

**YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
MINUTES  
of the Regular Board Meeting**

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

**PRESENT:**

Members: In Person: F. Alexander, C. Cotton, E. Crowe, J. DiMeo, A. Grella, M. Iafrate, A. Saggese, J. Wigston  
Student Trustees M. Galstyan, S. Cuesta  
Virtual: M. Barbieri ( connected at 7:50 pm)

Administration: In Person: J. De Faveri, J. Sarna, R. Antunes, A. Arcadi, M. Brosens, J. Chiutsi, G. De Girolamo, K. Elgharbawy, A. Iafrate, T. Laliberte, C. McNeil, S. Morrow, L. Paonessa, J. Powers

Absent with Notice: Nil

Approved Absence: Trustee T. McNicol

Recording Officer: S. Greco (In Person)

Presiding: E. Crowe, Chair of the Board

**2025:166 OPENING PRAYER AND CALL TO ORDER**

Chair of the Board, Elizabeth Crowe, welcomed everyone to the Regular Board meeting at 7:30 pm and welcomed the Faith Ambassadors to lead the prayer followed by the Land Acknowledgement.

**2025:167 ROLL CALL:**

Trustee T. McNicol - Approved Absence

**2025:168 APPROVAL OF NEW MATERIAL:**

*16f Receipt of Report No. 2025: 02 Student Success & Pathways Committee*

**MOTION: Wigston/DiMeo**

**THAT** the new material be approved as presented.

**– MOTION CARRIED –**

**2025:169 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA****MOTION: Saggese/Grella**

**THAT** the agenda be approved as amended.

**– MOTION CARRIED –**

**2025:170 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR CURRENT MEETING: NIL****2025:171 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR PREVIOUS MEETING: NIL****2025:172 a) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

Regular Board Meeting of January 28, 2025

Special Board Meeting of February 11, 2025

**MOTION: Cotton/Saggese**

**THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 28, 2025 and Special Board Meeting of February 11, 2025 be approved as presented.

**– MOTION CARRIED –**

**2025:173 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: NIL****2025:174 CHAIR'S REPORT / UPDATE / INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGES:**

Elizabeth Crowe, Chair of the Board, provided the Chair's Report as part of the February 25, 2025 Regular Board Agenda. Topics included Official Renaming of St. Giovanni Battista Scalabrini Catholic School, Best Buddies Dance, Frost and Fire Games, Ontario Prayer Breakfast and Ordinandi Youth Event.

Chair Crowe highlighted former YCDSB Trustee, Marlene Mogado as follows:

*"Marlene Mogado, a former York Catholic DSB Trustee for 12 years, has been awarded the King Charles III Coronation medal, which is awarded to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to their community. Marlene Mogado has a lengthy 40 years of volunteer service to the communities of Markham, York Region and Toronto serving women, children and newly arrived immigrants since arriving in 1973 from the Philippines. She volunteered in several organizations, among these are:*

- *Markham Federation of Filipino Canadians,*
- *Sexual Assault Helpline and Outreach Services of York Region,*
- *York Region Abuse Program and the Distress Centre, Markham, and*
- *Markham Race Relations*

*Along with others, she helped initiate the first low-cost cooperative housing in Markham in 2005.*

*She was a co-founder of the Markham-Milliken Children's Festival in 2003, which today is still popular with children and their families. Marlene is currently a member and a Past President of the Catholic Women's League St. Patrick's Parish Council, Markham."*

**2025:175 OCSTA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:**

Trustee Jennifer Wigston OCSTA Regional Director, representing York Catholic District School Board provided her report as part of the February 25, 2025 Regular Board Agenda. Topics included, Executive Director Retirement, Political Advocacy, Provincial Election, Faith Formation Resources, AGM, Catholic Education Week and CCSTA.

**2025:176 DIRECTOR'S REPORT/ UPDATE:**

Director of Education, J. De Faveri, provided his Director's Report in the February 25, 2025 Regular Board Agenda package. Topics included A Winter to Remember, 2025 Black Leadership Conference, Black Heritage Month, Budget Consultations and March Break.

**2025:177 STUDENT TRUSTEES' REPORT:**

Student Trustees Monica Galstyan and Sabine Cuesta provided their Student Trustee Report to Board in the February 25, 2025 Regular Board Agenda package. Topics included Valentine's Day, DECA Provincial Competition, Ontario Band Association Provincial Festival, YSCPC Igniting Student Leadership Conference and OSTA Education Action Conference.

Trustee M. Barbieri connected at 7:50 pm

**2025:178 RECOGNITIONS / OUTSIDE PRESENTATIONS:****a) Caribou Math Contest Winners**

A. Iafrate, Superintendent of Education introduced the four students who achieved the highest distinction in the World Champion Caribou Math Contest, an internal competition involving over 111,000 participants worldwide.

V. Lee, A. Liu, C. Poon - St. Justin Martyr CES

E. Shiu - All Saints CES

**b) ShareLife Poster Contest**

A. Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment introduced the student whose artwork was chosen for the 2025 ShareLife Poster Contest. This contest is open to all students in every Catholic School Board in Ontario.

M. Rea - St. Mary CES (Nobleton)

Certificates were provided and pictures were taken.

**2025:179 DELEGATIONS: NIL**

**2025:180 JOURNEY TOWARDS OUR VISION: NIL**

**2025:181 ACTION ITEM(S) (including Committee Reports)**

**a) APPROVAL OF 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR**

A. Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment provided the calendar being proposed for the 2025-2026 school year.

**MOTION: lafrate/Cotton**

**THAT** the Board approve the proposed Regular School Year Calendar for 2025-2026 for submission to the Ministry of Education for their approval.

**- MOTION CARRIED -**

**b) APPROVAL OF REPORT NO. 2025:02 POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair, A. Saggese, presented for approval, Report No. 2025:02 of the Policy Review Committee meeting held on February 5, 2025.

**MOTION: Saggese/DiMeo**

**THAT** the Board approve the following revised policies:

Policy 119 Electronic Communications & Social Media

Policy 425 Workplace Violence

Workplace Violence Procedure

**THAT** the Board approve the following new policies:

Policy 121 Trustee Pregnancy and Parental Leave

Policy 431 Principal and Vice Principal Work Year

**- MOTION CARRIED -**

**c) RECEIPT OF REPORT NO. 2025:03 SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair, A. Grella, presented for receipt, Report No. 2025:03 of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on February 10, 2025.

**MOTION: Grella/Wigston**

**THAT** Report No. 2025:03 of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on February 10, 2025, be received as presented.

**- MOTION CARRIED -**

**d) APPROVAL OF REPORT NO. 2025:02 CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair J. Wigston, presented for approval, Report No. 2025:02 of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on February 11, 2025.

**MOTION: Wigston/DiMeo**

**THAT** the Board approve the 2025 Terms of Reference for the Corporate Services Committee.

**- MOTION CARRIED -**

**e) RECEIPT OF REPORT NO. 2025:02 STUDENT SUCCESS & PATHWAYS COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair, A. Saggese, presented for receipt, Report No. 2025:02 of the Student Success & Pathways Committee meeting held on February 24, 2025.

**MOTION: Saggese/lafrate**

**THAT** Report No. 2025:02 of the Student Success & Pathways Committee meeting held on February 24, 2025, be received as presented.

**- MOTION CARRIED -**

**2025:182 DISCUSSION ITEM(S):****a) Stouffville Boundary Amendments**

G. De Girolamo, Coordinating Manager of Planning and Operations shared recommended amendments to the elementary and secondary boundaries in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville in accordance with the Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP), and in response to feedback received during the consultation phase of the LTAP.

Trustee Cotton asked that staff look at developing a third category to the existing two boundary processes and present at an upcoming Corporate Services Committee meeting.

**2025:183 INFORMATION ITEM(S):****a) Policy 203 Student Transportation Services - Semi Annual Report**

G. De Girolamo, Coordinating Manager of Planning and Operations provided a summary of Transportation Exemptions approved by the Director for the 2024-25 school year, as required by *Policy 203 Student Transportation Services*.

**b) Nominal Enrolment Projections 2025-2034**

G. De Girolamo, Coordinating Manager of Planning and Operations provided the Board with updated NOMINAL enrolment projections based on October 31, 2024 actual enrolment. Overall enrolment throughout the next ten years is anticipated to decrease at an average rate of -0.53%. Over the next 5 years, enrolment is projected to decrease, with an annual average rate of -0.80%. From 2030-2034, enrolment is projected to decrease by an annual average rate of -0.26%.

**c) March 2025 Calendar**

The March 2025 calendar was provided.

**2025:184 NOTICES OF MOTION: NIL****2025:185 FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S) / REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

**RECESS AT 8:09 PM TO RECONVENE THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

**RESUME REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT 10:15 PM**

**2025:186 ACTION ITEM(S) (including Committee Reports) - Continued:****APPROVAL OF REPORT NO. 2025:09 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Vice-Chair Maria Iafrate presented, for approval, Report No. 2025:09 of the Committee of the Whole private session held on February 25, 2025.

(i) **DECLASSIFIED (Action Items for Approval): N/A**

(ii) **CLASSIFIED:**

**MOTION: Iafrate/DiMeo**

**THAT** the confidential action items from the Private Session held February 25, 2025, be approved as presented.

**– MOTION CARRIED –**

**2025:187      PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL**

**2025:188      ADJOURNMENT – 10:20 pm  
                 ON MOTION: DiMeo/Saggese and CARRIED**

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**Secretary of the Board**

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**Chair of the Board**