

**YORK REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD (YRDSB)
YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD (YCDSB)**

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SESSION
JOINT BOARD CONSORTIUM**

The Joint Board Consortium meeting was held electronically on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

YRDSB Committee Members: M. Chen, R. Kolosowski and R. Lynn
YRDSB Other Trustees: E. Cohen
YRDSB Administration: B. Cober, N. Gunathunge, V. Maharaj and K. Tallidis
YCDSB Committee Members: E. Crowe, A. Grella and A. Saggese
YCDSB Other Trustees: M. Iafrate
YCDSB Administration: J. De Faveri, J. Sarna, G. De Girolamo, C. McNeil, and A. Iafrate
STSYR Staff: N. Smith, K. Brown and M. Hannah
Other Guests: A. Polisco, YCOT
Presiding: YRDSB Board Chair R. Kolosowski
Recording Officer: L. Toniutti

CALL TO ORDER

YRDSB Associate Director of Education and Chief Financial Officer, Service Excellence V. Maharaj called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts were declared by Trustees at this time.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approval of Minutes – May 8, 2024 to be moved to Decision Items, Item 2.

(*).1. Moved by R. Lynn, seconded by A. Grella:

- Carried -

DECISION ITEMS

Election of Joint Board Consortium Co-Chairs for 2024-2025

Election of Joint Board Consortium Committee Co-Chair from York Catholic District School Board

YRDSB Associate Director of Education and Chief Financial Officer, Service Excellence V. Maharaj called for nominations for the position of Joint Board Consortium Committee Co-Chair from the York Catholic District School Board.

Trustee E. Crowe nominated Trustee A. Grella for the position of Joint Board Consortium Committee Co-Chair. There were no other nominations.

Nominations were closed.

At this time, it was announced that YCDSB Trustee A. Grella had been acclaimed to the position of Co-Chair of the Joint Board Consortium for the 2024-2025 school year.

Election of Joint Board Consortium Committee Co-Chair from York Region District School Board

YRDSB Associate Director of Education and Chief Financial Officer, Service Excellence V. Maharaj called for nominations for the position of Joint Board Consortium Committee Co-Chair from the York Region District School Board.

Trustee R. Lynn nominated Trustee R. Kolosowski for the position of Joint Board Consortium Committee Co-Chair. There were no other nominations.

Nominations were closed.

At this time, it was announced that YRDSB Trustee R. Kolosowski had been acclaimed to the position of Co-Chair of the Joint Board Consortium for the 2024-2025 school year.

At this time, Trustee R. Kolosowski assumed the position of Co-Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION
REQUIRED

In response to YCDSB Trustee E. Crowe, going forward, the recording of Trustee attendance will delineate between Trustee members from non-members.

The minutes of the May 8, 2024 Joint Board Consortium Public Session meeting be approved as written.

BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising from the minutes of the May 8, 2024 meeting.

2025-2026 Proposed Meeting Schedule

Student Transportation Services York Region (STSYR) Manager, N. Smith spoke to the proposed meeting schedule. The proposed Joint Board Consortium meeting schedule and locations for the 2025-2026 school year is as follows:

- Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at the York Region District School Board;
- Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at the York Catholic District School Board; and
- Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at the York Catholic District School Board.

(*2. Moved by A. Saggese, seconded by R. Lynn:

That the proposed meeting schedule and locations for the 2025-2026 school year be approved.

- Carried -

Student Transportation Services Operations Agreement

STSYR Manager, N. Smith provided an update on the current Student Transportation Services of York Region (STSYR) Service Agreement which outlines the department's policies, procedures, and scope. A third-party review was recently completed by MNP, LLP Corporation. They provided a comparative analysis and developed a series of recommendations and best practices. Administration will review the recommendations in the MNP report and work with the boards to amend the current STSYR operations agreement. The current Service Agreement is already in line with many of the recommendations stated. A revised operations agreement will be presented to the JBC for review and approval at the May 14, 2025 scheduled meeting for Trustee review and approval.

(*).3. Moved by E. Crowe, seconded by R. Chen:

That the Joint Board Consortium receive the report and approve Administration's proposal to draft an updated Student Transportation Services of York Region operations agreement based on the MNP LLP recommendations and evolving needs of the school boards.

- Carried -

INFORMATION ITEMS

September 2024 Start-Up Report

STSYR Manager, N. Smith provided Committee members with a report on the September 2024 Start-Up. The September Start-up showed measured improvements compared to the previous school year and highlights operational changes implemented during the planning period. Administration believes the 2024 Start-up period was a success.

STSYR staff worked in collaboration with school bus and taxi vendors, as well as school communities to identify, and resolve service concerns. Staff will continue to work diligently to ensure optimal service levels are provided to students in York Region. Appreciation was extended to N. Smith and the entire STSYR team for their efforts.

2024-2025 STSYR Initiatives

STSYR Manager, N. Smith provided Committee members with an update regarding some of the major initiatives staff had planned for the 2024-25 school year. The initiatives support student achievement by planning and managing safe, efficient transportation with a focus on customer service. The initiatives include:

1. Ministry Simulation;
2. School Bus RFP;
3. Parent Portal and Opt-Out Form;
4. STSYR Procedure Manual Review; and
5. Website Information Review.

YCDSB Trustee E. Crowe, requested an In-Camera Session for the May 14, 2025 Joint Board Consortium meeting to have an analysis of the contracts and the costing increases.

ACTION
REQUIRED

2024-2025 School Vehicle Cancellation Procedure

This item was not discussed at the meeting.

ACTION
REQUIRED

Moved to Business Arising from the March 5, 2025 Meeting to the May 14, 2025 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair R. Kolosowski noted there was no further business and the Joint Board Consortium (Public Session) meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.