

# YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## AGENDA

### SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

7:30 pm

**REVISED**

Watch the Board Meeting  
STREAM  
event on our YCDSB TV Channel:  
<http://bit.ly/YCDSB-TV>

1. **OPENING PRAYER (Our Father)** M. Iafrate
2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** M. Iafrate  
*We are gathered on the ancestral lands and waters of all Indigenous Peoples, who have left their footprints on Mother Earth before us.  
We respectfully acknowledge, those who have walked on it, those who walk on it now, and future generations who have yet to walk upon it.  
We pray to the Creator for strength and wisdom that all may continue to serve as stewards of the earth.*
3. **ROLL CALL** J. Sarna
4. **APPROVAL OF NEW MATERIAL** M. Iafrate
5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** M. Iafrate
6. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR CURRENT MEETING** M. Iafrate
7. **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FROM PREVIOUS MEETING** M. Iafrate
8. **APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**
9. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
10. **CHAIR'S REPORT / UPDATE / INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGES**
11. **OCSTA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**
12. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT / UPDATE**
13. **STUDENT TRUSTEES' REPORT**
14. **RECOGNITIONS / OUTSIDE PRESENTATIONS**
15. **DELEGATIONS**
16. **JOURNEY TOWARDS OUR VISION – STAFF PRESENTATIONS**
17. **ACTION ITEM(S) (including Committee Reports)**
  - a) OCSTA Membership Fees C. Cotton 3
  - b) TRUSTEE MOTION: Support for the Holy Land Children's Educational Endowment Fund M. Iafrate 4
    - (i) Supplementary Report, Info Sheet, Video
18. **DISCUSSION ITEM(S)**
19. **INFORMATION ITEM(S)**
  - a) York Catholic District School Board Response to the Minister of Education
    - (i) Multi Year Financial Recovery Plan (MYFRP) C. McNeil 7
    - (ii) Board Cohesion and Alignment M. Iafrate, J. Sarna
20. **NOTICES OF MOTION**  
*(Notices of Motion are to be submitted in writing and will return to the subsequent meeting as Information, the following meeting as Discussion, and finally Action at the next Board Meeting.)*
21. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S) / REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

**PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL**

- 22.** *St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.*

**23. ADJOURNMENT**

M. Iafrate

# REPORT

## York Catholic District School Board

**Report To:** Special Board Meeting  
**From:** Carol Cotton, Trustee  
**Date:** February 10, 2026  
**Report:** **OCSTA Membership Fees**

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Board of Trustees previously approved a motion to defer payment of OCSTA membership fees until discussions could be held regarding their provision of services to YCDSB. Those discussions have been completed.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The approved 2025-2026 budget includes an amount for the OCSTA membership fee. The payment of these membership fees will not impact the MYRFP. An approved motion to remove the Deferral will result in the invoice for membership fees being processed. Discussions have been held with OCSTA and they will be providing leadership and expertise to the YCDSB over the next few months with respect to professional development and reconciliation practices/processes.

### RECOMMENDATION:

**THAT** the Board rescind the deferral and authorize the payment of OCSTA membership fees.

Prepared and Submitted by: Carol Cotton, Trustee, Markham Area 1, Wards 1, 2,3, 6



# York Catholic District School Board

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~~December 9, 2025~~ Revised February 10, 2026

## **SUPPORT FOR THE HOLY LAND CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND**

**Whereas** the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem has established the Holy Land Children's Educational Endowment Fund – Ensuring the Future to provide urgently needed support to safeguard and sustain schools in the Holy Land, ensuring that children can learn in safe and stable classrooms;

**Whereas** the Lieutenancies of North America, in partnership with the Lieutenancy of Toronto, have launched the Ensuring the Future Capital Campaign to raise both immediate and long-term funds necessary to maintain accessible Christian education in the Holy Land;

**Whereas** the Order seeks “to finance our schools, our Christian schools and universities in the Holy Land... to form a new generation that is formed with our principles,” as stated by Leonardo Visconti di Modrone, Governor General of the Order.

### **LET IT BE RESOLVED**

**THAT** the York Catholic District School Board hold a one-day fundraiser, “Civies Day”, in ~~January~~ **February** 2026, inviting each student and all staff member to contribute \$2.00 (Toonie) with all proceeds directed to the Holy Land Children's Educational Endowment Fund,

**THAT** an honorary cheque, representing the collective contribution of the YCDSB community, be formally presented to H.E. Dr. Colin Saldanha, Lieutenant, or his designate, on behalf of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Iafrate  
Chair of the Board  
Trustee, Richmond Hill

**Ref: 2026:01:1209:MI**

# Report

**Report To:** Special Board Meeting  
**From:** Administration  
**Date:** February 10, 2026  
**Subject:** **Supplementary Information to Support TRUSTEE MOTION:**  
*Support for the Holy Land Children's Educational Endowment Fund*

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide supplementary information to support Trustee Motion, *Support for the Holy Land Children's Educational Endowment Fund*, put forward by Chair Maria Iafate.

## **BACKGROUND**

The North American Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem (EOHSJ) is currently fundraising to support the Latin Patriarchate school system, which operates 44 K-12 schools in the Holy Land and educates nearly 12,000 students of all faiths.

This fundraising effort is being undertaken by Canadian and American Catholics who are concerned about the learning conditions that children in the Holy Land are experiencing. Christians in the Holy Land do not have the financial ability to fully pay their educators or bring their school buildings up to acceptable standards. The EOHSJ seeks to help these Christian schools by raising \$12 million (\$8 million for capital renovation costs and \$4 million to help pay teacher salaries) from its members and from non-members who are willing to donate.

You can learn more about EOHSJ's fundraising effort here: <https://eohsjnorthamerica.org/>.

## **SUMMARY**

Attached to this report is a draft information sheet that could be emailed to students, staff and families.

[A condensed version of a video](#) produced by the EOHSJ is also available for Trustees to review.

Prepared by: Mark Brosens, Senior Manager: Brand, Marketing & Communications  
Submitted by: Mark Brosens, Senior Manager: Brand, Marketing & Communications  
Endorsed by: Jennifer Sarna, Interim Director of Education, Foundation Chair & Secretary of the Board

# Students Helping Students

*YCDSB Students Have the Power to Help Students in the Holy Land*



Right now, schools throughout the Holy Land face serious challenges. Buildings need serious repairs. Students do not have the materials they need to learn. Classrooms are crowded. Teachers are not being paid.

## *We Can Help*

The York Catholic District School Board is responding to the call from the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem (EOHSJ) to support the Latin Patriarchate school system in the Holy Land.

***On <Insert Date>, Students can donate a toonie to have an EXTRA CIVVIES DAY.***

All money raised will be donated to the EOHSJ's "Holy Land Children's Education Endowment Fund – Ensuring the Future." This endowment will help rebuild schools in the Holy Land and contribute to teachers' salaries.

***All Children Should be Able to Learn in Safe, Comfortable Schools.***



### **Facts on the Latin Patriarchate School System:**

- ✔ Operates 44 K-12 schools (6 in Israel, 25 in Jordan and 13 in Palestine)
- ✔ Employs 1,758 people
- ✔ Educates 18,968 boys and girls of all faiths

### **About The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem**

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem (EOHSJ) is an ancient lay Catholic organization dedicated to supporting a Christian presence in the Holy Land through charitable, cultural and social works. The EOHSJ is a registered charity with the Canada Revenue Service (CRA). [Click here for more information](#)



**York Catholic District School Board**



# **Multi-Year Financial Recovery Plan (MYFRP)**

## **Status Update & Ministry Letter**

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February 10, 2026

Prepared by: Kim Scanlon, Manager, Financial Planning & Analysis  
Submitted by: Calum McNeil, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer of the Board  
Endorsed by: Jennifer Sarna, Interim Director of Education, Foundation Chair and Secretary of the Board



# A Clear Path Forward

- The Board's **existing MYFRP** (submitted in August 2025), which meets Ministry requirements, **remains in place**.
- The MYFRP continues to provide a **clear and realistic path** to in-year balance by 2026–27.
- The Board is **actively monitoring progress** and refining as needed, to ensure successful implementation.
- The first three years of the August 2025 plan are **largely unchanged** from the January 2025 plan, which was approved.



# Evolving Requirements, Consistent Financial Health

## January 2025 Submission

**3 Year Plan: 2025-28 (approved by the Ministry)**

- ✓ Balanced in-year by 2026-27

The Board's current and near-term finances DID NOT worsen between submissions.

## August 2025 Submission

**6 Year Plan: 2025-31**

- ✓ Balanced in-year by 2026-27
- ✓ Eliminate accumulated deficit by 2030-31 (**NEW**)



# Addressing the Minister's Concerns

## 1 Higher Risk MYFRP Assumptions

- Supply staff costs
- Transportation costs
- Rental opportunities
- International student enrolment

## 2. Organizational Capacity

Capacity to execute identified cost-savings measures.



# MYFRP Core Principles

## Ensuring Student Success

### 1. Protect Core Mandate



Prioritize classroom instruction, student safety, and legislated services.

### 2. Minimize Student Impact



Reductions focus on non-instructional areas first.

### 3. Attrition Before Cuts



Natural attrition and operational efficiencies implemented before staffing reductions.

### 4. Equity and Fairness



Decisions consider equity across schools and student needs.

### 5. Sustainability



Preference given to structurally sustainable savings over one-time measures.

### 6. Compliance and Risk



Statutory, contractual, and safety obligations are protected.



# MYFRP Planning Approach

## A Dual-Horizon Approach



### THE MICROSCOPE

Short-Term (2025–2027)

- **Focus:** Concrete actions, implemented and committed measures.
- **Certainty:** High. This is where the most cost reductions occur.
- **Goal:** Immediate fiscal discipline.



### THE TELESCOPE

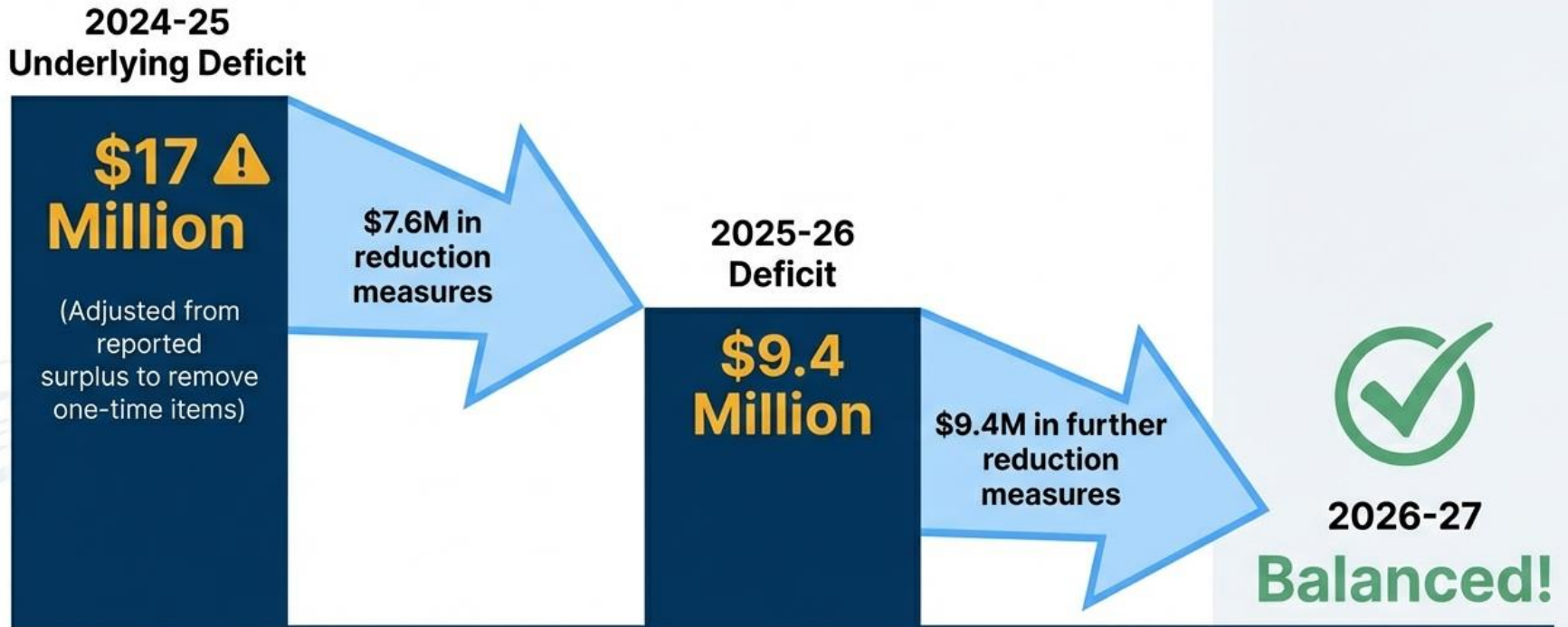
Longer-Term (2027–2031)

- **Focus:** Strategic assumptions and structural reform.
- **Certainty:** High-level direction; refined annually as uncertainty narrows.
- **Goal:** Sustainable structural change.



# The Microscope

## Path to Balance by 2026-27

















# The Microscope: 2025-26 Update

**Progress against plan: some areas ahead of target, others lagging, on track for net savings of \$7.6M**



## ACHIEVED

-  Transportation
-  Consultants
-  Custodians
-  Community Use of Schools
-  STREAM Centres
-  General School Budget
-  Principal/VP Absenteeism Coverage
-  Hospitality

## AHEAD

-  Board Administration
-  Home Instruction
-  Lunchtime Supervisors
-  Special Education

## SHORTFALL

-  Rental of Vacant Space
-  Supply Staff






# The Microscope: 2026-27 Early View

**Early View: updated assumptions — some increased / some reduced,  
on track for net savings of \$9.4M**


## STABLE



-  Lunchtime Supervisors
-  Sections supporting Special Programs
-  Supply Staff

## INCREASED



-  Special Education
-  Board Administration

## REDUCED



-  International Education
-  Rental of Vacant Space
-  Transportation



# The Telescope: Contingency Framework for 2027-28 Onwards

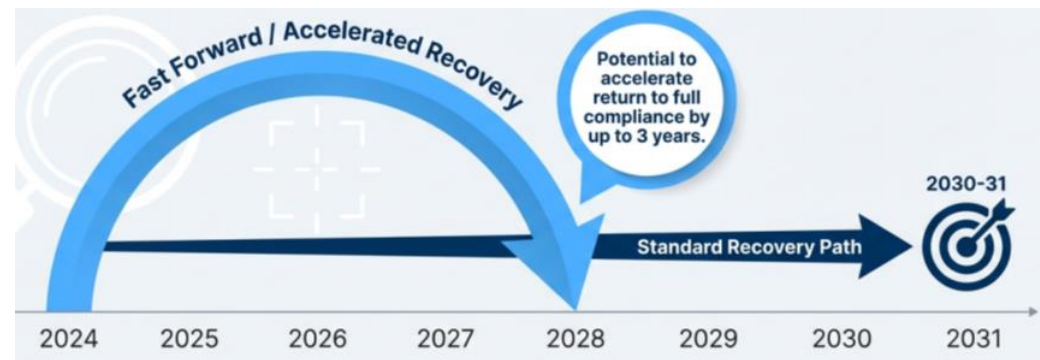
## Pool of Additional Measures:

- Contingency measures
- Draw upon as needed, and as uncertainly narrows
- Requires board approval



## Sale of Surplus Property:

- Creates “Proceeds of Disposition” funds
- Ministry approval required to apply funds against Accumulated Deficit
- Not included in original MYFRP submission; Board prioritizes establishing credibility first through operational savings



Provides flexibility to ensure financial recovery objectives are met



# MYFRP Steering Committee

## Ensures Oversight and Achievement of Objectives

- **Director of Education**
- **Associate Director**
- **Chief Financial Officer**
- **Superintendent of Education: Exceptional Learners**
- **Superintendent of Human Resources**

- **Role:** Implementation oversight, monitoring results, refining the plan.
- **Cadence:** Monthly compliance reporting to Ministry and Trustees.
- **Accountability:** Monthly confirmation that results align with objectives.



# Conclusion

## Conclusion: Financial Recovery Remains Compliant & On Track



### In-Year Compliance

The Board's financial recovery remains strictly on track. Balanced in-year compliance achieved within accepted timeframe.



### Budget 2026–27

Administration and Trustees will operate within an approved, balanced budget.



### Risk Management

Short-term execution risks are identified and offset; long-term strategy supported by governance.



### Strategic Acceleration

Potential to accelerate return to full compliance via contingency measures and Proceeds of Disposition (POD).