

**YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
AGENDA
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, November 12, 2024
8:30 P.M.**

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

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*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.*

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|-----|--|--------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | OPENING PRAYER / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT | (On Reverse) | E. Crowe |
| 2. | ROLL CALL | | J. De Faveri |
| 3. | APPROVAL OF NEW MATERIAL | | E. Crowe |
| 4. | APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA | | E. Crowe |
| 5. | DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR CURRENT MEETING | | E. Crowe |
| 6. | DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FROM PREVIOUS MEETING | | E. Crowe |
| 7. | APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES | | |
| 8. | BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING | | |
| 9. | CHAIR'S REPORT / UPDATE / INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGES | | |
| 10. | OCSTA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S UPDATE | | |
| 11. | DIRECTOR'S REPORT / UPDATE | | |
| 12. | STUDENT TRUSTEES' REPORT | | |
| 13. | RECOGNITIONS / OUTSIDE PRESENTATIONS | | |
| 14. | DELEGATIONS | | |
| 15. | JOURNEY TOWARDS OUR VISION – STAFF PRESENTATIONS | | |
| | a) 2023-2024 Year-End Financial Results | | C. McNeil, K. Scanlon 3 |
| 16. | ACTION ITEM(S) <i>(including Committee Reports)</i> | | |
| | a) Approval of Report No. 2024:29 Special Committee of the Whole (Nov 12) | | M. lafrate |
| | b) Approval of Report No. 2024:03 Audit Committee (Nov 12) | | C. Cotton |
| | c) Status and Recommendation for the International Baccalaureate IB Program at Holy Cross CA | | J. Chiutsi 9 |
| | d) Approval of Advanced Placement Program at St. Katharine Drexel CHS | | J. Chiutsi 12 |
| 17. | DISCUSSION ITEM(S) | | |
| 18. | INFORMATION ITEM(S) | | |
| 19. | NOTICES OF MOTION | | |
| | <i>(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.)</i> | | |

20. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S) / REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

- 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.*
- 21.**

22. ADJOURNMENT

E. Crowe

**Lord our God,
We want to rejoice in You and wait patiently until Your
purpose is fulfilled and Your kingdom arises on earth.
Protect each one of us.
May our hearts find strength and never-failing joy in Jesus.
For You are the almighty God, who will come in Jesus
Christ to establish His kingdom among the people.
Amen.**

2023-24 Year-End Financial Results

**Special Board Meeting
November 12, 2024**

Prepared by:
Submitted by:
Endorsed by:

Kim Scanlon, Budget Manager and Claire Tupchong, Senior Financial Analyst
Calum McNeil, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer of the Board
John De Faveri, Interim Director of Education and Secretary of the Board





2023-24 Key Messages

- The in-year deficit has grown from \$12.9M (at Revised Estimates) to \$18.6M, necessitating an updated request for Non-Compliant Deficit approval to be submitted to the Ministry.
- Prior year grant adjustments relating to 19/20 through 22/23, to fund retroactive salary and benefits, have significantly impacted 2023-24 results – both revenue and expenses.
- These retroactive adjustments relate to:
 - Bill 124, which was all paid in 23/24 except for Principal/Vice-Principals
 - Labour negotiations - salary and benefit provisions have been made for OECTA, Principals/Vice-Principals and Exempt.



2023-24 Operating Summary

(\$ millions)	Actual	Forecast	Actual vs. Forecast	2023-24 Revised Estimates	Actual vs. Revised Estimates
<u>Operating Revenue</u>					
GSN Funding	632.2	594.1	38.1	593.8	38.4
PPF and Other Grants/Programs	11.1	12.5	(1.4)	8.0	3.1
<u>Other Revenue</u>					
Continuing Education	7.3	7.1	0.2	6.6	0.7
International Student Fees	4.1	4.2	(0.1)	4.1	-
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	65.5	8.8	56.7	7.7	57.8
Total Other Revenue	76.9	20.1	56.8	18.4	58.5
Total Operating Revenue	720.2	626.7	93.5	620.2	100.0
<u>Operating Expenses</u>					
Salaries and Benefits	671.1	569.2	101.9	563.4	107.7
Other Expenses	67.7	72.9	(5.2)	69.7	(2.0)
Total Operating Expenses	738.8	642.1	96.7	633.1	105.7
Compliance In-Year Position	(18.6)	(15.4)	(3.2)	(12.9)	(5.7)

This chart does not include capital funding and expenses, which do not impact compliance.



Change in Operating Compliance: Revised Estimates to Actual

Since Revised Estimates, the compliance position has worsened by \$5.7M

(\$ millions)	Surplus / (Deficit) ⁽¹⁾	
23/24 Revised Estimates	(12.9)	
Snow Removal	1.0	Reversal of 23/24 savings
WSIB Projected Pressure	2.6	Liability change, direct payroll
Teachers Pressure	3.6	Q&E update, home instruction, funding*
Educational Assistant Pressure	1.8	Funding*
Classroom Supply Pressure	1.6	Budgeted savings \$2.5M vs. actual savings \$0.9M, funding*
Transportation Savings	(0.6)	Vehicle and ridership savings
Snow Removal Savings	(1.7)	Favourable weather
Miscellaneous Revenues	(1.8)	Interest, Other
Other	(0.8)	
23/24 Forecast	(18.6)	

(1) Positive values = increase in the deficit. Negative values = decrease in the deficit.

* Benchmark updates for Statutory benefits changes, Bill 124 and collective agreement increases have not been specifically defined by the Ministry.



Accumulated Surplus / (Deficit)

The accumulated deficit at the end of 23/24 is \$9.9M.

A **balanced budget** is deemed to be an in-year surplus or deficit not exceeding 1% of the GSN operating allocation. In 2023/24, 1% of the Board's GSN operating budget is **\$6.3M**.

(\$ millions)	2022-23	2023-24
In-Year Surplus/(Deficit)	(9.7)	(18.6)
Ending Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit)	8.7	(9.9)
Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit) as a % of Operating Allocation	1.5%	-1.6%
In-Year Surplus/(Deficit) as a % of Operating Allocation	-1.6%	-3.0%



Appendix 1: 2023-24 Enrolment

Enrolment	Actual	Revised Estimates	Change
<u>Elementary</u>			
Pupils of the Board	30,553	30,537	16
International Students	67	63	4
	30,620	30,600	20
<u>Secondary</u>			
Pupils of the Board	18,647	18,651	(4)
International Students	159	180	(21)
	18,806	18,831	(25)
Total Enrolment	49,426	49,431	(5)

REPORT

York Catholic District School Board

Report To: Board of Trustees (Special Board Meeting)

From: Administration

Date: November 12, 2024

Report: Status and Recommendation for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at Holy Cross Catholic Academy

Executive Summary

This report recommends phasing out the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at Holy Cross Catholic Academy due to substantial declines in enrollment across all grade levels, resulting in financial and operational challenges that make the program unsustainable. It is advised that the IB Program be discontinued after the current Grade 11 class graduates. This consideration aligns with the board's commitment to offering rigorous academic pathways while managing resources effectively.

Overview

The IB Program at Holy Cross Catholic Academy has reached a critical point due to a steep and consistent loss of students due to attrition. Current enrollment levels are insufficient to cover the program's costs, including IB membership fees, specialized teacher training, and required resources. With just 3 students in Grade 12 and 14 in Grade 11, projected numbers indicate further declines, making it increasingly difficult to justify the program's continuation.

Background Information

The IB Program has served as an enrichment option, preparing students for global-minded university-level coursework. However, it requires substantial investment, including annual membership fees, ongoing teacher training, and specialized resources, which has become unsustainable at Holy Cross given the low enrollment numbers.

Current Enrollment Overview

The table below illustrates the current student enrollment in the IB Program across the grades at Holy Cross Catholic Academy:

Grade Level	Number of Students Enrolled
Grade 12	3
Grade 11	14
Grade 10	20
Grade 9	25

Projected Enrollment

Based on the current attrition rates observed across our four IB schools, we anticipate that the number of students in Grade 12 at Holy Cross next year may dwindle to < 4 students. Projected registration numbers also indicate this trend will likely continue in the coming years.

Program Costs

Maintaining the IB Program at Holy Cross Catholic Academy is costly, as the program requires:

- Payment for IB membership fees.
- Ongoing teacher training.
- Specialized resources to meet the unique demands of IB.
- Periodic school reviews mandated by the IB organization.

Given the declining student numbers, these costs are becoming increasingly difficult to justify, especially when the program's effectiveness and attractiveness are waning.

Costs Breakdown (Annual)

Cost Item	Amount
Annual IB Fee	US\$14,500
Average Teacher Training (per teacher)	\$4,000 (most courses in US)
Resources	\$25,000 per year

Enrollment Summary: Year-by-Year Decline

Year	Grade 9	Grade 10	Year 1 (Gr. 11)	Year 2 (Gr. 12)
2020-2021	42	25		
2021-2022	28	32	18	
2022-2023	51	16	15	11
2023-2024	26	40	4	8
2024-2025	25	20	14	3

Recommendations

This approach will ensure that Holy Cross Catholic Academy continues to offer challenging academic opportunities aligned with both student needs and the board's financial priorities, while maintaining transparency and support for students and families during the transition.

If Trustees approve staffs recommendation to phase out IB, then staff would:

- arrange meetings with the parents and students of all current Grade 9 and 10 students to formally announce the change, address any concerns, and discuss alternative academic options.
- ensure that guidance counselors are available to meet with affected students and families individually to assist with academic planning.

Staff is recommending:

- THAT the Board approve to discontinue the IB Program at Holy Cross Catholic Academy after the graduation of the current Grade 11 cohort. This phased approach will allow a smooth wind-down of the program without impacting students who are already enrolled.

Prepared by: Joel Chiutsi, Superintendent of Education
Reviewed and Submitted by: Jennifer Sarna, Associate Director
Endorsed by: John De Faveri, Interim Director of Education

REPORT

York Catholic District School Board

Report To: Board of Trustees (Special Board)

From: Administration

Date: November 12, 2024

Report: Introduction of Advanced Placement (AP) Program at St. Katharine Drexel CHS

Executive Summary

This report recommends implementing the Advanced Placement (AP) Program at St. Katharine Drexel Catholic High School (SKD) in Stouffville. Adding AP will enhance SKD's academic offerings, attract students interested in advanced learning opportunities, and enable the school to compete more effectively with nearby public schools that provide AP. This proposal requires no additional budget allocations, as SKD has both qualified staff and sufficient student interest to initiate the program. AP is also a very popular program with our secondary French Immersion students, in fact SKD is the only high school in our Board that offers FI but does not offer AP. Introducing AP at SKD will strengthen enrollment and support the school's long-term success within the competitive educational landscape of Stouffville.

Background Information

The AP Program is a globally recognized curriculum designed to prepare high-achieving high school students for university-level coursework. Students enrolled in AP courses may gain advanced standing in college or university based on their AP exam scores. Currently, eight YCDSB schools offer AP: Father Bressani CHS, Sacred Heart CHS, St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS, St. Joan of Arc CHS, St. Brother Andre CHS, Our Lady of the Lake CA, Our Lady Queen of the World CA, and St. Theresa of Lisieux CHS.

AP has proven successful across the board, enhancing academic rigor and encouraging student achievement. By expanding AP to SKD, we align with the board's commitment to broadening learning opportunities and fostering academic growth. SKD has the resources and expertise necessary to support this program effectively, and there is ample student interest to ensure sustainability without incurring additional costs. Upon review, the school will be able to run AP sections within the current staffing formula with existing qualified staff and therefore this recommendation has no impact on the Board's financial situation.

Recommendation

THAT the Board approve the introduction of the Advanced Placement (AP) Program at St. Katharine Drexel Catholic High School for the 2025-2026 academic year at no additional cost to the Board.

Prepared by:	Joel Chiutsi, Superintendent of Education
Reviewed and Submitted by:	Jennifer Sarna, Associate Director
Endorsed by:	John De Faveri, Interim Director of Education