

# YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## AGENDA

### REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

7:30 P.M.

NEW: PAGE 28a

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.*

- |  |                           |            |
|--|---------------------------|------------|
| <b>1. OPENING PRAYER / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>  | Faith Ambassadors         |            |
| <b>2. ROLL CALL</b>  | D. Scuglia                |            |
| <b>3. APPROVAL OF NEW MATERIAL</b>   | F. Alexander              |            |
| <b>4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA</b>   | F. Alexander              |            |
| <b>5. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR CURRENT MEETING</b>   | F. Alexander              |            |
| <b>6. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FROM PREVIOUS MEETING</b>   | F. Alexander              |            |
| <b>7. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>   | F. Alexander              |            |
| a) Regular Board Meeting of October 25, 2022   |                           |            |
| b) Special Board Meeting of November 8, 2022   |                           |            |
| c) Inaugural Board Meeting of November 21, 2022  |                           |            |
| <b>8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>  | F. Alexander              |            |
| <b>9. CHAIR'S REPORT / UPDATE / INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGES</b>   | F. Alexander              | <b>3</b>   |
| <b>10. OCSTA BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:</b>   | J. Wigston                |            |
| <b>11. DIRECTOR'S REPORT / UPDATE</b>  | D. Scuglia                | <b>5</b>   |
| <b>12. STUDENT TRUSTEES' REPORT:</b>   | A. Peta-Dragos / J. James |            |
| <b>13. RECOGNITIONS / OUTSIDE PRESENTATIONS</b>  |                           |            |
| Recipient of 2022 Governor General's History Awards for Excellence in Teaching   | R. Antunes                |            |
| <b>14. DELEGATIONS</b>   |                           |            |
| <b>15. JOURNEY TOWARDS OUR VISION – STAFF PRESENTATIONS</b>  |                           |            |
| a) MYSP - Year Five Quarterly Report - Board Improvement Learning Cycle for Student Achievement and Well-Being 2022-2023 | E. Pivato                 | <b>8</b>   |
| <b>16. ACTION ITEM(S) (including Committee Reports)</b>  |                           |            |
| a) Receipt of Report No. 2022:29 Special Committee of the Whole (Oct 31)   | M. Iafrate                | <b>23</b>  |
| b) Approval of Report No. 2023:01 Committee of the Whole (Nov 29)  | M. Iafrate                |            |
| c) Approval of Report No. 2022:03 Student Success & Pathways (Nov 7)   | F. Alexander              | <b>24</b>  |
| d) Receipt of Report No. 2022:10 Special Education Advisory Committee (Nov 14)   | J. Wigston                | <b>25</b>  |
| e) Approval of Report No. 2023:01 Executive Committee, Terms of Reference (Nov 22)                                       | M. Iafrate                | <b>26</b>  |
| f) Receipt of Report No. 2023:01 York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (Nov 28)                                     | E. Crowe                  | <b>28a</b> |
| <b>17. DISCUSSION ITEM(S): N/A</b>   |                           |            |

**18. INFORMATION ITEM(S)**

a) Trustee Honoraria Term November 15, 2022 to November 14, 2023	C. McNeil	29
b) Student Trustee Expenditures Report	C. McNeil	31
c) Review of Policy Advisor Position	E. Pivato	32
d) York Catholic DSB Annual Accessibility Report 2022-2023	E. Pivato	34
e) YCDSB STREAM Centres of Excellence Report	A. Arcadi	52
f) Revisions to Operational By-Laws as per Regulation 463/97	E. Pivato	53
g) TRUSTEE MOTION: An Annual Day of Celebration of All Saints	F. Alexander	56
h) TRUSTEE MOTION: Equity Within York Catholic District School Board	F. Alexander	57
i) Catholicity in our Board	A. Arcadi	58
j) December Calendar		62

**19. 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.)*

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

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

**UPCOMING  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, December 20, 2022  
7:30 PM**



## York Catholic District School Board

### Chair's Report

**Memo To:** Board of Trustees

**From:** Frank Alexander, Chair of the Board

**Date:** November 29, 2022

**Re:** **Chair's Report**

Good evening to my fellow Trustees, all staff, students, parents and everyone who cares for the York Catholic School Board. The last time many of us gathered together, it was for the Inaugural Board Meeting, where we got the opportunity to celebrate the honour that comes with serving in the sacred role of School Board Trustee. And we had a chance to reflect on the transformative effects that Catholic Education has in the lives of so many people. As I said last week, our work here can have a profound impact on the world. We are entrusted with an awesome responsibility, but I know the people who are sitting around this table are more than capable of fulfilling it.

In preparation for tonight's meeting, I reflected on St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews chapter 11 verse 1: *"Faith is assurance of what we hope for and the conviction about things that cannot be seen."*

Many people who are in the early stages of their faith struggle with the thought of having conviction in things they cannot see. Although this is very prevalent in today's society, it is nothing new. After all, after Jesus's resurrection, the Apostle Thomas said, *"Unless I see the mark of the nails on his hand and put my finger into the place where the nails pierced and insert my hand into his side, I will not believe"* (John 20: 25). Of course, we know that Jesus later appeared to Thomas and proved His resurrection, at which time Jesus said, *"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe"* (John 20:28).

Today we know Thomas for his doubt, but what many of us sadly forget is Thomas's great works after his faith was renewed. Thomas travelled to India and established some of the oldest Christian communities in the world, which still exist to this day.

Catholics speak of faith and works. Because committing oneself to good works is the natural response to the Gospel teachings. And because good works are a wonderful example to others of Christ's love for us all. Jesus came to Thomas to show him the good news, Jesus sends us to others to show them the good news.

#### **The Season of Advent**

During the Advent Season, the York Catholic District School Board community once again commits itself to being the hands of Jesus in the lives of others. Our students and staff will spend the next several weeks raising money to help their neighbours in need through the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. They will collect toys for children in their community who would not otherwise receive presents on Christmas Day. Together, they will donate mittens and other items to keep people warm. In these actions, our students and staff are the tangible presence of Jesus in a world that so desperately needs it.

Our students and staff will show the joy of Christ's message in the next several weeks by decorating their schools, singing carols for others and acting in performances of the birth of Jesus.

I would like to take a moment to especially recognize two Grade 8 students from the York Catholic District School Board: Lorena Shenouda Meneses and Sienna Paniccia. They created artwork that wonderfully captures the beauty of the Christmas Season, and their original drawings will be displayed on the York Catholic District School Board's 2022 Christmas card. Thank you so much for sharing your God given talents with us.

### **Distinguished Alumni Awards**

Being an example of Christ in the world is an incredibly important task, and one that is not always easy. But I am proud that as a school community, we have helped form some incredible people who are Christ-like in their great actions and accomplishments. Because of this, our Board has the long-standing tradition of the York Catholic District School Board's Distinguished Alumni Awards, where we honour our graduates who have done great things in the world through their careers, their community involvement and their faith. We have just launched the nomination process for the 2023 York Catholic District School Board's Distinguished Alumni Awards. If you know a York Catholic alumnus who is an example of how the world is a better place when Christ's teachings are acted upon, I would ask you to nominate them before Sunday, January 8, 2023. Please visit [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca) for more details.

Thank you to all our students and staff who show through their actions that although Christ is often invisible to our human eyes, He is always with us.

As I noted at the outset of this report, I am reflecting on Hebrews 11.1 for this meeting: *"Faith is assurance of what we hope for and the conviction about things that cannot be seen."*

### **Multi-Year Strategic Plan**

Let us now consider hope. As Christians, we are called to hope for a better future. Hope is spread throughout the Bible, whether it is the hope of Jewish people for freedom while they were enslaved in Egypt or the hope of the Apostles for the return of their Lord while they were in the Upper Room on Pentecost. As People of God, we know there is a better day ahead that we must journey toward together.

As a School Board, the York Catholic District School Board sees a better future and we are currently charting a path toward it. This is why the Board is currently undertaking the Multi-Year Strategic Plan process which will guide us through the 2023-2028 school years. Under the leadership of Associate Director Eugene Pivato, we have completed consultations with families, staff and students. Mr. Pivato is now reaching out to the clergy for their insights. There is still much work to do, but I am happy to hear that so many people are sharing their thoughts with us.

As one of the highest performing school boards in the province, the York Catholic District School Board is in an excellent place at the moment. We are a leader in Ontario's educational landscape. But no human is perfect and neither is our School Board, so there is always room for us to improve.

I have hope that if we always remember our foundation as a Christ-inspired community, we will be able to do everything we need to do. We can continue the proud tradition of exceptional Catholic Education, which has enriched the world for centuries. We can nurture every student, because we are all made in the image and likeness of our God. We can provide safe, uplifting schools, because we are a community of love, as Christ intended.

As I said at our last meeting, if we do this, people will notice that there is something different happening at the York Catholic District School Board, and they will want to come along with us. Let us make that happen together.



## York Catholic District School Board

### Director's Report

**Memo To:** Board of Trustees

**From:** Domenic Scuglia, Director of Education

**Date:** November 29, 2022

**Re:** **Director's Report**

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#### High School Open Houses

During the month of November, each of our secondary schools hosted in-person high school open houses for parents and graduating elementary school students who will be starting secondary school next September. These nights gave students and their families an opportunity to tour the school's facilities and learn about the various high school programs and options available to them. Students and their parents were encouraged to attend the open house for their local Catholic high school and any schools with regional programs of interest. Thank you to our school administrators, teachers and educational workers, along with the student, parent and community volunteers who assisted in making these evenings such a success.

#### Take Our Kids to Work Day

November 2nd was "Take our Kids to Work Day." The Take Our Kids to Work Day is an annual national program in which grade 9 students are hosted by parents, friends and/or relatives at workplaces across the country. The day enhances the students' understanding of the realities of working life and supports them in exploring and planning their career paths. Our curriculum department, led by our Programs and Pathways Consultants, Ms Di Meo & Mr Calabrese, organized a great day for grade 9 students of the CEC staff. The students' day consisted of a tour of the various departments of the CEC. A guest speaker presentation via Google Meet with Tina Stevens from the Workforce Planning Board of York Region, followed by Education and Career / Life Planning through the IPP (Individual Pathway Plan) Digital Portfolio, myBlueprint. After lunch with their parent, the students had time to work on their IPP (Individual Pathway Plan) and to observe their parent at work. We enjoyed having these students with us at the CEC for a day of new learning and new experiences.

#### Treaties Recognition Week

Treaties Recognition Week takes place on the first full week of November every year. Treaties Recognition Week was introduced by the Ontario government in 2016 to honour the importance of treaties and help Ontarians learn more about treaty rights and relationships. Ontario is covered by 46 treaties and other agreements. Two treaties were signed in the York Region area: Treaty 13 and the Williams Treaty with the Chippewa of Christian Island, Georgina Island and Rama. To honour Treaties Recognition Week, students in the York Catholic District School Board engaged in a week of activities which presented opportunities for learning and reflection on an important part of Canada's history and to continue to honour existing treaty relationships while helping students understand that we are all treaty people.

#### Remembrance Day and Indigenous Veterans' Day ceremonies

During November, we commemorate the courageous individuals — past and present — who have served our country in times of war and times of peace by observing two national days of remembrance, Indigenous Veterans' Day and Remembrance Day. On these days in particular, we stop and take time to honour the service, the courage and the sacrifice of all veterans — at home, around the world and across generations. Indigenous Veterans' Day, observed on November 8, recognized the important contributions and sacrifices

made by First Nations, Inuit and Métis people toward the advancement of peace and security. On Friday, November 11, our community also observed two minutes of silence for Remembrance Day. Through these remembrances, we express our gratitude to individuals who have served throughout our nation's history and pay our respects to the brave Canadians who have lost their lives in military service. Lest we forget. Thank you, Merci, Marsee, Meegwetch, Nakurmiik.

### **Progress Report Cards and Parent-Teacher Interviews**

The week of November 14, students received their first progress report for this academic year. Parent-teacher interviews were also held across the system. Thank you to our staff and parents for working together to ensure good communication between home and school and supporting all of our students in their learning.

### **An Evening with Ekow Nimako – An Artist Talk**

On Wednesday, November 16, as part of the YCDSB's continued commitment to student achievement and well-being, we were blessed to have Ekow Nimako join us for an Artist Talk. Ekow Nimako is a Toronto-based, international LEGO artist who crafts futuristic and whimsical sculptures using the iconic medium. Ekow's presentation resonated with all who attended. The children were filled with inspiration and excitement, parents were transported back to a time when Lego sparked their own imaginations and educators were treated to opportunities for growth and excellence in reimagining their own pedagogical practices. At the conclusion of the Artist Talk, children were treated to an Ekow Mask-inspired Lego kit. The kit challenged children to use their imaginations to create afrofuturistic ancestors. Thank you to Ekow, Akoma and everyone who made this possible.

### **FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Tech Challenge**

On Saturday, November 19, I was excited to visit the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Tech Challenge hosted at St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Secondary School. The Tech Challenge provided a tremendous opportunity for students to collaborate and share ideas, compete with their robots, engage with cutting-edge technology, creatively solve problems and have fun. Students, staff and community members came together to see the robots face-off during various technical challenges. Twenty teams participated in the competition, open to students in grades 7-12, and there were both high school and community teams involved. The teams spent significant time designing, building and programming their robot based on strict criteria. Excellent teamwork played a critical role in their success. There are several aspects to the event. First, teams made presentations to judging teams where they were eligible to win awards. The judges interacted with each team and assessed them on their robotics; technical pieces, team attributes; teamwork, creativity, and innovation. We, the spectators, were then able to observe practice matches followed by the official Robotic games. It took great passion, time and dedication from the students and numerous teachers, staff, parents and volunteers to make this event a huge success. I am happy to share that St. Augustine CHS's team won the Design and Innovation Award. Thank you, it was a great day.

### **A Visit to Hamilton-Wentworth CDSB**

Staying with the topic of Robotics, on November 18th, Trustee Crowe and I, along with Pathways Consultant; Siobhain Bondy, OYAP Recruiter; Nat Gencarelli, and Fausta Martini and Lorenzo Conte, teachers from St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS, visited the Robodrome at the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board. It was a great experience to see their highly developed Robotics program and the awesome opportunities their students have to work and learn in this fast-growing industry. The Robodrome facility is the home base for Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School's Celt-X Robotics team, CELT-X 5406. They share a dedicated classroom and an awe-inspiring manufacturing facility with other teams. They also have a practice field built by Celt-X 5406 each year which is shared across the Board and even by other Boards wishing to use it. Their Board's centralized approach supports transportation for students to and from the Robodrome as often as three times a week during the "build season." As FIRST Robotics is growing here at YCDSB, I am excited about what we saw at Hamilton-Wentworth and am hopeful that YCDSB's commitment to Robotics will lead to growth in the number of Robotics teams and overall engagement across our Board.



### **New High-Performance Athlete Program**

In September 2023, St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS will open the York Catholic District School Board's second High Performer Athlete program (HPA). The program will support elite student-athletes by providing flexible schedules and allowing students to earn Physical Education credits while training. I am excited to share with you that High-Performance Athlete applications opened on Monday, November 21, 2022. Interested families can now complete an online application package, and these applications are due December 16, 2022. For those wondering who qualifies to enroll in the HPA program, student-athletes must participate in provincial, national or international competitions and be involved in at least 15 hours per week of training. HPA coordinators will work with coaches, trainers and organizations to ensure the highest level of support is afforded to our student-athletes. A press release went out in mid-November to share this exciting news across the region.

### **Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week**

Ontario has designated the third Sunday of November as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week to promote safe schools and a positive learning environment. The York Catholic District School Board believes that safe, caring and inclusive Catholic schools and school communities create and maintain healthy learning/working environments. Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues, we remain centered in Christ's message of inclusion and treating one another with care and respect. Schools across our Board focused on an array of anti-bullying and positive school climate activities during the week of November 20 to 26, and inclusivity, respect, and positive, healthy learning environments remain a daily focus throughout the year.

### **Health and Wellness York Region Public Health**

We are continuing work with York Region Public Health to monitor the spread of respiratory illnesses across the region. YRPH recommended but did not require masking in many settings. We are grateful for YRPH's expertise and will continue meeting with them regularly.

### **CUPE Update**

With the tentative agreement between the Government of Ontario and CUPE, we are happy that our students are able to remain in the classroom. Our Board respects the collective bargaining process; most importantly, we value our CUPE-represented colleagues. We are grateful that you share your time and talents with us.

### **Advent in Schools**

This past Sunday was the first Sunday in Advent, the season that brings with it a reminder of the sacred meaning of Christmas and signals the start of a new liturgical year. Advent is observed in commemoration of the coming of Christ into the world. As Catholics, it is a time to pause, reflect and renew our faith as we await the birth of Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Our students, families and staff have demonstrated this time and time again; our schools continue to be filled with hope, peace, joy and love.

During Advent, schools put extra effort into their outreach and fundraising initiatives. Students write letters and make Christmas cards for seniors in long-term care facilities. Others send cards to men and women serving in the Canadian Armed Forces who will be away from their families at Christmas. Many schools hold food and toy drives to support local food banks and Catholic charities supporting those less fortunate in our communities. Schools and Parishes continue to partner together for worship through masses and Living Rosaries. As we enter the Advent season and prepare our hearts and minds for Christmas, I'm looking forward to all the upcoming events at our schools and here at the CEC.

I pray that this Advent season will be a faith-filled opportunity for you and your family to be with one another and to prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.



# Multi-Year Strategic Plan

Five Year Plan - 2019 to 2023

## Mission Statement

Guided by Gospel values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

## Vision Statement

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

## Core Values



## Strategic Commitments

Integration of Our Catholic Faith

Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

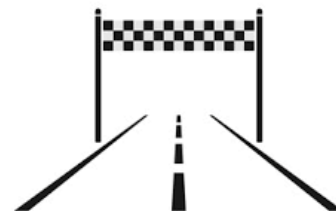
Effective Use of Our Resources

Engaging Our Communities

## 2022-2023 BILC-SAW Objective, Strategies & Expected Outcomes

### YEAR 5 - Final Year of MYSP

Report to the Board of Trustees:  
November 29, 2022 BILC-SAW Updates





Reportable Outcomes as of November, 2022

**Strategic Priority #1 – INTEGRATION OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH, WELL-BEING & EQUITY**

- To what extent has the Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ Religious Education Program been implemented in Grades 1-8?
- To what extent has the Spring Social Justice symposium been planned?
- Is a resource being prepared for prayer in each Liturgical season?

**Strategic Priority #2 – CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

- Reporting of EQAO results in relation to the projected targets
- What percentage of YCDSB students have engaged in learning at a STREAM Center of Excellence?
- Where are schools at with their BILC-SAW planning?
- Which schools are booked for a “Kids Have Stress Too” presentation? Has there been feedback?
- Has there been movement on the number of students on an SE5?
- What is the status of the Mental Health teacher ambassador strategy?

**Strategic Priority #3 – EFFECTIVE USE OF OUR RESOURCES**

- Have additional schools signed-on to *School-Day*?
- Have terms of reference been developed for the Attendance Task Force?

**Strategic Priority #4 – ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITIES**

- Have we increased parent and community engagement to strengthen public confidence?

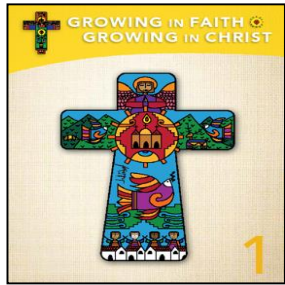
*“Let all that you do be done in love.” (1 Corinthians 16:14)* Let the Gospel serve as the source and inspiration to guide all students, staff, and parents in their deeds and words as reflections of love.

- Our work with the Social Justice Symposium has resumed, with planning well underway for a Spring 2023 gathering of Luke 4:18 representatives (of staff and students) from every school across the Board, both elementary and secondary..
- The Religious and Family Life Department is also working to advance our Faith & Wellness endeavours to support mental health through the Catholic lens. In addition, our efforts continue to be geared towards providing ongoing pastoral care.
- We are supporting the implementation of the K-12 Religious & Family Life Curriculum. The *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ* program is now fully accessible for all students from Grades 1-8. The FDK program will be ready for Fall of 2023 and work has begun on a grade 9 teaching resource, as well.

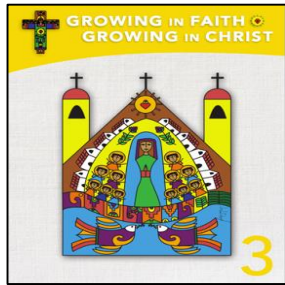
# Strategic Commitment #1

## INTEGRATION OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH, WELL-BEING & EQUITY (2022-2023 GOALS & STRATEGIES)

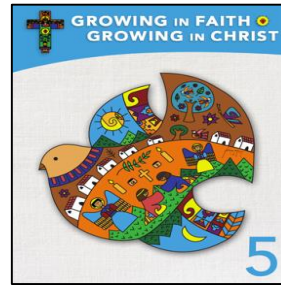
### *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ Timeline*



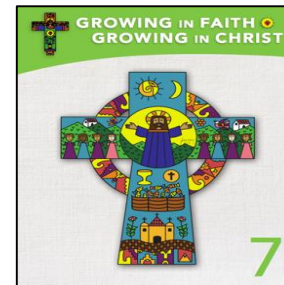
2016



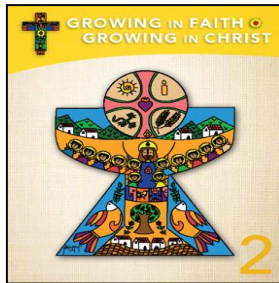
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2019



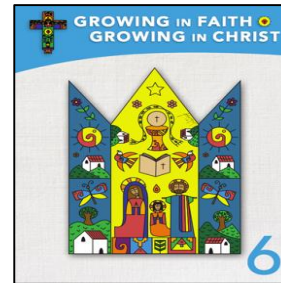
2021



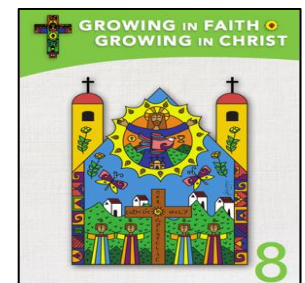
2016



2018



2020



2022

# Strategic Commitment #1

## INTEGRATION OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH, WELL-BEING & EQUITY (2022-2023 GOALS & STRATEGIES)

### Students

- ❖ Luke 4:18
- ❖ Student Faith Representatives
- ❖ Daily Prayers
- ❖ School Liturgies
- ❖ Classroom visits
- ❖ Pastoral support for individual students

### Staff

- ❖ Faith Ambassadors
- ❖ *When Faith Meets Pedagogy* Conference
- ❖ NTIP Mandatory Religion and Family Life Session
- ❖ School Liturgies
- ❖ Chaplaincy

### Parents & Parish

- ❖ Religious Education Advisory Committee (REAC)
- ❖ Sacramental Preparation
- ❖ Bishop Boissonneau collaboration as Vicar of Education

## Strategic Commitment #2

### CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE (2022-2023 GOALS & STRATEGIES)

As an overarching target, the YCDSB was keen to continue the trend of performing higher than the province in EQAO and achieved this outcome. The EQAO results below are from 2021-2022 and mark a return of EQAO provincial assessment administrations after a two year pause.

Cohort	Grade 3 Reading	Grade 3 Writing	Grade 3 Math	Grade 6 Reading	Grade 6 Writing	Grade 6 Math	Grade 9 Math	OSSLT
Board	82 (+1)	78 (-1)	68 (+2)	92 (+3)	93 (+2)	56 (-2)	60 (N/A)	87 (+1)
Province	73 (+1)	65 (-4)	59 (+1)	85 (+4)	84 (+2)	47 (-1)	52 (N/A)	82 (+2)

*The increases (+) and decreases (-) provide a comparison to the last time EQAO was conducted in 2019. However, given that significant changes were enacted to the EQAO experience, including a new mode of delivery (online), new assessment models (e.g., multi-stage computer adaptive), and the introduction of new curriculum (i.e., mathematics), the 2021-2022 EQAO data is better viewed as a baseline than as part of a trend. This is further compounded by the pandemic situation whose unprecedented impact has significantly disrupted the learning of students and made learning recovery a key priority of the YCDSB. No comparison is provided for Grade 9 Math as it is no longer streamed between academic and applied.*

## Strategic Commitment #2

### CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE (2022-2023 GOALS & STRATEGIES)

The status of schools with their school improvement planning.

#### SILC-SAW APP

During the September 23rd PA Day, school improvement planning was the focus. Principals and teachers were provided with instructions on how to populate their school plans to the SILC-SAW app. Submissions were due by October 14th, 2022.

#### SMART GOALS

School goals are framed as SMART goals (i.e., specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, timely). Sample goals were provided to aid these efforts. School goals continue to be inspired by the four pillar goals.

#### MONITORING IMPACT

Schools are to monitor, reflect, and be responsive to the progress being made around their school goals throughout the school year. As such, schools are advised to conduct a mid-year reflection in February 2023 and an end-of-year reflection in June 2023.



## Strategic Commitment #2

### CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE (2022-2023 GOALS & STRATEGIES)

Since its inception, the STREAM Centres of Excellence are projected to facilitate 301 face-to-face visits by December 23, 2022 (this is in addition to the 31 remote sessions made available to our virtual school).

Across both face-to-face and remote sessions, primary classes account for 24% of bookings, junior classes account for 44% of bookings, and intermediate classes account for 32% of bookings.

Principals continue to select classes to visit the STREAM Centres based on local needs and a wide range of workshops are offered to meet those needs in a faith-filled and innovative manner.

Thematic Workshop Offerings	Bookings
Designing A Clean Machine (Primary)	25
Designing A Balanced Community (Primary)	13
<b>NEW</b> Designing An Eco-Friendly Structure (Primary)	18
Designing A Playground (Junior)	36
Designing A Remote Transportation Device (Junior)	61
<b>NEW</b> Designing An Energy Efficient Amusement Park (Junior)	39
<b>NEW</b> Designing A PSA About Climate Change (Junior)	10
Designing A Motor Vehicle (Intermediate)	68
Designing A Scanning Machine (Intermediate)	11
<b>NEW</b> Designing A Sustainable Farming Device (Intermediate)	9
<b>NEW</b> Designing A Water Management Device (Intermediate)	11

### CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (2022-2023 GOALS & STRATEGIES)

#### STUDENT SERVICES

##### **The Behaviour Resource Services Team:**

- Anger Management and Conflict Resolution, Friendship, Self Esteem, Cyber Bullying
- 77 of our remote elementary (K-8) classrooms received the Kids have Stress Too! Workshop, Back-to-School workshop
- Crisis support and suicide/self-harm interventions to elementary and secondary schools
- BMS Safety Planning and Positive Behaviour Support Plans: 149 initial, 315 recert
- Introduced the evidence-based 'Building CABS' program to teach communication, toleration, and contextually appropriate behaviour to students
- Developed and delivered interactive workshops on AIM (Accept.Identify.Move) - an evidence-informed program to promote behavioural flexibility
- Developed the Peer Awareness presentation for elementary classrooms

##### **The Physical Management (Occupational and Physical Therapy) team:**

- Kindergarten Pilot Project: 13 schools participated from November to May, Results: received positive feedback from participating teachers with results showing greater understanding of strategies used to improve skills.
- Accessibility: Collaborated and consulted with Facilities Services and Plant Department to identify barriers to accessibility
- Pathway to Employability Program and Project Search: Collaboration with Work Experience teachers to involve Occupational Therapists to assess vocational interests and skills

### CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (2022-2023 GOALS & STRATEGIES)

#### **The Speech & Language Services team:**

- Storytime With Speech and Language Services
- Watch Me Read Parent-child Literacy Groups
- Literacy Intervention Sessions
- Educator Professional development about assessment and support of Early Literacy Skills in Students in the Primary Grades

#### **The Secondary Special Education Programs team:**

- The YCDSB Project Search Pilot, a Ministry of Education sanctioned program which offers total workplace immersion, launched in September, 2022. Ten secondary students with disabilities will attend classes daily at a City of Vaughan facility and will complete 3, 10 week internships with the goal of securing permanent, paid employment by June, 2023.
- The YCDSB Advanced Placement program is offered in 8 secondary schools. In the 2021-2022 academic year, 1347 students were registered in the YCDSB AP program.

#### **The Psychological Services team:**

- Completed over 130 and 110 gifted psychological assessments
- ADOS-2 has been administered to investigate Autism Spectrum Disorder in assessments
- Crisis support and suicide/self harm interventions and 20 Threat Assessments
- Creation of Psychological Services Website
- Black Mental Health Services; Let's Talk About It

### CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (2022-2023 GOALS & STRATEGIES)

#### **The Mental Health team:**

- Created mental health promotion and literacy packages for all teachers
- Supported 373 students with short- term evidence-based psychotherapy (1:1 and group)
- Developed and presented workshops to 224 classrooms (approx. 5600 students)
- Created educator classroom-ready resources to support Bell Let's Talk Day and Children's Mental Health Week
- Created and offered a mental health group for Black students, engaged a community partner to provide mental health groups for Asian parents and engaged with a community partner to provide after school workshops for all gr 10 students and parents.
- Parent engagement initiative for parents of Black students
- Engaged with students and families through social media, parent workshops, student discussions and focus groups.
- Provided mental health consultation and individual psychotherapy to students and families over the summer
- Provided workshops to all Akoma, Kickstart Jr, Kickstart and Focus on Youth students
- Provided summer offerings of the "All About Anxiety" series for students in grades 4-6 and a "When Highs Lead to Lows" workshop for students grades 9-12
- Educator writing team created mental health resources to support teachers in the classroom k-12
- 2nd MH Literacy and Mentally Healthy Classrooms Summer Institute (3 days)
- Student MH Ambassador Camp (5 days)
- Offered three sessions of ASIST for staff (approx 90 staff)

### CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (2022-2023 GOALS & STRATEGIES)

#### **The ASD team:**

- Alternative Program Teacher APT role is implemented in 63 elementary schools.
- The After School Social Skills program was offered twice, Fall/Winter and Winter/Spring sessions.
- Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS) was offered in collaboration with Kerry's Place Autism Services.
- STAR program kit and training was provided to 30 additional schools as well as refresher training to previously trained teachers.
- The Entry to School Program is a new program that is funded by MCCSS and offered to students with ASD.

#### **The Elementary Special Education Programs team:**

- Implemented the Itinerant Literacy Intervention Teacher role in Student Services to provide short term intensive reading interventions. 22 teachers working in 44 schools in Term 1.
- The evidence informed Remediation Plus Reading Intervention program is available in all Elementary schools for students with Special Education needs in the area of Literacy.
- Introduced the Alternative Program Teacher (APT) role in 63 Elementary schools to focus on delivery of Alternative Special Education Programs.
- The Pathway to Independence Plan is now a required part of the IEP for students who receive support from an Education Worker.

#### Finance

- 38 schools have currently implemented School Day (last go-live October 3, 2022)
- the average adoption rate is currently at 69%
- we are tracking to the target of 66 schools implemented by June 2023 with an average adoption rate of 75%

#### Human Resources

- Implementation of the Attendance Task Force with a Terms of Reference to guide committee actions and recommendations to the senior team and Board of Trustees
- Implementation of a performance management and growth system for non-union/exempt employees



## Communications

We have increased communication with our parent, staff, and community in order to strengthen public confidence by:

1. Providing timely responses to the digital “General Inquiry” submissions that we receive.
1. Expanding on our “suggestion box” so that staff can submit questions as well as recommendations and receive timely responses. In this school year alone, we have responded to 28 submissions.
1. We are engaging all of our stakeholders by asking them to participate in the new MYSP consultation process via face to face meetings, virtual meetings and online surveys.

## **Next Steps for 2022-2023**

- An updated report will be provided at the Board meeting on February 28, 2023.
- Development of the new 2023-2028 MYSP is well underway with the majority of consultation completed at this time.

**York Catholic District School Board**

**REPORT NO. 2022:29**

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BOARD / PRIVATE SESSION**

**To: Regular Board Meeting**

**November 29, 2022**

A private session of the Special Committee of the Whole, Part C was held virtually on Monday, October 31, 2022 starting at 8:01 pm.

**PRESENT:**

Members: Virtual: F. Alexander, R. Cantisano, C. Cotton, E. Crowe, D. Giuliani, M. Iafrate, M. Marchese, D. Mazzotta, J. Wigston

Administration: Virtual: D. Scuglia, E. Pivato, D. Candido, K. Elgharbawy, M. Gray, S. Morrow, M. Brosens

Absent with Notice: T. McNicol

Recording Officer: S. Greco (Virtual)

Presiding: M. Marchese, Vice-Chair of the Board

**ACTION ITEMS:**

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

**CLASSIFIED: NIL**

**Adjournment: 9:29 PM**

M. Marchese, Vice-Chair

## York Catholic District School Board

**REPORT NO. 2022:03**

### **STUDENT SUCCESS & PATHWAYS COMMITTEE**

**To: Regular Board Meeting**

**November 29, 2022**

A meeting of the Student Success & Pathways Committee was held via Google Meet on Monday November 7, 2022 at 6:30 pm

#### **PRESENT:**

**Trustee Committee Members:** F. Alexander, R.Cantisano, J. Wigston

**Other Trustees:** M. Iafrate, E. Crowe

**Absent with Notice:** C. Cotton, D. Giuliani, D. Mazzotta

**Administration:** A. Arcadi, C. DeHaas, K. Elgharbawy, J.Kwong, L. Paonessa, D. Pimentel, E. Pivato, D. Scuglia

**Staff:** N. Davie, G. Falzone, N. Gencarelli, D. LaGamba, C. Mazzeo, M. McShine-Quao, F. Scarcinella

**Recording:** L. Coquim

**Presiding:** R.Cantisano, Committee Chair

#### **1. ACTION ITEM(S): N/A**

#### **2. DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS:**

Curriculum Update Presentation

- a. Introduction to Curriculum Website
- b. Curriculum Leads
- c. Religious Education Updates
- d. Pathways Updates
- e. Experiential Learning
- f. Continuing Education - Fall Education & Tutoring

#### **3. FUTURE MEETING DATE:**

February 6, 2023

#### **4. ADJOURNMENT: 8:26 pm**

R. Cantisano, Committee Chair

**YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**REPORT NO. 2022: 10**

**To: Regular Board Meeting**

**November 21, 2022**

A meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee was held on **November 14, 2022** via Google Meet at 6:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Committee Members:	M. Iafrate, D. Legris, J. Man, E. Morgillo, N. Welch, J. Wigston
Association Representatives:	J. Akleh, M. Marcello, C. Sandig
Administration:	A. Cabraja, D. Candido, L. Lausic , E. Miceli-Bush
Regrets:	N. Bryne, J. Gamboa, S. Gatti, D. Giuliani, N. Lai
Recording	C. Mong
Guests:	C. deHaas, <i>Continuing Education Principal, Elementary Programs, YCDSB</i>

**1. ACTION ITEM(S):** nil

**2. CORRESPONDENCE:** nil

**3. PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS/INFORMATION:**

- Tutoring Support Program Community Partnerships
- Draft Accessibility Report
- SEAC Newsletter
- Student Services Update

**4. ASSOCIATION REPORTS:**

- Community Living: Featured workshops can be viewed here [e-connector](#)
- Easter Seals: A number of events planned, please visit [www.easterseals.org](http://www.easterseals.org)

**5. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:**

- YR EIS presentation
- Easter Seals Presentation
- Autism Ontario Presentation

**6. NEXT MEETING:** December 12, 2022

J. WIGSTON, CHAIR, SEAC

**York Catholic District School Board**

**REPORT NO. 2023:01**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**To: Regular Board Meeting**

**November 29, 2022**

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held on Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 2:01 pm.

**PRESENT:**

Committee Members: F. Alexander, M. Iafrate, E. Crowe

Other Trustees: M. Barbieri (Virtual), J. DiMeo (Virtual), A. Saggese (Virtual)

Administration: D. Scuglia, E. Pivato, C. McNeil

Absent with Notice: Nil

Recording: S. Greco

Presiding: F. Alexander, Chair of the Board

**ACTION ITEM(S):**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE 2023**

**THAT** the Board approve the 2023 Terms of Reference for the Executive Committee.

**Adjournment:** 2:24 pm

F. Alexander, Chair of the Board



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

2023

The Executive Committee meets to review and set Board Meeting Agendas. The Executive Committee does not approve items and/or bind the Board. All items requiring Board approval shall be brought to the Board as a whole for approval.

#### 1. Purpose/Mandate:

- 1.1 To prioritize agenda items and set the Board agenda accordingly.
- 1.2 To set the annual calendar of Meetings.
- ~~1.3 To review relevant correspondence received subsequent to the last Regular Board Meeting and determine appropriate action or disposition.~~
- 1.4 To review notices of motion received subsequent to the last Regular Board Meeting and determine appropriate action or disposition.
- 1.5 To designate matters if/as appropriate to committees and/or Board or to staff through the Director of Education and to report such designation in the minutes.
- 1.6 To follow the Board mandated procedure of referring matters of litigation to a meeting of the full Board. When time constraints are an issue, the committee may direct administration to obtain a prior legal opinion (to be presented with the legal matter) and/or request the presence of a legal representative at the upcoming Board meeting. Board members will be notified of such action.
- ~~1.7 In an election year, plan for orientation/in service sessions for new trustees and to plan for annual inaugural meetings of the Board.~~
- ~~1.8 To plan and promote activities that contribute to positive public relations and ongoing communications with parent communities and clergy.~~
- 1.9 To ~~periodically review and~~ act as directed by Board Policy with regards to attendance of trustees at conferences, ~~as well as trustees' attendance at Board meetings.~~
- 1.10 To recommend and/or plan initiatives which promote the understanding and practice of our Catholic Faith among trustees and staff.
- 1.11 To organize trustee workshops/retreats.
- ~~1.12 To promote good working relationships between Board, staff and clergy.~~
- 1.13 To recommend and/or provide opportunities for professional development for Trustees.

**2. Committee Membership:**

- 2.1 Chair
- 2.2 Vice-Chair
- 2.3 Trustees (1 or 2)

**3. Resource Personnel:**

- 3.1 Director of Education
- 3.2 Associate Director
- 3.3 Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Board (*as needed*)
- 3.4 Administrative Assistant – Director’s Office
- 3.5 Manager, Communications and Marketing (*as needed*)

**4. Meeting Schedule:**

- 4.1 The Executive Committee will meet prior to each Regular Board Meeting.

**5. Quorum:**

- 5.1 Subject to the provisions of the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act two (2) Trustees shall constitute a quorum.

**2023 Trustee Membership:**

F. Alexander, Chair  
M. Iafrate, Vice-Chair  
E. Crowe, Trustee

**Last Revision/Approval  
Date: November 22, 2022**

**YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**REPORT NO. 2023:01  
YORK CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (YCPIC)**

**To: Regular Board Meeting**

**November 29, 2022**

A York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (YCPIC) meeting was at the Catholic Education Centre commencing at 7:00 p.m., on Monday, November 28, 2022.

**PRESENT:**

**Committee Member(s):** Teresa Abbruscato, Olufisayo Bolarinwa (Virtual), Peter De Quintal, Jan De Souza, Sara Angela Figliomeni, Sahir Jamal, Tony Lorini, Gabriella Marchione, Emanuela Polin-DelUCA, Maria Praveen, Singai Rani Wilson (Virtual), Maurizio Ruberto, Martina Saverino, Andrea Telfer, Sarah Tjin-a-joe, Jaclyn Toma, Florence Wang

**Administration:** Domenic Scuglia, Andre Belille,  
Secondary OECTA Rep: Vito Totino

**Trustee(s):** Elizabeth Crowe, Theresa McNicol (Virtual)

**Other Trustee(s):** Maria Iafrate(Virtual), Angela Saggese (Virtual)

**Guest(s):** N/A

**Recording Secretary:** Maurizio Ruberto

**REGRETS:**

**Committee Member(s):** Melena Carrassi, Kristina Costabile, Rosanna Soda,

**Administration(s):** Evonne Carafa, Anna Polisco (Secondary OECTA Rep)

**Trustee(s):** N/A

**1. ACTION ITEM(S):** N/A

**2. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEM(S):**

- a) Approval of September 26, 2022 YCPIC Minutes
- b) School Messenger Drop Downs
- c) School Cash Online
- d) YCPIC Conference with Dr. ABC
- e) Follow Up with Dr. Debbie Pushor
- f) YCPIC Consultation: YCDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan

**3. FUTURE MEETING DATES:** January 30, April 24, June 5

**Sara Figliomeni, YCPIC Chair**

# REPORT

## York Catholic District School Board

**Report to:** Board of Trustees

**From:** Administration

**Date:** November 29, 2022

**Report:** **Trustee Honoraria Term November 15, 2022 to November 14, 2023**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to provide the trustee honoraria rates for the term November 15, 2022 to November 14, 2023 in accordance with the Board's Policy #114 Trustee Honorarium.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Pursuant to O. Reg. 357/06, trustee honoraria are established using a formula, which includes a base amount and an amount based on pupil population. The regulation also includes additional amounts for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board.

O. Reg. 357/06 initially identified that on December 1, 2018 the base amount would be increased from \$5900 to \$6300. But, pursuant to O. Reg. 436/18, the provincial government amended O. Reg. 357/06 and removed the increase that was anticipated on December 1, 2018 and the base amount has remained \$5900.

Since December 1, 2018 the base amount of the honorarium is restricted to \$5900, but there continues to be an amount allocated in accordance to a school board's pupil population. Therefore, the total honorarium paid to trustees may increase or decrease depending on pupil population growth or decrease.

Per O. Reg. 292/18, the year of a member's term of office begins on November 15 and ends on the following November 14 beginning in 2022.

### **CURRENT STATUS**

#### ***Enrolment ADE Determination:***

For the Trustee Honorarium enrolment calculation, the enrolment used is the regular day school average daily enrolment (ADE) of pupils of the board based on the previous school year's (2021-22) estimates which was 50,653.

The 2021-22 estimated ADE of 50,653 represents a decrease of 812 pupils from the 2020-21 estimated ADE of 51,465. Accordingly, the following trustee honorarium determination will show a decrease for the period November 15, 2022 to November 14, 2023.

***Trustee Honorarium Determination:***

Based on the 2021-22 estimates ADE of 50,653 the following is the resulting trustee honoraria:

<b>TRUSTEE HONORARIA</b>					
<b>Term of Office November 15, 2022 - November 14, 2023</b>					
	<b>TRUSTEE</b>		<b>VICE-CHAIR</b>		<b>CHAIR</b>
<b>Honorarium</b>					
<b>Nov 15/22 to Nov 14/23</b>	\$	<b>14,764</b>	\$	<b>18,530</b>	\$ <b>22,297</b>
<b>Honorarium</b>					
<b>Dec 1/21 to Nov 14/22</b>	\$	<b>14,906</b>	\$	<b>18,693</b>	\$ <b>22,479</b>
<b>Honorarium Change</b>	\$	<b>(142)</b>	\$	<b>(163)</b>	\$ <b>(182)</b>

Prepared by:	William Kwon, Senior Budget Specialist
Submitted by:	Calum McNeil, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Board
Endorsed by:	Domenic Scuglia, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board

York Catholic District School Board

***Report***

**Report To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Administration  
**Date:** November 29, 2022  
**Subject:** Student Trustee Expenditures Report

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Pursuant to Board Policy 107 Student Trustees, an expenditures report for each Student Trustee for the time period from September 1 to August 31 is to be presented in an open public session and posted on the Board website.

The following table is the Student Trustee Expenditures Report for the period from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022.

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Student Trustee Alessandro Casbarro</b>	<b>Student Trustee Anthea Peta- Dragos</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cell Phone Allowance	480	480	960
Meal	-	127	127
Travel	-	59	59
	<b>\$ 480</b>	<b>\$ 666</b>	<b>\$ 1,146</b>

Prepared by: William Kwon, Senior Budget Specialist  
Submitted by: Calum McNeil, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Board  
Endorsed by: Domenic Scuglia, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board

**REPORT**

**Report To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Administration  
**Date:** November 29, 2022  
**Report:** Review of Policy Advisor Position

---

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report is to inform the Board of Trustees of the work being conducted by the YCDSB Policy Advisor.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Included in the passing of the 2022-2023 Budget, Trustees earmarked funding for the position of a Policy Advisor to the Associate Director of Education.

The employee began work with the YCDSB on October 19, 2022. Since that time, the employee has worked collaboratively with the Associate Director and Administrative Assistant to the Associate Director in undertaking a variety of tasks including but not limited to:

- Scheduling policies for development;
- Scanning all recent Ontario Regulations relating to education policies to determine policy revision requirements;
- Researching legislative changes that may impact Board policies and procedures;
- Tracking and prioritizing policy revision dates in order to engage senior team members and managers in the revision process;
- Communicating policy updates to the Associate Director in a timely manner;
- Assisting with the coordination of policies and procedures in preparation for Policy Steering Committee and Policy Review Committee meetings;
- Reviewing all department revisions to policies and procedures;
- Participating in policy related meetings;
- Collaborating with various key stakeholders to build awareness of organizational initiatives;
- Responding to inquiries made by community members.

The Policy Advisor has also been directed to provide recommendations for the organization in terms of effective practices. In so doing, the Advisor has already provided a number of recommendations that are being taken into consideration including:

- Refining the Meta Policy framework in order to further delineate steps in the process;
- Identifying sustainable improvements to our process;
- Collaborating with policy analysts/advisors from various school boards to ensure organizational cohesiveness in policy processing;
- Identifying any gaps and deficiencies in processing policies under review;

- Connecting with administrators to identify school-level issues that require consideration for revisions to policies or procedures.

## **SUMMARY:**

The Policy Advisor position is providing a rich level of policy analysis and development that is based on comparative research, stakeholder engagement, coordination of YCDSB resources, and long term planning. The work being conducted by the policy advisor is providing work that is effective in the application of policy governance and operational procedures.

Prepared and Submitted by: Eugene Pivato, Associate Director  
Endorsed by: Domenic Scuglia, Director of Education



YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT**

**Report To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Administration  
**Date:** November 29, 2022  
**Report:** Annual Accessibility Report 2021-2022

---

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report provides the Board of Trustees with information on the YCDSB Annual Accessibility Report.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In June 2018, the YCDSB's Integrated Accessibility Standards Committee submitted the YCDSB's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, 2018-2023. The five year plan is now at the end of year four and has entered into year five. Each year, senior staff provide updates on measures that are completed or are ongoing in relation to the plan. The measures are designed to identify, remove, and prevent barriers for people with disabilities who work in, use or attend School Board facilities and services in accordance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)*, 2005.

**NEXT STEPS:**

1. The Integrated Accessibility Standards Committee (IASC) last met on November 18, 2022 to review the annual report and 2021-2022 action items. In early 2023, a call to committee will be made in order to renew the IASC.
2. Subcommittees will be formed and meetings will commence in order to review accessibility work that is ongoing in 2022-2023.
3. The IASC will begin work on a new Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, 2023-2028. The plan will align with the YCDSB's new Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

**SUMMARY:**

The YCDB is committed to our Catholic faith which recognizes the inherent value and dignity of all human beings. The YCDSB will make every effort to meet the needs of staff and students in keeping with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* and our Catholic values. The Annual Accessibility Report will be posted to the Board's website. The Board will accommodate requests for accessible formats of the Report upon request.

Prepared and Submitted by: Eugene Pivato, Associate Director  
Endorsed by: Domenic Scuglia, Director of Education



# **YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

## **ANNUAL ACCESSIBILITY REPORT 2021-22**

**November 29, 2022**

**Chair: Frank Alexander**

**Director: Domenic Scuglia**

**YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
ANNUAL ACCESSIBILITY REPORT FOR 2021-2022**

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## 1.0 Aim

This Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (MYAP) is developed in accordance with the Integration Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) under the [\*Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act\* \(AODA\), 2005](#). It incorporates the intentions of the York Catholic District School Board (Board) to meet its obligations under the [\*Ontarians with Disabilities Act\* \(ODA\), 2001](#). The Plan describes the measures that the Board will implement over the five-year period from September 2018 to June 2023 to identify, remove and prevent barriers for people with disabilities who work, learn and participate in the Board's community and environment including students, staff, parents/guardians, volunteers and visitors to the Board and its schools. The Multi-Year Accessibility Plan will further support Board Policies #203 [\*Student Transportation Services\*](#), #415 [\*Accessibility Standards for Employment\*](#), #601 [\*Accessibility Standards for Customer Service\*](#), #609 [\*Accessibility Standards for Information and Communication\*](#), #708 [\*Outdoor Activity Equipment, Independent Procedure: Board/School Events Planning Protocol\*](#) and [\*Independent Procedure: Selection of Architects\*](#) which can be found on the board's website at [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca).

## 2.0 Objectives

This Plan:

- a. Describes the process by which the Board will identify, remove and prevent barriers;
- b. Reviews recent efforts of the Board to remove and prevent barriers;
- c. Describes the measures the Board plans to take in the period from September 2018 – June 2023 to identify, remove and prevent barriers;
- d. Makes a commitment to provide an annual status report on the Board's implementation of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan;
- e. Makes a commitment to review and update the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan annually; and,
- f. Describes how the Board will make this Multi-Year Accessibility Plan available to the public.

## 3.0 Description of the Board

The York Catholic District School Board serves 85 Elementary and 16 Secondary schools across the Region's nine municipalities, (Aurora, East Gwillimbury, Georgina, Markham, Newmarket, Richmond Hill, Vaughan, Whitchurch-Stouffville, and King Township). The YCDSB works to support and inspire our approximately 51,000 students and their families through an innovative curriculum of Catholic Education rooted in Gospel values. As one of the top-performing school boards in Ontario, our more than 5,000 dedicated instructional staff are committed to building a strong community of lifelong learners, guided by a commitment to critical thinking, inclusion and active social responsibility.

The York Catholic District School Board offers excellent programs, resources and supports so that students are provided with every opportunity to be successful in their achievement and reach their future goals and aspirations in a faith-filled, inclusive environment, where everyone's dignity is respected and upheld. To fulfill this goal, the YCDSB provides staff with the resources needed to support students.

**York Catholic District School Board's Commitment to Equity**

The York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) believes that every child has the right to be taught in an inclusive environment that is safe and caring, and respects diversity and the rights of all persons. As such, we are committed to creating an equitable, inclusive, accessible and supportive learning and working environment. YCDSB adheres to the principles of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms outlined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Constitution Act, 1982, and the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Furthermore, YCDSB recognizes that equity of opportunity and equity of access to the full range of programs, and the delivery of services and resources are critical to the achievement of successful outcomes for those served by our school system, as well as for those who serve our system.

In the balancing of Human Rights, the YCDSB recognizes its denominational rights and privileges protected under section 93 of the *Constitution Act*.

#### **4.0 York Catholic District School Board Multi-Year Strategic Plan**

In partnership with our Parishes and Parents/Guardians, our goal is to prepare our students for success now and in the future – this is the fundamental purpose of our Mission, Vision, Core Values and Strategic Commitments outlined below.

Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

## Strategic Commitments

### Integration of Our Catholic Faith

- Nurture the Catholic faith and spirituality of all through relevant and engaging religious education programs and experiences.
- Foster a culture in which daily interactions and practices are respectful and inclusive, and inspired by Gospel Values.
- Support members of our community on their faith journeys.

### Continuous Improvement of Student Achievement

- Nurture well-being by supporting students to become resilient, optimistic and responsible.
- Promote academic excellence through programs and educational experiences that prepare students for success in the 21st century.
- Foster a culture of instructional excellence that is welcoming, engaging and inclusive.
- Provide a safe, supportive and healthy environment.

### Effective Use of Our Resources

- Ensure that the budget is shaped by strategic priorities.
- Manage our resources in a sustainable and effective manner.

### Engaging Our Communities

- Provide stakeholders with opportunities for input and/or feedback that supports or informs Board decision-making.
- Develop and implement communication practices and procedures that improve the quality and timeliness of Board communication.
- Establish community partnerships that assist with the achievement of the Board's strategic commitments.

## Vision

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

## Core Values

Catholicity, Excellence, Equity, Fiscal Responsibility, Inclusion, Integrity, Respect

## **5.0 Commitment to Accessibility Planning**

The Board is committed to:

- a. Maintaining an Integrated Accessibility Standards Committee (IASC);
- b. Continuing the process of consulting with the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), York Catholic's Parent Involvement Committee (YCPIC), outside agencies and with persons who have disabilities;
- c. Ensuring that Board policies, procedures and practices are consistent with the principles of accessibility, equity and inclusive/universal design. The IASC will provide input regarding accessibility issues, where appropriate, with regard to new policies and procedures and to those under review;
- d. Improving access to facilities, policies, programs, practices and services for students, staff, parents/guardians, volunteers and members of the community. Consideration of the ongoing identification of barriers will be shared with the IASC and will, wherever practicable, be incorporated in the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan;
- e. Consulting with the Human Rights and Equity Advisor to ensure that the Board meets its duty to accommodate obligations;
- f. Adjusting rules, policies or practices, in its obligation as a service provider, to enable full participation.

The Director of Education has authorized the IASC to review and update the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan on an annual basis to ensure these commitments are met.

The Annual Accessibility Report will be submitted to the Director of Education and presented to the Board of Trustees each year. The Annual Accessibility Report is available to the public on the York Catholic District School Board website ([www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca)).

## 6. Members of IASC for 2021-2022

MEMBER	DEPARTMENT/REPRESENTATION	MEMBER	DEPARTMENT/REPRESENTATION
Domenic Scuglia	Director of Education	Michelle Farrell	Human Rights and Equity Advisor
Jennifer Wigston	Board of Trustees	Eugene Pivato	Associate Director of Education
Khaled Elgharbawy Cory Gastis	Plant & Accommodation Services	Mary Di Federico	President, CUPE Local 2331-01-02
Didi Cammalleri	Principal	Tom Pechkovsky Adam McDonald	Planning & Operations Department
Greg Bolton Anna Polisco	O.E.C.T.A.	Mark Brosens	Communications Department
Diana Candido	Student Services Department	Anthony Arcadi Marcelle McShine-Quao	Curriculum & Assessment Department
Grace Liu	Purchasing Department	Callum McNeil	Budget & Audit Services Department
Scott Morrow	Information Technology Department	Martina Saverino	York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (YCPIC)
Michael Gray	Human Resources Department International Education Department	Marc Mercanti	Organizational Development and Privacy Officer
Laura Sawicky	Academic Superintendent	Antonio Bove	President, CUPE Local 1571



## 7.0 Role of the IASC

The Director of Education has established the IASC to carry out the Board's commitment to accessibility planning. The IASC meets twice during each school year. Sub-committees are established and operate as specific needs are identified. Meetings are scheduled as needed throughout the school year.

The IASC is authorized to:

1. Oversee the development and review of a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for the Board including:
  - a. Strategic directions and key strategies addressing the identification, removal and prevention of barriers to people with disabilities, and meet its requirements under the enacted regulations of the Ontario Disability Association (ODA), the [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act](#) (AODA) and the [Ontario Human Rights Code](#);
  - b. Confirming the establishment of measurable goals and objectives to assess progress in fulfilling those strategic directions;
  - c. Fulfilling its mission over the planning period;
  - d. Reporting annually to the Board of Trustees and community members;
  - e. Performing other functions that are specified in the Regulations to these Acts when they are developed; and,
  - f. Liaising directly with the Director of Education.
2. Develop a Strategic Assessment by:
  - a. Reviewing significant changes in the operating environment, identifying new risks and opportunities;
  - b. Acting as champions of the integrated accessibility standards planning process within the organization;
  - c. Evaluating progress in fulfilling its strategic goals and objectives;
  - d. Evaluating the suitability of the current strategic direction in view of evolving circumstances; and,
  - e. Recommending any necessary changes in strategic direction or strategies.
3. Monitor and direct the activities of any Integrated Accessibility Standards (IAS) sub-committees that may be established, as deemed necessary, by the Board and/or the IAS committee to address specific issues connected to the accessibility of persons with disabilities.
4. Provide the Board of Trustees with:
  - a. An Annual report assessing the progress of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan; and,
  - b. Recommendations with respect to any of the above matters.

## 8.0 **Barrier Removal Achievements**

The *ODA*, the *AODA* and this Multi-Year Plan, governed by Board policies and procedures, apply to barriers and disabilities that extend well beyond those that are physical.

### **ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS:**

Accessibility standards are a set of rules about accessibility that help organizations to find and remove barriers. They help to improve accessibility for people with disabilities. The following areas would have standards:

- Getting a job.
- Access to buildings and spaces and places.
- Using information and communication technology.
- Getting goods and services.
- Providing programs and services.
- Using transportation services.

### **ACCESSIBILITY PRIORITIES** - [\*Accessible Canada Act\*](#),

- employment
- the built environment
- information and communication technologies
- communication, other than information and communication technologies
- the procurement of goods, services and facilities
- the design and delivery of programs and services
- transportation

### **BARRIER DEFINITIONS:**

Anything that prevents a person with a disability from fully participating in all aspects of society because of their disability, including:

**Architectural** barrier - inadequate or incomprehensible signage, difficulties reading brochures, forms, manuals, web sites, fax transmissions, equipment labels, computer screens, etc.

**Attitudinal** barrier - Staff who do not know how to communicate with people with disabilities; staff who refuse to provide service; discriminatory behaviours.

**Communication** barrier - Difficulties receiving information in person or by telephone; difficulties interacting with staff, difficulties receiving training and articulating in the recruitment and interview process.

**Physical** barrier - Objects added to the environment, doors, windows, elevators, furniture, workstations, recreational facilities, playgrounds, bathroom hardware, etc.

**Systemic** barrier - are policies, procedures, or practices that can prevent individuals from participating fully in a situation.

**Technological** barrier - Computers, photocopiers, fax machines, telephone and switches; inadequate or inappropriate assistive technologies.

### **DISABILITY:**

- a. Any degree of physical disability, infirmity, malformation or disfiguration that is caused by bodily injury, birth defect or illness and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, includes diabetes mellitus, epilepsy, a brain injury, any degree of paralysis, amputation, lack of physical coordination, blindness or visual impediment, deafness or hearing impediment, muteness or speech impediment or physical reliance on a guide dog or other animal or on a wheelchair or other remedial appliance or device.
- b. A condition of mental impairment or a developmental disability.
- c. A learning disability, or a dysfunction in one or more of the processes involved in understanding or using symbols or spoken language.
- d. A mental disorder, or
- e. An injury or disability for which benefits were claimed or received under an insurance plan established under the [\*Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997\*](#); (“handicap”)

Anything that prevents a person with a disability from fully participating in all aspects of society because of their disability, including a physical barrier, architectural barrier, information or communications barrier, attitudinal barrier, technological barrier, policy or practice (“obstacle”).

## **9.0 Obligations under the [Ontario Human Rights Code](#) (Code)**

Under the Code, the Board is required to prevent and remove barriers and provide accommodation to the point of undue hardship. As a Board, we have a shared obligation to design for inclusion of persons identified by Code grounds, as well as to remove barriers and provide accommodation where requested and substantiated. Failure to fully explore accommodation options and to fulfill the duty to accommodate, short of undue hardship is a violation of the Code.

## **10.0 Strategy for Prevention and Removal of Barriers**

Through the Board’s IASC, stakeholders meet to investigate accessibility barriers, identify areas of concern, develop strategies for responding to concerns, oversee the AODA requirements and communicate plans, responsibilities and accomplishments to the Board.

## **11.0 Barriers to be Addressed Under the 2018-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan**

Pursuant to the *AODA 2005* identified specific requirements to achieve accessibility in the areas of:

- Customer Service;
- Built Environment (Facilities);
- Employment;
- Information and Communications; and
- Transportation.

will be addressed within the 2018-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan as noted in the charts on the following pages.

These requirements build on the policies and procedures of the York Catholic District School Board to support the accessibility needs of all stakeholders.

The York Catholic District School Board community includes members who are disabled. In keeping with our commitment to inclusivity, suitable accommodations have been provided and will continue to be improved.

The Annual Accessibility Report describes measures the Board has implemented during the previous school year (2020-2021), and the measures the Board will take during the coming school year (2021-2022) to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities as described on the following pages.



## **NOTIFICATION DOCUMENT TO REPORT BARRIERS**

To ensure we are meeting the needs of all, we welcome all accessibility-related feedback.

If you have experienced a barrier to accessibility while using the facilities and services of the Board, we invite you to provide us with feedback by completing the form available through the link below.

[Accessibility Feedback](#)

## 2020-2021

Department	Location	Action	Effective Completion Date / Status 2021-2022	Type of Barrier: Architectural, Attitudinal, Communication, Physical, Systemic, Technological
Communications	Board-wide	Continue to inform stakeholders that accessible formats are available upon request via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School communications;</li> <li>• Documentation of the YCDSB Branding Manual's Standard/Templates, Reports, Memos, and Presentations etc.;</li> <li>• Annual System Memo to raise awareness regarding accessibility and to inform staff;</li> <li>• Accessibility information in Student Agendas and other key publications;</li> <li>• Board and school websites.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Communication
Curriculum	Board-wide	Administer & Review School Climate & Exit Surveys	Spring	Systemic
	Board-wide	Offer programming related to STREAM that is oriented to solving real-world challenges through a Catholic social justice lens.  Continue to increase awareness of the positive contributions made by people of African descent and include these learnings in the curriculum and continue to revise the YCDSB guiding resource for teacher planning entitled <i>Celebrating Black Excellence</i> .  Continue to enhance the YCDSB <i>Ambassadors of Welcome Program</i> that focuses on peer mentorship for ESL students who are new to Canada.	Spring  February  Ongoing	Systemic
	Board-wide	Obtain a professional analysis of the York Catholic Student Census to collect, analyze and use identity-based student data to support closing achievement and opportunity gaps.	September	Systemic

	Central Board Office	Draft a new policy in response to the Policy Review Committee's request for a new Policy on Truth and Reconciliation	September	Systemic
	All Schools	Provide schools the opportunity to write a Land Acknowledgment for their own communities.	Spring	Systemic
		Continue to build awareness of Ontario's <i>Creating Pathways to Success: An Education &amp; Career/Life Planning Program for Ontario Schools</i> framework for Kindergarten - Grade 12.	June	Systemic
		Continue to build the capacity of administrators, staff, and students with respect to the individual pathway plan (IPP) via the work being done by Pathways Consultants.  Continue to increase use of the new Co-Op curriculum to allow more opportunities for students to have this experience.  Continue to build awareness of Experiential Learning opportunities with staff.  Continue to develop and implement Institute for Catholic Education (ICE) training modules.	Ongoing	Systemic
		Continue to develop & implement initiatives that provide direct support for marginalized students including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESL retreats;</li> <li>• Indigenous Cultural Competency training;</li> <li>• 2SLGBTQ+ Support.</li> </ul> Continue to promote the selection of resources suitable for engaging in culturally relevant and responsive pedagogy (CRRP) through the use of the YCDSB's CRRP Toolkit.  Continue to promote Pathway opportunities for marginalized students including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP);</li> <li>• Dual Credits;</li> <li>• College and University options.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Systemic/Attitudinal

Facilities	St Theresa of Lisieux	Braille Signs	July	Communication
	Pope Francis	Calming Room	August	Physical
	St. John Chrysostom	Calming Room	August	Physical
	Our Lady of Grace	Calming Room	September	Physical
	St. Kateri Tekawitha	Barrier-Free Washroom/Calming Room	August	Physical
	St. Mark	Special Needs Washroom	August	Physical
Human Resources	System Wide	With our employee group partners, continue to build awareness of the Board's <i>Employee Wellness Program</i> among all Board employees (Workplace Emergency Response Information; Individual Accommodation Plans; Ergonomic Assessments; Return to Work Process; Redeployment).	Ongoing	Systemic/Attitudinal
	Central Board Office	Review the results of the Employee Survey to determine barriers to employee engagement in their daily work.	April	Systemic/Attitudinal
Human Rights and Equity	System Wide	Continue to provide Equity & Inclusion Training to New Administrators.	June	Systemic
Information Technology	System Wide	Provide all staff with VOIP - an automated voice messaging system that provides both easy access for both the account holder as well as any community members trying to communicate with an employee.	Spring	Communication



Student Services	CCH, SHH, OLG, SMKH, HCCA, SBAH	Purchased evacuation chairs for students who have mobility and/or egress needs (total # of schools with evac-u-trac chairs is up to 22; began in 2019)	December	Physical
	PFS, SMK, SPR, SKTA, HCAH, SHH	Accessibility assessments for schools with new students that have mobility needs and/or students with changing needs (e.g., accessible washroom, access buttons, widening of doors, emergency exit planning, ramps, stage access, etc.)	June	Physical
	SJdBH, SPR	Capacity building for safe equipment use, activities of daily living strategies, etc. in order to optimize students' independence while ensuring student and staff safety	June	Attitudinal
	ICN, CMS, FHN,	Access to Assistive Technology for students unable to access curriculum	June	Technological
	Secondary Schools	Implementation of the secondary Pathways to Employability (PEP) Program	September	Systemic
Transportation	System Wide	Continue to review transportation pick-up & drop-off locations to ensure accessibility needs of individuals are met with consideration of safe arrival and dismissal requirements for students with accessibility needs.	Yearly	Physical

## **12.0 Review and Monitoring Process**

With the approval of the York Catholic District School Board Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2018-2023 on June 19, 2018, the work of the IASC continues in the form of sub-committee work on an as needed basis. Action items outlined in the Board's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan are now integrated into departmental plans accordingly.

The IASC Committee Chairperson will ensure that in respect of the Board's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, the following steps take place:

- (a) At least once yearly, the plan is reviewed and updated in consultation with the Board's SEAC, YCPIC and other relevant stakeholders; and,
- (b) An annual status report on the progress of the measures taken to implement the plan is prepared and communicated to the Board and relevant stakeholders.
- (c) The plan is reviewed by the Director of Education and shared with the Board annually.

## **13.0 Communication of the Plan**

The Annual Accessibility Plan is posted on the Board's website at [www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca). The Board will accommodate requests for accessible formats of the Annual Accessibility Report upon request. Accessibility Feedback and Requests are available online at: <http://www.ycdsb.ca/about/accessibility.htm>

The Board will accommodate requests for accessible formats of the Plan.

Questions, comments or feedback regarding the Accessibility Plan may be directed to:

Domenic Scuglia, Director of Education  
(domenic.scuglia@ycdsb.ca)

Integrated Accessibility Standards Committee Chairperson  
York Catholic District School Board

## York Catholic District School Board

**Report To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Administration  
**Date:** November 29, 2022  
**Report:** YCDSB STREAM Centres of Excellence Report

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report has been developed as an information update for Trustees to provide a summary of the usage of the STREAM Centres of Excellence from April 2022 to December 2022.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Since the grand opening of the STREAM Centres of Excellence on March 31, 2022 to the upcoming Christmas Break, each of our 85 elementary schools will have had the opportunity to visit a STREAM Centre of Excellence three times, with some of our schools with larger student populations getting the opportunity to participate in four visits. Each STREAM session entails a full-day experience for any school physically visiting a STREAM Centre (one school per visit). In total, **301** face-to-face visits will be facilitated by December 23, 2022. Furthermore, **31** remote sessions were also made available to students previously enrolled in remote hub schools and currently enrolled in St. Teresa of Calcutta virtual school.

Across both the face-to-face and remote STREAM Centre sessions, primary classes account for **24%** of bookings, junior classes account for **44%** of bookings and intermediate classes account for **32%** of bookings. Since the end of June, we have successfully achieved our goal to expand our face-to-face offerings from six to eleven workshops. The table to the right indicates the number of bookings for each thematic workshop offered. All remote classes participated in a continuum of coding workshops. Training and curriculum planning is currently underway for our new virtual reality (VR) technology, with plans to provide workshop offerings using this technology in January 2023.

Thematic Workshop Offerings	Bookings
Designing A Clean Machine (Primary)	25
Designing A Balanced Community (Primary)	13
<b>NEW</b> Designing An Eco-Friendly Structure (Primary)	18
Designing A Playground (Junior)	36
Designing A Remote Transportation Device (Junior)	61
<b>NEW</b> Designing An Energy Efficient Amusement Park (Junior)	39
<b>NEW</b> Designing A PSA About Climate Change (Junior)	10
Designing A Motor Vehicle (Intermediate)	68
Designing A Scanning Machine (Intermediate)	11
<b>NEW</b> Designing A Sustainable Farming Device (Intermediate)	9
<b>NEW</b> Designing A Water Management Device (Intermediate)	11

Prepared by: Marisa Benakis, STREAM Consultant  
Reviewed & Submitted by: Anthony Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment Department  
Endorsed by: Eugene Pivato, Associate Director  
Domenic Scuglia, Director of Education

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT**

**Report To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Administration  
**Date:** November 29, 2022  
**Report:** Revisions to By-Laws as Per Regulation 463/97

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report is to inform the Board of Trustees of By-Law revisions stemming from [Regulation 463/97, Electronic Meetings and Meetings Attendance](#) which addresses Board member physical attendance requirements and public electronic access (see here for the entire regulation: [463/97](#))

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

From March 2019 onwards, the Ministry of Education of Ontario provided Boards with the opportunity to conduct virtual meetings due to the health concerns associated with COVID-19. The experience led to a number of considerations with respect to conducting meetings in a manner that maintained confidentiality and other meetings that enabled public participation.

On November 6, 2022, the Ministry released updates to the Regulation on Electronic meetings. Consequently, revisions have to be made to YCDSB By-Laws to reflect the directives in the Regulation (see Appendix A). As per our By-Law, changes have to come to one Board meeting for information and the subsequent Board meeting for action.

In addition, [Policy 104 Participation in Meetings Using Electronic Means](#) will now be revised and brought forward at the Policy Review Committee meeting of January 17, 2023.

**SUMMARY:**

Pursuant to By-law 5.1, amendments with a proposed text need to be presented at a Board meeting as information and then voted upon at the subsequent Board meeting. As such these proposed changes are being brought to the Board of Trustees so as to align the By-Laws with changes that have been made to The Education Act Regulation 463/97 *Electronic Meetings and Attendance*, effective November 15, 2022. They will be an action item at the December regular Board meeting.

Prepared and Submitted by: Eugene Pivato, Associate Director  
Endorsed by: Domenic Scuglia, Director of Education

## Appendix A

Note: new language is in italics.

### 3.1.2 Attendance

Attendance at meetings shall be in person or *by electronic means* ~~via teleconference call. Advance notice for Trustee participation via teleconference shall be communicated to the Secretary of the Board at least, but no less than, one hour before the commencement time of the meeting.~~

3.1.2.1 At all meetings of the Board and of the Committee of the Whole Board, in addition to the usual requirements for quorum, the ~~personal~~ *physical* presence in the meeting room at the Catholic Education Centre shall be required of:

- (a) The Chair or designate of the Board;
- (b) Not less than one other Trustee, other than the Student Trustee; and,
- (c) The Director of Education or his/her designate.

3.1.2.2 The Chair of the Board may participate in a meeting of the Board or of a Committee of the Whole Board by electronic means if:

- (a) Weather conditions do not allow the Chair to travel to the meeting *location safely*; or,
- (b) The Chair cannot be physically present at a meeting due to health related issues.

3.1.2.3 (a) If the Chair is not physically present then the Vice Chair will act as designate *and will Chair the meeting (3.1.2.1a).*

NOTE: At all times at least 2 trustees must be physically present.

3.1.2.4 *Notwithstanding 3.1.1.2 the Chair or Vice-Chair (as designate 3.1.2.3(a)) must be physically present for at least half of the Board meetings, including Committee of the Whole, for any twelve month period beginning November 15th.*

3.1.2.5 *A trustee shall be physically present in the meeting room of the board for at least three regular meetings of the Board during each twelve month period beginning November 15. For clarity, a trustee must be physically present for at least one regular meeting of the Board for each period of four full calendar months ending the following November 14 th.*

3.1.2.6 *The requirements for persons to be physically present at meetings do not apply if all schools are closed pursuant to an order (Ont Reg 463/97).*

#### 4.1.7 Attendance

Attendance at meetings shall be in person or *by electronic means* ~~via teleconference call. Advance notice for Trustee participation via teleconference shall be communicated to the Secretary of the Board at least, but no less than one hour before the commencement time of the meeting.~~

4.1.7.1 At all committee meetings, in addition to the usual requirements for quorum, the *physical* ~~personal~~ presence in the meeting room at the Catholic Education Centre shall be required of:

- (a) The Chair or designate of the committee
- (b) The Director of Education or his/her designate

4.1.7.2 The Chair of a Committee may participate in a meeting by electronic means if:

- (a) Weather conditions do not allow the Chair to travel to the meeting *location safely*; or,
- (b) The Chair cannot be physically present at a meeting due to health related issues.

4.1.7.3 (a) If the Chair is not physically present then the Vice Chair will act as the designate *and will Chair the meeting* (4.1.7.1.a)

(b) If neither the Chair nor the Vice Chair are physically present, then ~~the~~ a committee member present at the Catholic Education Centre ~~may shall be elected one of themselves as~~ Chair for the purposes of the meeting. *If no committee member is physically present at the Catholic Education Center then the meeting will stand adjourned and will be rescheduled.*

4.1.7.4 *Notwithstanding 4.1.7.2 the Chair or Vice-Chair (as designate 4.1.7.3(a)) must be physically present for at least half of the committee meetings for any twelve month period beginning November 15 th.*

4.1.7.5 *The requirements for persons to be physically present at meetings do not apply if all schools are closed pursuant to an order (Ont Reg 463/97).*



# York Catholic District School Board

Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1  
Tel: 905-713-1211, 416-221-5051, 1-800-363-2711, Voice Mail Box: 17133  
Fax: 905-713-1272 • www.ycdsb.ca



November 22, 2022

## NOTICE OF MOTION

### An Annual Day of Celebration of All Saints

- Whereas** The exemplary lives of our saints provide us with inspiration, motivation and hope;
- Whereas** Such lives should be celebrated;
- Whereas** Such celebration will give our students a deep understanding of the lives of our saints;
- Whereas** Such understanding will encourage our students to model saintly lives;

### LET IT BE RESOLVED

**THAT** the York Catholic District School Board establish an annual Board-wide **Day of Celebration of All Saints** to be held the last week of October each year

**THAT** the day be one where schools named after saints will engage in activities exploring and celebrating the lives of their saints

**THAT** schools not named after a saint, will adopt a Patron Saint of their choice and engage in activities exploring and celebrating the lives of their Patron Saint

**THAT** the day include a Board-wide Mass of Celebration of All Saints

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Alexander  
Trustee  
Markham: Area 2: Wards 4, 5, 7, 8

Reference No. 2023:01:1122:FA



# York Catholic District School Board

Catholic Education Centre, 320 Bloomington Road West, Aurora, Ontario L4G 0M1  
Tel: 905-713-1211, 416-221-5051, 1-800-363-2711, Voice Mail Box: 17133  
Fax: 905-713-1272 • www.ycdsb.ca

November 22, 2022



## NOTICE OF MOTION

### Equity Within York Catholic District School Board

- Whereas** There are socio-economic differences within York Region;
- Whereas** These differences create severe inequities within York Catholic District School Board;
- Whereas** These inequities place many students at an academic disadvantage;
- Whereas** These inequities must be remedied in keeping with our VISION, MISSION and VALUES.

#### LET IT BE RESOLVED

**THAT** at the end of every school year the top performing elementary and secondary schools within York Catholic District School Board are identified;

**THAT** an analysis is done to identify the Critical Success Factors (CSF's) that make them successful;

**THAT** the CSF's include not only academic performance metrics, but also:

- Availability of tools, equipment, computers, devices, etc.;
- Teaching methodologies employed;
- Teacher training and experience;
- Catholicity practices;
- Processes and procedures;
- Levels of engagement.

**THAT** a Gap Analysis be done using the CSF measures against all other YCDSB schools;

**THAT** an Action Plan be prepared and executed to close all gaps for the start of the up-coming school year;

**THAT** a Regional Equity Fund be created and funded by an Annual Equity Fundraiser;

**THAT** charities and other organizations for whom York Catholic District School Board raises funds, donate back to YCDSB a minimum of 10% of the funds raised to be deposited into the Equity Fund;

**THAT** Administration put together a plan for execution by August 2023;

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Alexander  
Trustee  
Markham: Area 2: Wards 4, 5, 7, 8

Reference No. 2023:02:1122:FA

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Frank S.D. Alexander, Trustee – Markham Area 2: Wards 4,5,7 & 8  
(Milliken/Markham/Unionville)  
frank.alexander@ycdsb.ca • Home: 905-479-8285



## York Catholic District School Board

**Report To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Administration  
**Date:** November 29, 2022  
**Report:** Catholicity in our Board

---

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report was developed for the purpose of reviewing a proposal for the auditing of all YCDSB schools to gather information around non-compliance of the Board Motion titled *Protecting the Cross*, passed at the YCDSB Board Meeting on September 27th, 2023. It details considerations regarding next steps as staff move to operationalize this motion.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Trustee Motion below, put forth by Trustee Alexander, passed on September 27th, 2023:

Motion Name: Protecting and Preserving our Catholic Faith and the Symbol of our Faith

*Whereas our Catholic Faith, including the symbols of our Faith, is under relentless attack both from within and without York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB);*

*Whereas the Cross is the most important symbol of our Faith;*

*Whereas Jesus suffered and died for us on the Cross;*

*Whereas His should be the only memory associated with the Cross.*

*THAT whenever and wherever the Cross is used in the YCDSB, including prayer, and religious instruction, that the Cross be bare and devoid of any other symbols;*

*THAT this Motion be a perpetual and enduring prayer, asking God to forgive all persons who offend the image of the Cross.*

Pursuant to the above-named motion, Chair Alexander has requested a YCDSB-wide audit of crosses to ensure compliance and that results be shared with the Trustees at a future meeting.

### **OPPORTUNITIES:**

A board-wide audit would provide the necessary data to inform the above-named motion in order to ascertain the extent to which crosses are covered, i.e, not “bare”, as per the language of the motion, in our schools and Catholic Education Centre, and also as they are represented across various YCDSB print and digital media. Conducting a review of this information would subsequently provide an opportunity to uphold and honour the spirit of the motion in an informed manner. This process would entail board-wide staff remedying those crosses that are adorned (“covered”, as per the language of the motion), in order to then be in alignment with the motion. Finally, this audit would also serve the purpose of providing staff the opportunity to explicitly focus on the importance of the faith dimension of our board’s mission.

### **CHALLENGES:**

One challenge in pursuing this audit would be the logistical considerations. To take an inventory of every cross throughout the board, whether an actual physical cross, or an image found in print or digital media, may involve the need to hire additional staff, who would then be required to visit each of our schools, complete a visual check of all the crosses in each respective school building, as well as those at the Catholic Education Centre, and document results. This would be a labour-intensive process that would take a considerable amount of time, potentially lasting until the conclusion of the school year.

A possible alternative to the first option would be a local audit/scan conducted at the local level. A Google Form

could be created and shared with our school administrators. This Form would include a detailed list of “look fors” with regard to this audit.

Whether either option, or an alternative, is chosen, it would be necessary to delineate clear criteria, with specific examples, as a point of reference when conducting the audit. This process would be complicated by the fact that many resources in the Catholic faith tradition, including those created specifically with the assistance of Catholic Bishops for use in Catholic schools, include images of crosses which have been adorned. Defining ‘bare’ and establishing a criteria for what would satisfy this characterization, would require some clarification. For example, the general instruction of the Roman Missal affirms that a cross bearing the figure of Christ crucified (not bare) should be affixed on or close to the altar in a Catholic Church. Catholics may cover crucifixes and images in veils as part of acknowledging liturgical seasons of the year. Many Catholic cultures include images on the cross – e.g. a Celtic cross, the colourful crosses featured on our Board’s foundational Religious Education resource, *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ*, to name two – as part of demonstrating reverence for Jesus and the cross as a most important symbol of our Catholic faith. (Please see Appendix A.) The assistance of trustees with regard to the criteria to be utilized for the implementation of this motion would be useful.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. THAT trustees identify a preferred option to conduct this audit: hiring additional staff; or, requesting that it be completed by Principals/Vice Principals, as detailed above; or, some other option suggested by trustees.
2. THAT Trustees provide specific criteria which can be shared with the system for use when audits are being conducted.

Prepared by: David Pimentel, Principal of Religious Education, Family Life, Adult Faith, & Equity

Reviewed & Submitted by: Anthony Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment Department

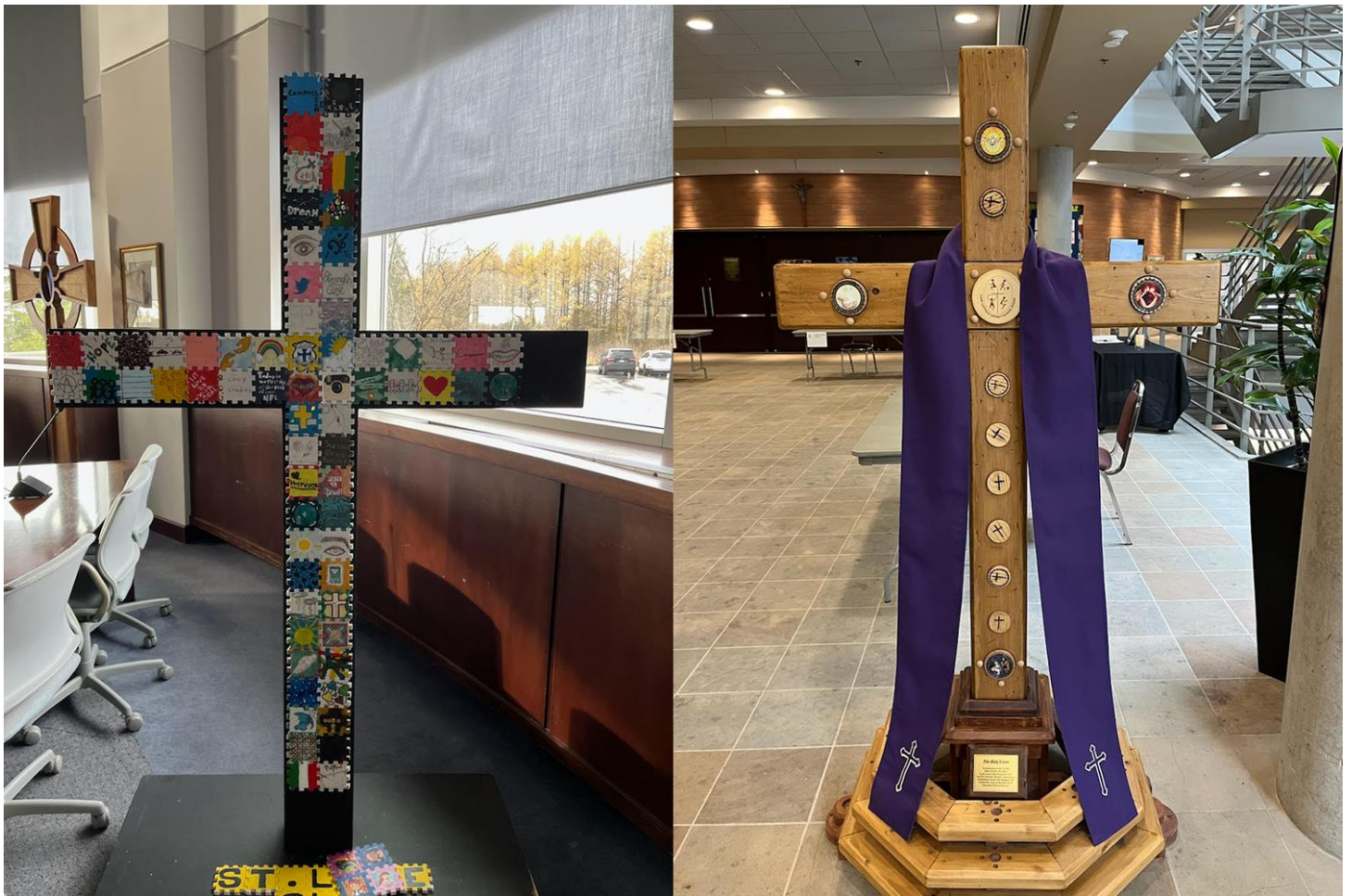
Endorsed by: Eugene Pivato, Associate Director  
Domenic Scuglia, Director of Education

## APPENDIX A

Please find images retrieved from a variety of Catholic sources, consistent with the tenets of Catholic beliefs and traditions.



Here are some images currently residing in our schools, and reflecting our foundational teaching resources.



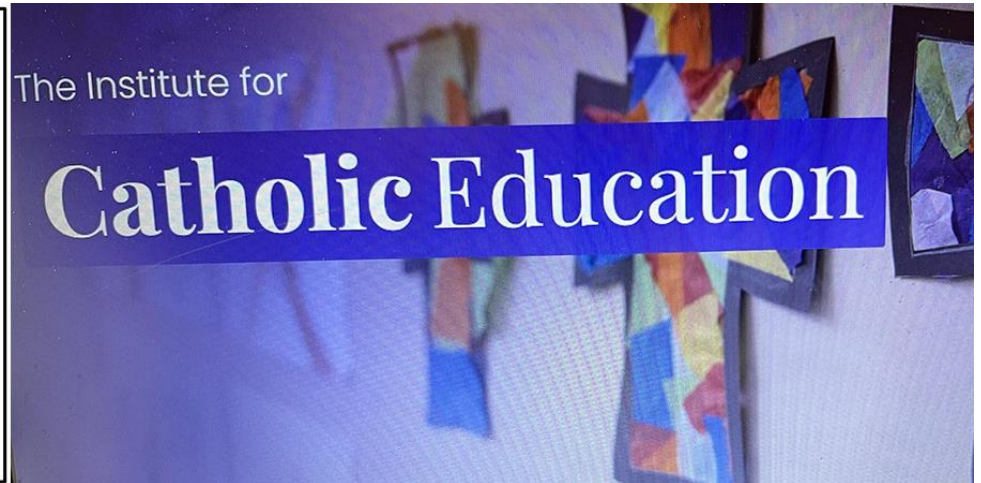
The cross on the left has been on display in the CEC Boardroom, and is an art installation created by a group of our own secondary students, identified with autism, while the one on the right reflects the season of Advent with the purple draping.

Here are representations of crosses from some of the Catholic education agencies with which YCDSB is affiliated:





CARFLEO



INSTITUTE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION



CANADIAN CONFERENCE of  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS LOGO



THE CATHOLIC REGISTER WEBSITE HOMEPAGE

CATHOLIC EDUCATION:  
**WALKING**  
forward  
together



On the left here are two of the more prominent crosses housed in the Vatican Museum, alongside Pope John Paul II's Coat of Arms.



# January 2023

Jan 11—Director's Council  
 Jan 12—Trustee Orientation #3 7:00 pm  
 Jan 16—SEAC 7:00 pm  
 Jan 17—Policy Review 6:30 pm  
 Jan 18—Trustee Orientation #4 7:00 pm  
 Jan 20—PA Day Elementary Only  
 Jan 20-21—OCSTA Trustee Seminar  
 Jan 24—Executive 3:00 pm (Public)  
 Jan 24—Executive 4:00 pm (Private)  
 Jan 28—SAL 8:45 am  
 Jan 30—YCPIC 7:00 pm  
 Jan 31—Committee of the Whole 6:30 pm  
 Jan 31—Regular Board 7:30 pm

## February 2023

Feb 1—YR Priest Zone Meeting 10:30 am  
Feb 3— PA Day—E/S  
Feb 6—Student Success & Pathways 6:30 pm  
Feb 8—Director's Council  
Feb 13—SEAC 7pm  
Feb 15—AKOMA Info Night  
Feb 17—S.A.L. 8:45 am  
Feb 20—Family Day—HOLIDAY  
Feb 21—Executive 3pm (Public)  
Feb 21—Executive 4:00 pm (Private)  
Feb 22—Ash Wednesday  
Feb 22—Human Resources Committee 5pm  
Feb 28 —Committee of the Whole 6:30 pm  
Feb 28—Regular Board 7:30 pm

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