

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES of the Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

PRESENT:

Members: In Person: M. Barbieri, E. Crowe, M. Iafrate, J. DiMeo, A. Grella,
A. Saggese, Student Trustees J. James, M. Galstyan, A. Zamanifar
Virtual: F. Alexander

Administration: In Person: J. De Faveri, J. Sarna, R. Antunes, A. Arcadi, A. Battick, M. Brosens,
J. Chiutsi, K. Elgharbawy, T. Laliberte, C. McNeil,
S. Morrow, L. Paonessa, T. Pechkovsky, S. Wright
Virtual: C. Candido

Absent with Notice: Trustees C. Cotton, J. Wigston

Approved Absence: Trustee T. McNicol

Recording Officer: S. Greco (In Person)

Presiding: E. Crowe, Chair of the Board

2024:272 CALL TO ORDER / OPENING PRAYER

Elizabeth Crowe, Chair of the Board, welcomed everyone to the Regular Board Meeting and welcomed the Faith Ambassador to lead the opening prayer at 7:40 pm. The Land Acknowledgement followed.

2024:273 ROLL CALL – Trustees Carol Cotton and Jennifer Wigston - Absent with Notice

2024:274 APPROVAL OF NEW MATERIAL:

Add: Appointment of Trustee Membership to YCDSB Anti-Black Racism Sub-Committee

Add: Update on Motion to Bring Peace to YCDSB Using the Symbol of Our Faith

MOTION: Iafrate/Saggese

THAT the new material be approved as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED -

2024:275 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: DiMeo/Barbieri

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED -

2024:276 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR CURRENT MEETING:

Trustee Theresa McNicol declared a conflict of interest for Item 7e.

2024:277 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

Trustee Theresa McNicol declared a conflict of interest for Item 7e (Feb 23, 2024 Minutes) and stated that she was not in attendance.

2024:278 a) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

Regular Board Meeting of January 30, 2024

Special Board Meeting of February 5, 2024

Special Board Meeting of February 7, 2024

Special Board Meeting of February 15, 2024

Special Board Meeting of February 29, 2024

MOTION: DiMeo/Barbieri

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 30, 2024, Special Board Meeting of February 5, 2024, Special Board Meeting of February 7, 2024, Special Board Meeting of February 15, 2024 and Special Board Meeting of February 29, 2024, be approved as presented.

– MOTION CARRIED –

b) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

Special Board Meeting of February 23, 2024

MOTION: Iafrate/Saggese

THAT the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of February 23, 2024, be approved as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED -

Trustee McNicol did not vote on this item.

2024:279 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**2024:280 CHAIR'S REPORT / UPDATE / INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGES:**

Elizabeth Crowe, Chair of the Board, provided her Board Report as part of the March 6, 2024 Regular Board Agenda. The topics included Welcome to John De Faveri, Best Buddies Valentine's Dinner Dance, Long-Term Accommodation Plan, March Board Meeting Cancelled, School Visit.

Commissioning of Interim Director of Education

Chair of the Board, Elizabeth Crowe and Vice-Chair Maria Iafrate, participated in a ceremonial swearing-in/pledge of service ceremony with John De Faveri, Interim Director of Education. A candle and a Bible to commemorate the occasion was provided.

Inspirational Video: YCDSB International Education - ESL Students

A video highlighting the ESL program and services offered was shown.

2024:281 OCSTA / BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:

Trustee Jennifer Wigston, OCSTA Regional Director representing York Catholic District School Board, provided her report in the March 6, 2024 Regular Board Agenda package. Topics included Catholic Virtual Ontario, CVO Courses, Bill 98, 2024 OCSTA AGM and Conference and CVO Courses.

2024:282 DIRECTOR'S REPORT / UPDATE:

Interim Director of Education John De Faveri, provided his report in the March 6, 2024 Regular Board Agenda package. Interim Director De Faveri's topics included With Gratitude, Lenten Season, Stouffville Multi-Use Facility, Black Student Leadership Conference, YRAACC Black History Month Celebration, Women in Trades Symposium and March Break.

2024:283 STUDENT TRUSTEES' REPORT:

Student Trustees Monica Galstyan, Jonah James and Amira Zamanifar provided their Student Trustee Report to Board report in the March 6, 2024 Regular Board Agenda package. Topics included OSTA-AECO Education Action Conference, 2024 Black Student Leadership Conference, YSCPC Equity and Inclusion, Student Leadership and Student Trustee Sections on YCDSB Website and Beginning of Lent.

2024:284 RECOGNITIONS / OUTSIDE PRESENTATIONS: NIL**2024:285 DELEGATIONS: NIL**

2024:286 JOURNEY TOWARDS OUR VISION:**a) Communications / Media Update**

M. Brosens, Senior Manager: Brand, Marketing and Communications and Y. Kang, Website Developer / Graphic Designer shared updates on the website and promotional videos produced last year. The redesign of our website allows users easier access to information with a refreshed design that is AODA compliant, data-driven design, enhanced multimedia/social media presence and effective marketing placeholder. A mobile friendly update has also been designed. All school websites have been updated. The redesign allows for an enhanced keyword search which allows users to search easily for policies and procedures. A new Admission Page was created as well as YCDSB WOW - an avenue to share good news stories, as well as redesigning the staff website. The next step will be to create sub pages for all departments.

A marketing video highlighting kindergarten students was shown.

The Board of Trustees were very pleased with the work done by the Communications Department and congratulated staff for a job well done.

b) Multi-Year Strategic Plan Update

J. Sarna, Associate Director provided the second (of three) status report on the MYSP update and achievement of the SMART goals. An update was given on the 32 SMART goals that are currently in place. This report covered the period from December 2023 to February 2024. The next status report will be provided in June 2024.

2024:287 ACTION ITEM(S) (including Committee Reports):**a) POPE FRANCIS CES ENROLMENT CAP FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**

T. Pechkovsky, Coordinating Manager, Planning & Operations provided an update on the status of Pope Francis CES and requested Board approval to cap Junior Kindergarten enrolment at 101 students per year.

MOTION: Saggese/Barbieri

THAT Junior Kindergarten enrolment at Pope Francis CES be capped at 101 students annually.

- **MOTION CARRIED** -

b) APPOINTMENT OF YCDSB REPRESENTATIVE TO THE OCSTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Chair, Elizabeth Crowe, presented the appointment of the YCDSB Representative to the OCSTA Board of Directors.

MOTION: lafrate/Barbieri

THAT the Board appoints Jennifer Wigston to continue serving as the Board's Representative as Regional Director to the OCSTA Board of Directors for the two-year term May 2024 to April 2026.

- **MOTION CARRIED** -

c) PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE: PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Trustee Angela Saggese presented, for approval, proposed By-Law changes to add the Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel on the Regular Board Agenda at the end of every Board meeting.

MOTION: Saggese/Alexander

THAT the Operational By-Law No 1, be amended with the proposed changes to include the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel at the end of every Board meeting.

- **MOTION CARRIED** -

d) DISSOLVE YCDSB CHARITABLE FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

Board Chair, Elizabeth Crowe, presented, for approval, the disbandment of the YCDSB Charitable Foundation Committee.

MOTION: lafrate/McNicol

THAT the Charitable Foundation Ad Hoc Committee be disbanded, and;

THAT the Director of Education establishes a staff committee to do the groundwork necessary to establish a charitable foundation;

THAT Trustees Barbieri, Crowe and Wigston be appointed to the Staff Committee researching a YCDSB Charitable Foundation.

- MOTION CARRIED -

e) RECEIPT OF REPORT NO. 2024:03 STUDENT SUCCESS & PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

Committee Chair, Angela Saggese, presented for receipt, Report No. 2024:03 of the Student Success & Pathways Committee meeting held on February 5, 2024.

MOTION: Saggese/DiMeo

THAT Report No. 2024:03 from the Student Success & Pathways Committee meeting held on February 5, 2024, be received as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED -

f) APPROVAL OF REPORT NO. 2024:02 CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Committee Chair, Joseph DiMeo, presented for approval, Report No. 2024:02 of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on February 6, 2024.

MOTION: DiMeo/Barbieri

Secondary School Site Designation - Nobleton

THAT the Board designate a secondary school site in Draft Plan of Subdivision application 19T-22K01 (Part Lot 4, Concession 8; 12805 Highway 27) in the community of Nobleton.

YCDSB Active School Travel Strategy

THAT the Board endorse the York Catholic District School Board Active School Travel Strategy.

- MOTION CARRIED -

g) APPROVAL OF REPORT NO. 2024:01 POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Committee Chair, Maria lafrate, presented for approval, Report No. 2024:01 of the Policy Review Committee meeting held on February 7, 2024.

MOTION: lafrate/Saggese

THAT the Board approve the following revised policies:

Policy 211 Indigenous Student Self-Identification

Policy 316 Secondary School Post Examination Review and Procedure

- MOTION CARRIED -

h) APPROVAL OF REPORT NO. 2024:02 POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Committee Chair, Maria lafrate, presented for approval, Report No. 2024:02 of the Policy Review Committee meeting held on March 5, 2024.

MOTION: lafrate/DiMeo

THAT the Board approve the following revised policies:

Policy 106 Delegations to the Board

Policy 220 Graduation Exercises in Elementary and Secondary Schools

Policy 409 Occupational Health and Safety

Policy 702 Solemn Blessing and Official Opening of New Schools

- MOTION CARRIED -

i) RECEIPT OF REPORT NO. 2024:04 SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Committee Chair, Angela Grella, presented for receipt, Report No. 2024:04 of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on February 12, 2024.

MOTION: Grella/lafrate

THAT Report No. 2024:04 from the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on February 12, 2024, be received as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED -

j) RECEIPT OF REPORT NO. 2024:02 TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

Committee Chair, Maria lafrate, presented for receipt, Report No. 2024:02 of the Transportation Committee meeting held on February 15, 2024.

MOTION: lafrate/McNicol

THAT Report No. 2024:02 from the Transportation Review Committee meeting held on February 15, 2024, be received as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED -

k) APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE MEMBERSHIP TO SEAC

Board Chair, Elizabeth Crowe, presented, for approval the Trustee member for SEAC.

MOTION: Barbieri/DiMeo

THAT the Board appoint Trustee Maria lafrate as the SEAC Alternate Trustee Member for the four-year term ending November 14, 2026.

- MOTION CARRIED -

l) APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE MEMBERSHIP TO YCDSB ANTI-BLACK RACISM SUB-COMMITTEE

Board Chair, Elizabeth Crowe, presented, for approval the Trustee Member to YCDSB Anti-Black Racism Sub-Committee.

MOTION: lafrate/McNicol

THAT the Board appoint Trustee Frank Alexander to the YCDSB Anti-Black Racism Sub-Committee for the duration of the four-year term.

- MOTION CARRIED -

2024:288 DISCUSSION ITEM(S):**a) Update on Motion to Bring Peace to YCDSB Using the Symbol of Our Faith**

M. Brosens, Senior Manager: Brand, Marketing and Communications provided an update on the Motion passed at the January 30, 2024 Regular Board Meeting. A design was shared and discussion ensued regarding purchasing bookmarks vs banners vs magnets. The Board of Trustees agreed that a banner will be provided and costing will be sought. Vice-Chair lafrate suggested using the school uniform rebate funds to fund this initiative. An update will be provided at the April Regular Board Meeting. In the meantime staff were directed to purchase the stickers and if necessary Trustees would support the cost from their discretionary funds.

2024:289 INFORMATION ITEM(S):**a) TRUSTEE MOTION: Entry to St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS (M. lafrate)**

Vice-Chair lafrate introduced her Motion:

Whereas *St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS is at capacity and therefore, a cap was placed on the school in order to maintain students and staff safety and well-being;*

Whereas *families are transferring from public, private and other schools to St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS feeder schools, namely, St. Mary Immaculate CES, St. Anne CES, St. Marguerite d'Youville CES and Father Henri Nouwen CES, in order to access entry to St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS.*

LET IT BE RESOLVED

THAT *enrolment to St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS remain capped at 1600 to ensure the safety of all students and staff;*

THAT *staff review St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS admission process while maintaining a fair and transparent process;*

THAT *a recommendation be brought to the Board of Trustees for implementation.*

This will be a Discussion Item at the April 30th Regular Board Meeting.

b) Proposed Operational By-Law Changes

Board Chair, Elizabeth Crowe shared proposed changes to the Operational By-Law. This will be a Action Item at the April 30th Regular Board Meeting.

c) 2022-2023 Trustee Expenditures

As per *Policy 111 Trustee Services and Expenditures*, C. McNeil, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer of the Board shared the Trustee Expenditures Report for November 15, 2022 to November 14, 2023. As well, a revised Trustee Expenditures Report for December 1, 2021 to November 14, 2022 was shared. Both will also be posted on the Board's website.

d) OCSTA Letter to YCDSB re AODA Funding

A copy of the OCSTA letter to YCDSB regarding Funding to Support AODA was shared.

e) Stouffville Multi-Use Facility Update

K. Elgharbawy, Superintendent of Facilities Services and Plant, shared an update on the Stouffville Multi-Use Project.

f) Policy 203 Student Transportation Services Semi-Annual Update

As per *Policy 203 Student Transportation Services*, T. Pechkovsky, Coordinating Manager Planning and Operations shared a semi-annual update.

g) Nominal Enrolment Projections 2024-2033

T. Pechkovsky, Coordinating Manager Planning and Operations shared an updated NOMINAL enrolment projections based on October 31, 2023 actual enrolment.

h) Entry to School Program - Proposed School Locations

T. Pechkovsky, Coordinating Manager Planning and Operations shared an update of changes in locations to the provincial *“Entry to School”* program for March 2024.

i) March 2024 Calendar

The March 2024 calendar was shared.

j) Ontario Association Parents in Catholic Education - YCDSB Letter + OAPCE Response

A copy of the YCDSB letter written to OAPCE and response was shared.

2024:290 NOTICES OF MOTION: NIL

2024:291 FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S) / REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

RECESS AT 9:11 PM TO RECONVENE THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION AT 9:49 PM

2024:292 APPROVAL OF REPORT NO. 2024:13 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Vice-Chair Maria Iafrate presented, for approval, Report No. 2024:13 of the Committee of the Whole private session held on March 6, 2024.

(i) DECLASSIFIED (Action Items for Approval): NIL

(ii) CLASSIFIED:

MOTION: Iafrate/DiMeo

THAT the confidential action items from the Private Session held March 6, 2024, be approved as presented.

– MOTION CARRIED –

2024:293 ADJOURNMENT: 9:51 PM

ON MOTION: Barbieri/Iafrate and CARRIED

Secretary of the Board

Chair of the Board