka=7, Toronto=2, Waterloo=5

2018 (20) OCSTA=1, Dufferin-Peel=12, Huron-Superior=1, Ottawa=1, St. Clair=1, York=4

OCSTA 2020 Resolutions Status Chart



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

2017 (08) Dufferin-Peel=4, Hamilton-Wentworth=1, Renfrew=1, Windsor=2

2016 (15) OCSTA=1, Dufferin-Peel=4, Kenora=1, Simcoe=3, York=6

2015 (27) Brant=1, Dufferin-Peel=4, Huron Superior=4, Kenora=1, Ottawa=1, Renfrew=1, Simcoe=6, Superior North=1, Toronto=2, Windsor=5

2014 (16): Algonquin=1, Eastern Ontario=1, Dufferin-Peel=6, Nipissing= 1, Northwest=1, Ottawa=3, Renfrew=1, Waterloo=1

2013 (16): Brant=1, Dufferin-Peel=2, London=1, Renfrew=1, Simcoe=1, Toronto=9, York=1

March 2021

From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA: Speaker Series on Student Mental Health - Presentation and Video
Date: Friday, March 26, 2021 5:17:08 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

For April COWB...

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Waterloo Catholic District School Board | www.wcdsb.ca

35 Weber St W Unit A, Kitchener, ON, N2H 3Z1

519-578-3660 | loretta.notten@wcdsb.ca



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From: OCSTA - Ashlee Cabral <ACabral@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2021 5:10 PM
To: OCSTA - Ashlee Cabral <ACabral@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA: Speaker Series on Student Mental Health - Presentation and Video

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TO: All Trustees and Directors of Education
• All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: Sharon McMillan, Director of Communications

RE: OCSTA: Speaker Series on Student Mental Health - Presentation and Video

For your reference, we have uploaded the **slides** and the **video recording** from the March 24th OCSTA Evening Speaker Series presentation on promoting leadership in student mental health featuring the following panelists:

- Theresa Kennedy (Co-Director, School Mental Health Ontario and Supervisory Officer on secondment from the Algonquin and Lakeshore CDSB)
- Dr. Susan Sweet (Student Mental Health Literacy Coordinator at School Mental Health Ontario and former Mental Health Lead at the Dufferin-Peel CDSB), and
- SMHO Student Reference Group member, Mya of the Durham CDSB

Click on the following link to view and/or download slides and the video recording from this presentation. Note: You will need your OCSTA login credentials to access – for assistance please contact Ashlee Cabral – acabral@ocsta.on.ca.

<https://www.ocsta.on.ca/2021-ocsta-event-presentations/>

Thank you.

ASHLEE CABRAL | Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association | 1804-20 Eglinton Avenue West, Box 2064, Toronto, ON, M4R 1K8 | 416-932-9460 Ext. 230 | Website: www.ocsta.on.ca

CATHOLIC EDUCATION: *Nurturing Hope*

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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA Memo: 2021 AGM - Saturday, May 1 - 9:00 am (EDT)
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:22:14 PM
Attachments: [02-Agenda-Membership.pdf](#)
[image003.png](#)

For April COWB...

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Waterloo Catholic District School Board | www.wcdsb.ca

35 Weber St W Unit A, Kitchener, ON, N2H 3Z1

519-578-3660 | loretta.notten@wcdsb.ca



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From: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 1:50 PM
To: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA Memo: 2021 AGM - Saturday, May 1 - 9:00 am (EDT)

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March 29, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Catholic School Trustees

CC: Directors of Education
Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants
OCSTA Staff

FROM: Nick Milanetti, Executive Director

SUBJECT: OCSTA 2021 Annual General Meeting – Saturday, May 1 – 9:00 a.m. (EDT)

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 1, 2021 – 9:00 a.m. (EDT).

The meeting will be hosted on the Zoom videoconference platform with technical support provided by the firm GetQuorum. In order to participate in the meeting, you will require the Zoom application, which can be downloaded at www.zoom.us. Within the next day or two, you will receive an email from GetQuorum with a link to register for the AGM on May 1st. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Please add notices@getquorum.com to your safe senders list.

The meeting will address the following required elements of an Annual General Meeting:

- a. Consideration of the Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting
- b. Consideration of the Financial Statements of the Corporation
- c. Consideration of the Auditor's Report for the Previous Fiscal Year
- d. Appointment of the Auditor for the Coming Year
- e. Resolutions of the Members

Election of Regional Director – Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11

Members will be able to vote electronically. Each individual will require their own electronic device, i.e., laptop or personal computer in order to capture their individual votes. Members may also participate by phone, however, they would not have the capability to vote in real time, but would have the ability to vote by proxy if previously assigned.

Proxies

In the link to register for the AGM there is an option to assign an electronic proxy, therefore due to the nature of the virtual format of the event, an OCSTA proxy form is not required and paper copies of proxies will not be accepted.

If you are appointing an individual as a proxy to vote on your behalf at the OCSTA Virtual Annual General Meeting on Saturday, May 1st, please remember to inform the proxyholder that they have been assigned a proxy. In addition to their own vote, proxyholders will automatically have one additional vote counted for every proxy they are carrying.

Please note that if you assign a proxy and then join the meeting, your proxy will automatically be revoked. The deadline for assignment of proxies is **April 29 – 9:00 a.m. (EDT)**. It is important that you join the meeting early (8:30 a.m. EDT) on May 1st to ensure that you are able to access the webcast and to complete attendance requirements.

IMPORTANT:

- You will need a computer or laptop and the latest version of Chrome, Safari, Edge or Firefox to access the voting portal.
- Only trustee members eligible to vote in the 2021 elections for OCSTA Regional Directors will receive a ballot.

You must complete your vote within the voting period; otherwise, your vote will not be counted.

- You must be signed into the webcast using the Zoom app and using the same email address as per our records. If your email does not match our records, you will NOT receive a ballot.

Attached please find a copy of the Draft Agenda for the May 1st virtual AGM.

If you have any questions, please contact Connie Araujo-De Melo (cdemelo@ocsta.on.ca).

CONNIE ARAUJO-DE MELO | Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association | 1804-20 Eglinton Avenue West, Box 2064, Toronto, ON M4R 1K8 | t 416-932-9460 ext. 226

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Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

91st Annual General Meeting
May 1, 2021
Virtual Event



SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021			
8:30 am	Online Registration		
9:00 am	Welcome and Opening Remarks - Prayer - How to participate in virtual AGM	Todd Lalonde , AGM Chair Fr. Pat Fitzpatrick , OCSTA Chaplain GetQuorum	
9:10 am	- Call Meeting to Order - Introductions - Announcement of Quorum	Todd Lalonde , AGM Chair	
9:15 am	President's Report and Q & A	Patrick J. Daly , President, OCSTA	
9:35 am	Nominations Report & Introduction of Candidates	Beverley Eckensweiler Past President, OCSTA & Nominations Chair	
9:45 am	Consideration of Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting	Todd Lalonde , AGM Chair	
9:50 am	Resolutions Session	Beverley Eckensweiler Past President, OCSTA & Chair of Resolutions Session Nadya Tymochenko Parliamentarian	
11:10 am (TBC – 15 min. allotted for voting)	Elections – Voting Period	Todd Lalonde , AGM Chair	
11:25 am	Presentation of Financial Report 2020 FYE Auditor's Report Appointment of Auditors	Marino Gazzola , Chair, Budget and Human Resources Committee, OCSTA	
11:35 am	Election Results	Beverley Eckensweiler Past President, OCSTA & Nominations Chair	
11:45 am	Closing Remarks & Adjournment	Todd Lalonde , AGM Chair	

Trustees please click on link below to read Report - AF

From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA Memo: LINK to Access Global Catholic Education Report 2021
Date: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 6:16:54 PM
Attachments: [b9597a_c32d8f2aa1c6458b8db957538a49d0f9.pdf](#)
[image002.png](#)

For April COWB...

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Waterloo Catholic District School Board | www.wcdsb.ca

35 Weber St W Unit A, Kitchener, ON, N2H 3Z1

519-578-3660 | loretta.notten@wcdsb.ca



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From: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:38 AM
To: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA Memo: LINK to Access Global Catholic Education Report 2021

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It has come to our attention that the attachment previously sent to you contained a file error. Attached please find a newly saved report. If you are still experiencing difficulty opening the attachment please select the following link to access the 2021 Global Catholic Education Report. Thank you and I apologize for any inconvenience.

Click Here https://e09c9478-419d-4177-930b-8abd3c6e96ac.filesusr.com/ugd/b9597a_c32d8f2aa1c6458b8db957538a49d0f9.pdf

Connie

April 6, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
• All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff
Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: **Global Catholic Education Report 2021**

I thought the attached *Global Catholic Education Report 2021* would be of interest to you.

CONNIE ARAUJO-DE MELO | Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association | 1804-20 Eglinton Avenue West, Box 2064, Toronto, ON M4R 1K8 | t 416-932-9460 ext. 226

CATHOLIC EDUCATION: *Nurturing Hope*

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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA News Release - Urgent Call to Vaccinate all Teachers and Education Workers
Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 6:27:29 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

For April COWB...

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Waterloo Catholic District School Board | www.wcdsb.ca

35 Weber St W Unit A, Kitchener, ON, N2H 3Z1

519-578-3660 | loretta.notten@wcdsb.ca



**Waterloo Catholic
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From: OCSTA - Ashlee Cabral <ACabral@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 5:09 PM
To: OCSTA - Ashlee Cabral <ACabral@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA News Release - Urgent Call to Vaccinate all Teachers and Education Workers

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Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

Urgent Call to Vaccinate all Teachers and Education Workers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Toronto – April 7, 2021 – “The Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association acknowledges the progress made today to extend eligibility for vaccinations to Special Education workers province-wide and all education workers in select hot spot areas. There remains, however, an urgency to place priority on vaccinating teachers and all education workers throughout the province given next week’s provincial school break.

The dedicated teachers and education workers in Catholic schools continue to work diligently to meet the needs of students and families while supporting the continuity of learning throughout this pandemic. A mandate for the urgent vaccination of all teachers and education workers is called for at this time,” said OCSTA President Daly.

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association is the provincial voice for publicly funded Catholic education. Founded in 1930, OCSTA represents the interests of Catholic school boards that collectively educates approximately 600,000 students in Ontario, from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

Sharon McMillan, Director of Communications

Tel: 416-460-7937 / E-mail: smcmillan@ocsta.on.ca

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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA: Ontario News Release - Ontario Enacts Provincial Emergency and Stay-at-Home Order Apr 7 21
Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 6:58:06 PM
Attachments: [image006.png](#)

For April COWB...

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

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**Waterloo Catholic
District School Board**
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

From: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 6:02 PM
To: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA: Ontario News Release - Ontario Enacts Provincial Emergency and Stay-at-Home Order Apr 7 21

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April 7, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
• All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff
Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistant

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: News Release – Ontario Enacts Provincial Emergency and Stay-at-Home Order

Please see Ontario news release below regarding the provincial emergency and stay-at-home order, sent to you for your reference.



News Release

Ontario Enacts Provincial Emergency and Stay-at-Home Order

April 7, 2021

Additional measures needed to protect health system capacity and save lives during third wave of COVID-19

TORONTO — The Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and other health experts, is immediately declaring a third [provincial emergency](#) under s 7.0.1 (1) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (EMPCA). These measures are being taken in response to the rapid increase in COVID-19 transmission, the threat on the province's hospital system capacity, and the increasing risks posed to the public by COVID-19 variants.

Details were provided today by Premier Doug Ford, Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Solicitor General Sylvia Jones, and Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health.

"The Covid-19 situation is at a critical stage and we must act quickly and decisively to stay ahead of these deadly new variants," said Premier Ford. "By imposing these strict new measures we will keep people safe while allowing our vaccination program to reach more people, starting with our high risk

population and identified hot spots. Although this is difficult, I urge everyone to follow these public health measures and together we will defeat this deadly virus."

Case rates, hospitalizations, and ICU occupancy are increasing rapidly, threatening to overwhelm the health care system. The number of COVID-19 hospitalizations in the province have increased by 28.2 per cent between the period of March 28 and April 5, 2021. In addition, between March 28 and April 5, 2021, Ontario has seen the number of COVID-19 patients in intensive care escalate by 25 per cent. While every action possible is being taken to increase capacity and continue daily surgeries and procedures, the province is reaching a tipping point.

Effective Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 12:01 a.m., the government is issuing a province-wide Stay-at-Home order requiring everyone to remain at home except for essential purposes, such as going to the grocery store or pharmacy, accessing health care services (including getting vaccinated), for outdoor exercise, or for work that cannot be done remotely. As Ontario's health care capacity is threatened, the Stay-at-Home order, and other new and existing public health and workplace safety measures will work to preserve public health system capacity, safeguard vulnerable populations, allow for progress to be made with vaccinations and save lives.

Retail

In addition, the province is also strengthening public health and workplace safety measures for non-essential retail under the [provincewide emergency brake](#). Measures include, but are not limited to:

- Limiting the majority of non-essential retailers to only operate for curbside pick-up and delivery, via appointment, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m., with delivery of goods to patrons permitted between 6:00 am and 9:00 pm, and other restrictions;
- Restricting access to shopping malls to limited specified purposes, including access for curbside pick-up and delivery, via appointment, with one single designated location inside the shopping mall, and any number of designated locations outside the shopping mall, along with other restrictions;
- Restricting discount and big box stores in-person retail sales to grocery items, pet care supplies, household cleaning supplies, pharmaceutical items, health care items, and personal care items only;
- Permitting the following stores to operate for in-person retail by appointment only and subject to a 25 per cent capacity limit and restricting allowable hours of operation to between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. with the delivery of goods to patrons permitted between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m.:
 - Safety supply stores;
 - Businesses that primarily sell, rent or repair assistive devices, aids or supplies, mobility devices, aids or supplies or medical devices, aids or supplies;
 - Rental and leasing services including automobile, commercial and light industrial machinery and equipment rental;
 - Optical stores that sell prescription eyewear to the public;

- Businesses that sell motor vehicles, boats and other watercraft;
- Vehicle and equipment repair and essential maintenance and vehicle and equipment rental services; and
- Retail stores operated by a telecommunications provider or service, which may only permit members of the public to enter the premises to purchase a cellphone or for repairs or technical support.
- Permitting outdoor garden centres and plant nurseries, and indoor greenhouses that engage in sales to the public, to operate with a 25 per cent capacity limit and a restriction on hours of operation to between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.

These additional and strengthened public health and workplace safety measures will be in effect as of Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 12:01 a.m.

Education

Keeping schools and child care open is critical to the mental health and well-being of Ontario children and youth. Schools and child care will remain open for in-person care and learning in public health regions where it is permitted, with strict safety measures in place.

In addition, beginning next week, education workers who provide direct support to students with special education needs across the province, and all education workers in select hot spot areas, will be eligible to register for vaccination. Vaccinations will commence during the April break starting with priority neighborhoods in Toronto and Peel, then rolling out to priority neighborhoods in other hot spot regions, including York, Ottawa, Hamilton, Halton and Durham. This will be followed by a rollout across the province as supply allows.

"While our government took decisive action by implementing the provincewide emergency brake, more needs to be done to protect against the threats to our health system resources and the continued health and safety of individuals and families across the province," said Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "By further strengthening public health and workplace safety measures, we can work to reduce transmission of the virus while we work to rollout Phase 2 of our vaccine distribution plan, and put more needles in the arms of Ontarians."

"The rapid and increasing spread of COVID-19 and the variants of concern pose significant threats to our health care system and the well-being of Ontarians, requiring immediate and decisive action," said Solicitor General Sylvia Jones. "The declaration of a third provincial emergency is necessary to provide the government with the tools needed to help protect the public, reduce the spread of the virus and save lives."

Vaccinations

As part of Phase Two of its COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan, people living in regions with the highest rates of transmission will be prioritized to receive a vaccine, starting with the most at-risk in the

Peel and Toronto public health regions. This initiative will be expanded to additional "hot spot" regions based on established patterns of transmission, severe illness, and mortality.

To support this expanded vaccination effort, mobile teams are being organized to administer vaccines in high-risk congregate settings, residential buildings, faith-based locations, and locations occupied by large employers in hot spot neighbourhoods to individuals aged 18 or over. Pop-up clinics will also be set-up in highly impacted neighborhoods, including at faith-based locations and community centres in those hot spots, in collaboration with public health units and community organizations within those communities. The province will provide additional resources to support these mobile and pop-up clinics in the hardest-hit neighbourhoods.

The government will also extend booking for COVID-19 vaccination appointments to more age groups through its [provincial booking system](#), for public health regions with highly impacted neighbourhoods, on Friday, April 9, 2021. Booking eligibility will be extended to include individuals aged 50 and over for COVID-19 vaccination appointments at mass immunization clinics in high-risk areas as identified by postal code, using the provincial booking system.

Workplace Inspections

Health and safety inspectors and provincial offenses officers will increase inspections and enforcement at essential businesses in regional hot zones to continue protecting essential workers while on the job. There have been 19,500 COVID-related workplace inspections and investigations across the province since the beginning of 2021. During those visits, over 450 COVID-19 related tickets have been issued and OHS inspectors have issued over 14,446 OHS orders and stopped unsafe work related to COVID-19 a total of 24 times.

Rapid Testing

Rapid testing continues to be deployed in workplaces for asymptomatic staff in key sectors such as manufacturing, warehousing, supply chain, mining, construction and food processing. Approximately 5.4 million rapid antigen tests have been sent to over 1,150 workplaces, including 100 essential industry sites, under the Provincial Antigen Screening Program. To encourage the use of these tests under the program, additional outreach will occur to employers in regions with highest rates of transmission to increase access to testing, and the process for enrollment in the screening program will be streamlined to allow for quick access to these supports.

"As we continue to see COVID-19 variants of concern drive this third wave of COVID-19, it is evident stronger public health and workplace measures are needed to help interrupt the spread of the virus," said Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health. "By all of us staying at home, while still taking some time to enjoy the outdoors with the people we live with in our local neighbourhoods and maintaining two metres physical distance from others, we can reduce our mobility, minimize transmission, protect our loved ones and our communities, safeguard health system capacity, and save lives."

QUICK FACTS

- Over the past week, the province's positivity rate is 5.1 per cent, well above the high-alert threshold of 2.5 per cent, and as of April 6, 2021, there has been a total of 2,483 cases with one of the three variants of concern (VoC). The percent of cases in the last week that tested positive for a mutation or VOC was 63.1 per cent.
- On Saturday April 3, 2021, in response to an alarming surge in case numbers and COVID-19 hospitalizations across the province and in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the government imposed a [provincewide emergency brake](#), implementing additional time-limited public health and workplace safety measures, including encouraging remote work in all industries to the greatest extent possible and the closure of additional workplaces, further capacity limits on some essential businesses which are able to remain open, and strengthened advice on limiting trips outside of the home for essential reasons.
- On the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, all Ontarians are asked to limit trips outside the home to necessities such as food, medication, medical appointments, supporting vulnerable community members, or exercising outdoors with members of their household in our their communities. Individuals should remain in their local communities and avoid all non-essential travel – even within the province – and to stay home when ill even with mild symptoms. Employers in all industries should make every effort to allow employees to work from home.
- To ensure that every person who requires care in a hospital can access a bed, the government has invested more than \$5.1 billion to support hospitals since the start of the pandemic, creating more than 3,100 additional hospital beds and 500 critical care and high intensity medicine beds. This includes \$1.8 billion in 2021–22 to continue providing care for COVID-19 patients, addressing surgical backlogs and keeping pace with patient needs through its [Ontario's Action Plan: Protecting People's Health and Our Economy](#).
- The Ontario government continues to implement its [High Priority Communities Strategy](#) to provide targeted supports to communities hardest hit by COVID-19. In these communities 1,000 Community Ambassadors have been mobilized, 30 community testing sites have been opened and nearly 36,000 PPE kits have been distributed to community members.
- Get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms, or if you have been advised of exposure by your local public health unit or through the COVID Alert App. Visit [Ontario.ca/covidtest](#) to find the nearest testing location.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Ontario Implements Provincewide Emergency Brake](#)
- [Ontario Moving to Phase Two of COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan](#)
- [2021 Budget - Ontario's Action Plan: Protecting People's Health and Our Economy](#)
- The [Digital Main Street program](#) helps main street businesses build their online presence and reach more customers.
- [Property Tax and Energy Cost Rebates](#)
- Visit Ontario's [COVID-19 communications resources web page](#) for resources in multiple languages to help local communication efforts.
- Visit Ontario's [COVID-19 vaccine web page](#) to view the latest provincial data and information on COVID-19 vaccines.
- Visit Ontario's COVID-19 information [website](#) to learn more about how the province continues to protect the people of Ontario from the virus.
- For public inquiries call ServiceOntario, INFOline at 1-866-532-3161 (Toll-free in Ontario only).

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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA Memo: Final Nominations Report
Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 8:34:34 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

For April COWB

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

Waterloo Catholic District School Board | www.wcdsb.ca

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519-578-3660 | loretta.notten@wcdsb.ca



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From: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 2:03 PM
To: OCSTA - Connie DeMelo <CDeMelo@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA Memo: Final Nominations Report

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April 7, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Trustees and Directors of Education
• All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff
Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants

SUBJECT: Final Nominations Report

THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN SENT DIRECTLY TO ALL TRUSTEES & DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION

The following nominations, duly Moved and Seconded, have been received by the deadline of 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 7, 2021.

Nominations are now closed.

The following nominations duly Moved and Seconded, for OCSTA Regional Director, have been received:

Region 1 1 Director	Huron Superior, Nipissing-Parry Sound, Northeastern, Sudbury Colleen Landers, Northeastern CDSB
Region 2 1 Director	Kenora, Northwest, Superior North, Thunder Bay Frank Bastone, Kenora CDSB
Region 3 (at large) 1 Director	Regions 1 & 2 Leslie Cassidy-Amadio, Huron Superior CDSB
Region 4 1 Director	Bruce-Grey, Huron-Perth, Waterloo, Wellington Marino Gazzola, Wellington CDSB
Region 5 1 Director	London, St. Clair, Windsor-Essex Linda Ward, St. Clair CDSB
Region 9 1 Director	Durham, Peterborough Victoria Northumberland & Clarington, Simcoe-Muskoka Linda Ainsworth, Peterborough Victoria Northumberland & Clarington CDSB
Region 10 1 Director	Algonquin & Lakeshore, CDSB of Eastern Ontario, Renfrew County Brian Evoy, Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB Todd Lalonde, CDSB of Eastern Ontario
Region 11 1 Director	Brant Haldimand Norfolk, Hamilton-Wentworth, Niagara Rhianon Burkholder, Niagara CDSB Rick Petrella, Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB

Elections will be held in Regions 10 and 11.

The deadline for receipt of assignment of Proxies is **April 29 – 9:00 a.m. EDT.**

CONNIE ARAUJO-DE MELO | Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association | 1804-20 Eglinton Avenue West, Box 2064, Toronto, ON M4R 1K8 | t 416-932-9460 ext. 226

CATHOLIC EDUCATION: *Nurturing Hope*

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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA: ON News Release - Additional Protections for Schools to Keep Students and Staff Safe Apr 8 21
Date: Thursday, April 8, 2021 7:26:54 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

For April COWB

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

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From: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 11:30 AM
To: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA: ON News Release - Additional Protections for Schools to Keep Students and Staff Safe Apr 8 21

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April 8, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
• All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff

Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: Ontario News Release – Additional Protections for Schools to Keep Students and Staff Safe

Please see attached news release regarding additional protections for schools to keep students and staff safe, sent to you for your reference.



News Release

[Additional Protections for Schools to Keep Students and Staff Safe](#)

April 8, 2021

Schools will remain open for in-person learning during four-week stay-at-home order as education workers become eligible for vaccines

TORONTO — The Ontario government is introducing new measures to protect schools against COVID-19 which include refresher training, enhanced cleaning and asymptomatic testing. As these new measures are being introduced, the government will begin offering registration for vaccinations to education workers during the spring break.

"Nothing is more important than keeping Ontario's schools safe and open for students, staff and their families," said Education Minister Stephen Lecce. "That's why we are introducing additional health and safety measures to protect against COVID-19 while working hard to get our education workers vaccinated. Our students deserve a safe return to their classrooms on April 19 so that they can keep learning, and we are committed to delivering on that."

With appropriate health and safety measures in place, Dr. David Williams, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, has confirmed that schools remain safe. The new measures being introduced are intended to further protect schools and communities against the spread of COVID-19 and include:

- On-site confirmation of self-screening;
- Refresher training upon return from April break;
- Outdoor instruction when possible;
- Enhanced cleaning during the April break;
- Curriculum-linked activities for students;
- Letter to parents promoting best practices for a safe April break; and
- Asymptomatic testing expansion.

Under the Ontario government's plan, expanded access to asymptomatic testing is available for students and staff at pharmacies that offer testing and in 180 assessment centres across the province for the week of April 12-18, 2021.

In addition, beginning next week, education workers who provide direct support to students with special education needs across the province, and all education workers in select hot spot areas, will be eligible to register for vaccination. Vaccinations will commence during the April break starting with priority neighborhoods in Toronto and Peel, then rolling out to priority neighborhoods in other hot spot regions, including York, Ottawa, Hamilton, Halton and Durham. This will be followed by a rollout across the province as supply allows.

QUICK FACTS

- 98% of schools in in-person learning areas remain open today, and Ontario has one of the lowest rates of cases for youth under 19 in Canada.
- The Chief Medical Officer of Health has confirmed that schools remain safe – and the medical community has been clear that keeping schools open is critical for the mental health and well-being of kids.
- The Ministry of Education is working with school boards to offer school-based voluntary asymptomatic testing clinics; children attending school or child care, as well as child care staff will be eligible to access this testing.
- Details with specific instructions and information will be shared with education workers regarding COVID-19 vaccination in short order.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Visit Ontario's website to learn more about how the province continues to protect Ontarians from COVID-19](#)
- [Learn about Ontario's vaccination program to help protect us against COVID-19](#)
- [Guide to reopening Ontario's schools](#)

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From: [Loretta Notten](#)
To: [Alice Figueiredo](#)
Subject: FW: OCSTA: News Release: Canada and Ontario Invest in School Infrastructure to Respond to the Impacts of COVID-19 - Apr 14/21
Date: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:14:39 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)

Loretta Notten

Director of Education

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From: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:13 AM
To: OCSTA - Marie Palombi <MPalombi@ocsta.on.ca>
Subject: OCSTA: News Release: Canada and Ontario Invest in School Infrastructure to Respond to the Impacts of COVID-19 - Apr 14/21

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April 14, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
• All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff
Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: News Release: Canada and Ontario Invest in School Infrastructure to Respond to the Impacts of COVID-19

Please see news release below regarding investments in school infrastructure by both the federal and provincial governments, sent to you for your information. Please note that in the backgrounder, funding is broken down by each school board receiving the funding.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me (pdaly@ocsta.on.ca) or Steve Andrews (sandrews@ocsta.on.ca).

NEWS RELEASE

Canada and Ontario Invest in School Infrastructure to Respond to the Impacts of COVID-19

Projects will enhance health and safety protection for students and staff

April 14, 2021

[Education](#)

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3. [Quotes](#)
4. [Additional Resources](#)
5. [Related Topics](#)

OTTAWA — The governments of Canada and Ontario announced \$656.5 million in funding to provide critical infrastructure upgrades to protect students and staff from COVID-19 in the province's schools. The infrastructure upgrades were announced by the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, the Honourable Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure for Ontario, and the Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education for Ontario.

Communities across Canada are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic, and need immediate assistance to ensure their public infrastructure is safe and reliable.

That is why both levels of government have been taking decisive action to support families, businesses and communities, and continue to look ahead to see what more can be done in these unprecedented times.

The majority of funding will support ventilation projects that improve air quality in classrooms across the province. Projects include HVAC renovations to improve air quality, installing water bottle refilling stations to improve access to safe drinking water, investing in network and broadband infrastructure to support remote learning, and space reconfigurations such as new walls and doors to enhance physical distancing.

The Government of Canada is investing \$525.2 million towards these projects through the COVID-19 Resilience stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. The Government of Ontario is contributing more than \$131.3 million to the projects.

The COVID-19 Resilience stream, implemented in response to the pandemic, allows the Government of Canada to invest up to 80 per cent in projects that support provinces, and up to 100 per cent in projects that support territories and Indigenous communities in their response to the pandemic.

Quick Facts

- Through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Plan, the Government of Canada is investing more than \$180 billion over 12 years in public transit projects, green infrastructure, social infrastructure, trade and transportation routes, and Canada's rural and northern communities. Ontario is investing \$10.2 billion in this program.
- To support Canadians and communities during the COVID-19 pandemic, a COVID-19 Resilience stream has been added to the over \$33-billion Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to help fund pandemic-resilient infrastructure. Existing program streams have also been adapted to include more eligible project categories.
- Through the COVID-19 Resilience stream, over \$3 billion is available to provide provinces and territories with added flexibility to fund quick-start, short term projects.
- Under the COVID-19 Resilience stream, the federal cost share for public infrastructure projects is 80 per cent in the provinces, and 100 per cent in the territories and for projects intended for Indigenous communities.
- The Government of Canada has invested over \$8.3 billion in 2,876 infrastructure projects across Ontario under the Investing in Canada plan.
- Since the start of the pandemic, the Ontario government has invested more than \$1.6 billion to protect students, staff, and families from COVID-19.
- The investments build on the more than \$1 billion the Ontario government has invested since 2019 in new schools and child care spaces and additions to provide working families with access to quality, safe, and state-of-the-art learning spaces. Supported by provincial funding, 95 per cent of Ontario schools have reported upgrades or enhancements to their air filtration systems, with over 40,000 HEPA filters and other ventilation devices in classrooms.

Quotes

"The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major impact on the wellbeing of students, parents and teachers. As we continue to battle this crisis, ensuring a safe learning environment for our kids is critical. That's why the Government of Canada is investing 80 cents on every dollar for a total of over \$500 million to make schools across Ontario safer for students and teachers. These projects will improve air quality, install more hand washing stations and support better physical distancing. They are part of the federal government's support to help Canadians get through the pandemic safely, create good jobs across the province, and build stronger, more resilient communities."

- **The Honourable Catherine McKenna**

Federal Minister of Infrastructure and Communities

"As the COVID-19 pandemic has clearly highlighted, investments in the health and wellness of Ontarians is more critical than ever. Supporting air-quality and other infrastructure projects in schools helps to protect our communities, making them stronger, healthier and safer today, and for years to come."

- **The Honourable Laurie Scott**

Minister of Infrastructure for Ontario

"Ontario's government is focused on protecting the lives of students, staff, and their families. We put a plan into action that leads the nation – delivering air ventilation improvements to over 95% of schools, 7,000 additional staff, and improved cleaning, testing and stronger screening. This one-time investment will help improve the safety of schools, building upon Ontario's annual investment of over \$1.4 billion to maintain schools and \$550 million to build new schools. We also recognize that in addition to these school-based infrastructure investments, Ontario's plan to defeat this pandemic includes vaccines for school staff. We have prioritized education staff in high priority communities and all special education staff across the province, and will expand to all staff as supply becomes available."

- **The Honourable Stephen Lecce**

Minister of Education for Ontario

Additional Resources

- [Background: Canada and Ontario invest in school infrastructure to respond to the impacts of COVID-19](#)
- [Investing in COVID-19 Community Resilience](#)
- [Canada Healthy Communities Initiative](#)
- [Investing in Canada: Canada's Long-Term Infrastructure Plan](#)
- [Investing in Canada Plan Project Map](#)
- [Federal infrastructure investments in Ontario](#)
- [Ontario Builds Project Map](#)

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Date: April 19, 2021
To: Board of Trustees
From: Chair of the Board
Subject: Ends Policy Review

Type of Report: ☒ Decision-Making
☐ Monitoring
☐ Incidental Information concerning day-to-day operations

Type of Information: ☒ Information for Board of Trustees
☐ Monitoring Information of Board Policy
☐ Information only of day-to-day operational matters delegated to the CEO

Origin: (cite Education Act and/or Board Policy or other legislation)

Board Policy I 001 Ends

Background/Comments:

- Board Policy I 001 Ends came to Board on December 14, 2020 for monitoring. It was referred to Governance for review as there was concern around timing of the monitoring report.
- Discussed at Governance on January 18, 2021 and noted that the Ends policy states monitoring is to take place in June, but we have been monitoring this policy in December. Committee debated when this policy should be monitored.
- It was recommended by Governance that the Ends Policy I 001 be reviewed and updated and that full Board discuss the process to be used. It was also noted that when Ends were discussed in the past there was a lot of stakeholder engagement, consultation, and possibility a working committee.
- Further discussion took place on March 8, 2021 at the COWB meeting. It was decided to continue the discussion after our PD workshops on Monitoring were complete.
- During our PD workshops it was suggested by the facilitator that the Ends Policy could use a review to focus on a simplified statement clearly identifying the purpose of the organization and consider removing the mission and vision. Was also noted that the MYSP is only referenced as an actionable item in the Ends policy and suggested that the monitoring of the MYSP be its own policy.

Possible next steps based on previous discussions:



- Undertake a full review of Board Policy I 001 Ends which would involve public consultation and may need a working committee to be formed. If this is the decided path forward, timing will be an important piece given the current landscape we are in.
- Write a new policy around monitoring the MYSP and amend the Ends policy accordingly. Therefore, postponing a full review of the Ends policy to a future year. Possible work for the Governance committee.
- Refer to the Governance Committee to review and revise the Ends policy to tighten its focus and language to meet the Board's needs in relation to monitoring, with no broader stakeholder engagement at this time.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees discuss and provide direction on next steps for reviewing Board Policy I 001 Ends.

Prepared/Reviewed By: Melanie Van Alphen, Chair

*Bylaw 5.2 "where the Board of Trustees receives from the Director of Education a monitoring report that flows from a responsibility delegated to the Director under Board Policy – **except where approval is required by the Board of Trustees on a matter delegated by policy to the Board** – the minutes of the Meeting at which the Report is received shall expressly provide that the Board has received and approved of the Report as an action consistent with the authority delegated to the Director, subject in all instances to what otherwise actually occurred."





Date: April 19, 2021
To: Board of Trustees
From: Chair of the Board
Subject: Monitoring Reports Review

Type of Report: ☒ Decision-Making
☐ Monitoring
☐ Incidental Information concerning day-to-day operations.

Type of Information: ☒ Information for Board of Trustees
☐ Monitoring Information of Board Policy
☐ Information only of day-to-day operational matters delegated to the CEO

Origin: (cite Education Act and/or Board Policy or other legislation)

Background/Comments:

- In September 2020, the Board of Trustees set their priorities for the year. One of those priorities was to review our current structure of monitoring reports.
- It was recommended by the Governance committee that an outside facilitator be hired to lead us through a series of workshops on best practices and good governance.
- Trustees participated in three workshops – January 26th, February 10th, and March 10th.
- Previous monitoring reports were reviewed and discussed, and suggestions were made for improving these reports going forward to reflect the work and good governance practices for trustees.
- Suggestions were made with the following sections to be the focus:
 - The policy language being monitored.
 - Interpretation of the policy
 - Measures being used to determine compliance.
 - Data / evidence
 - Statement of compliance / non-compliance
- Since the completion of the PD workshops, staff have included most of the suggested changes.

Next steps:

- Discuss the work completed to date and provide direction to staff regarding expectations for monitoring reports.
- What is going well, and which changes would we like to implement going forward.



Recommendation:

Prepared/Reviewed By: Melanie Van Alphen, Chair

*Bylaw 5.2 "where the Board of Trustees receives from the Director of Education a monitoring report that flows from a responsibility delegated to the Director under Board Policy – **except where approval is required by the Board of Trustees on a matter delegated by policy to the Board** – the minutes of the Meeting at which the Report is received shall expressly provide that the Board has received and approved of the Report as an action consistent with the authority delegated to the Director, subject in all instances to what otherwise actually occurred."

