

YORK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES

of the Regular Board Meeting

Monday, October 30, 2023

PRESENT:

Members: In Person: F. Alexander, M. Barbieri, C. Cotton, E. Crowe, J. DiMeo, A. Grella, M. Iafrate, T. McNicol (left at 10:30 pm), A. Saggese, J. Wigston
Student Trustees J. James, A. Zamanifar
Virtual: Student Trustee M. Galstyan

Administration: In Person: D. Scuglia, J. Sarna, R. Antunes, A. Arcadi, A. Battick, M. Brosens, D. Candido, J. Chiutsi, K. Elgharbawy, T. Laliberte, C. McNeil, S. Morrow, B. Pageau, L. Paonessa, T. Pechkovsky, L. Sawicky, S. Wright, A. McDonald
Virtual: N/A

Absent with Notice: N/A

Recording Officer: S. Greco

Presiding F. Alexander, Chair of the Board

2023:439 CALL TO ORDER / OPENING PRAYER

Chair of the Board, Frank Alexander welcomed everyone to the Regular Board Meeting and welcomed the Religious Education Department to lead the opening prayer at 7:32 pm. The Land Acknowledgement followed.

2023:440 ROLL CALL – All present

2023:441 APPROVAL OF NEW MATERIAL:

Revised TRUSTEE MOTION: Temporary Hiring Freeze

MOTION: Saggese/Wigston

THAT the new material be approved as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED -

2023:442 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Trustee DiMeo requested that his motion 16d) Temporary Hiring Freeze be expedited to action. Trustee Cotton stated that she would not support the Motion as it was written as there were items that Trustees do not have the ability to do. It was agreed that the Motion be moved to Discussion 17b and then action at the Special Board Meeting of November 13, 2023.

*Update on Pope Francis CES Portapak Information item 18 n) -verbal- added
Expansion of the Secondary Gifted Program for Academic and Creative Extension (PACE) Move from 16c Action to 17a Discussion*

MOTION: Cotton/DiMeo

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

- MOTION CARRIED -

2023:443 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR CURRENT MEETING: NIL

2023:444 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: NIL

2023:445 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

Regular Board Meeting of September 26, 2023

Special Board Meeting of October 17, 2023

MOTION: Iafrate/Barbieri

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 26, 2023 and Special Board Meeting of October 17, 2023, be approved as presented.

– MOTION CARRIED –

2023:446 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: NIL**2023:447 CHAIR'S REPORT / UPDATE / INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGES:**

Frank Alexander, Chair of the Board provided his report in the October 30, 2023 Regular Board Agenda package. Topics included: St. Rene Goupil-St. Luke CES Upper Canada Child Care Centre Grand Opening Ceremony, Blessed Ozanam Parish Fundraising Gala, Father Patrick Fogarty Awards, YCDSB Board Retirement, YCDSB Interview on OMNI News, November Religious Observances and Feast Days.

a) Newcomer Orientation Week Program (Video)

A video filmed at Our Lady Queen of the World CA (OLQW) highlighting the Newcomer Orientation Week was shared. The video featured YCDSB student leaders from Father McGivney CA, St. Elizabeth CHS, Our Lady Queen of the World CA and St. Robert CHS, as well as Principal John Heinrich. Each summer, OLQW hosts the Newcomer Orientation Week that prepares our young people and those from other ESL centres to experience Canadian high school experience. Student leaders from each of the centers are trained the week before and then assist in the leadership of the actual week.

b) Student Exchange Video

A video that our French partners created during the time YCDSB students spent on the student exchange in France was shared. This was a very positive experience and the students and parents were grateful for the opportunity to participate.

c) Acceptance of Petition from Trustee Wigston

Trustee Wigston submitted a petition that she had received to the Board of Trustees, entitled, "*St. Cecilia Boundary Review and Transportation*" with 75 signatures.

2023:448 OCSTA / BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:

Trustee Jennifer Wigston, OCSTA Regional Director representing York Catholic District School Board, provided her report in the October 30, 2023 Regular Board Agenda package. Topics included OCSTA Speaker Series, 2024 Catholic Trustee Seminar on January 19-20, 2024.

2023:449 DIRECTOR'S REPORT / UPDATE:

Director of Education, Domenic Scuglia provided his report in the October 30, 2023 Regular Board Agenda package. Topics included: Clarification on Communications to Vaughan Families, Mental Illness Awareness Week, National Custodian Day, World Teachers Day, Thanksgiving Day, World Mental Health Day, Child Care Workers and ECE Appreciation Day, Bus Driver Appreciation Day, PA Day Focused on School Improvement, EQAO, Cyber Security Month, NACCA Fundraising Gala & Volunteer Appreciation Night, Halloween/All Hallows Eve, Secondary School Open Houses, Signing of Williams Treaty, Indigenous Website Launch, Welcome to Interim Human Rights and Equity Advisor, Cross Country Meets, York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education, WFMP Conference, Prayer for Peace, School Visits, Monthly Observances.

Trustee Carol Cotton expressed her gratitude and appreciation to school administrators for the tremendous improvement in the quality and professionalism of communication going from schools to parent communities. In response, Director Scuglia advised that he would extend her gratitude to the Principals at the next Director's Council.

2023:450 STUDENT TRUSTEES' REPORT:

Student Trustee Monica Galstyan reported as follows:

"Now that the hurdle of ice breakers and awkward greetings are over, schools all over the YCDSB have been blooming with joy and activity. At the YSCPC meeting held on Monday, October 23rd, student leaders from secondary schools across the board came together virtually to further explore their Catholic Faith. Students watched insightful videos and participated in later discussions involving integrating Catholic faith into daily lives, fostering respectful cultures to honour human dignity, and developing positive schools through Catholic values. A key takeaway for student leaders was understanding the interconnectedness of noticing, note-ing, and declaring. It is imperative to not only understand and acknowledge your faith, but to understand how you may bring it forward in your day-to-day lives. Furthermore, students highlighted many initiatives which have been established in each of their secondary schools. For example, chaplaincy and international councils, mass choirs, peer ministry, and even faith related games and trivia!

The meeting did not end here, however. As prompted by YSCPC, student representatives from each school collaborated to summarize key events from each of their schools in the past month. Some common occurrences included grade 9 Muskoka orientations, Terry Fox runs and pep rallies, the selling of Student Price Cards, Thanksgiving food and clothing drives, various Teacher Appreciation Day initiatives, and so much more! Needless to say, YCDSB students have been on their feet, demonstrating exemplary leadership and fostering active and vibrant school communities day in and day out.

Moreover, during the month of October, most YCDSB secondary schools have organized their annual awards ceremonies to celebrate and acknowledge the accomplishments of students in all of our schools. Student Trustees James, Zamanifar and I would like to extend our warm congratulations to all students who have received awards for the tireless work they put into their education, as well as all other students on their accomplishments in the previous school year. Your passion, strength and commitment are what allows our school communities to grow every day.

On Saturday, October 24th, the Catholic Community Services of York Region hosted a spectacular "Welcome to Canada" Orientation Day within one of our very own secondary schools. This event was curated specifically for immigrant parents and students who are just learning the guidelines of Canadian education. With workshops for students from K-12, the event was a wonderful welcome to many families that may soon find themselves joining a York Catholic Secondary School now or in upcoming years. Thank you to all of the administrators who organized the event, as well as all YCDSB students who volunteered to translate, organize services and resources, performances, and informative talks for the community. The students of our board would like to extend warm welcomes to all families joining our rich community.

Finally, myself and my partners were incredibly grateful and privileged to attend the Ontario Student Trustees Association's Fall General Meeting two weekends ago. The experience was unforgettable and difficult to put into words – from meeting incredibly talented and accomplished students trustees across Ontario and developing skills and resources for us to return to our school board this year, I will pass it to Student Trustee Zamanifar to further expand on not only the conference, but her first month as a senior student trustee!"

Student Trustee Amira Zamanifar reported as follows:

"I am so happy and grateful to have experienced my first month as a Student Trustee alongside Student trustees Galstyan and James. I also had the pleasure of meeting my fellow student trustees across Ontario from October 19th to the 22nd. Student Trustees Galstyan, James and I had the privilege of attending the OSTA-AECO's Fall General Meeting. I quickly learned and was amazed by just how well student trustees could function on such few hours of sleep. But aside from all the laughs and fun memories we all shared, we all learnt so much through a variety of workshops, speakers, important discussions and networking with one another. The theme and core vision for the weekend was surrounding the 3 important L's, and not Live, laugh, love but Learning,

Leverage and Legacy. OSTA-AECO is continuing to commit to making sure each student trustee is learning the professional skills needed, using our role and leverage to support our board, and thinking about the legacy we want to leave behind. These goals were continuously supported throughout the weekend with opportunities to learn about items from learning presentational skills and directing impactful meetings to understand our rights and navigating post-secondary pathways. As for us catholic student trustees, we were able to connect with our community and share similar issues we face as well as success stories as Christ followers and leaders. Throughout all these faith-based conversations, 3 pillars remained at the center: providing catholic student support, promoting catholic community engagement and fostering faith and equity throughout our boards. It was a lovely weekend and we are so privileged to have been a part of it!

Last Thursday I had the pleasure of attending the Catholic Leadership Youth Forum 2023 on October 26. Although the forum is usually held biennially it was back for the first time in 4 years due to Covid and it was so refreshing to see a variety of catholic students coming together in important conversation and connecting. This year's theme was "Awake, Arise, Announce! The Glory of the Lord is Within and Among You". It highlighted the ways we are called to awaken and grow in deeper relationships with God and one another as disciples. I also had the pleasure of being a facilitator at the forum and was able to hear firsthand the views and opinions students had about the keynote speaker; Father Tony Ricard. Meeting and uniting with fellow catholic leaders and students was a powerful moment and opportunity I'm certain we all valued."

Student Trustee Jonah James reported as follows:

October was a busy month.

"On September 29th, 2023, the YCDSB acknowledged Orange Shirt Day. The event was held at the CEC and streamed to schools across the board. But this year, the presentation was spearheaded by the students of the 95th Call to Action ReconciliAction trip. The Presentation was delivered with the help of Todd Jamieson and Mim Harder, who shared their wisdom and knowledge with the many students watching. The event was a beautiful success and reinforced the YCDSB's commitment to reconciliation—special Thanks to Ms. King, Mr. Galatianos, Todd Jamieson, Mim Harder, and the students of the 95th Call to Action trip, who made this event possible.

But the action didn't end there. September 29th also served as a day of action for the students of the 95th call to action. The "gentle leaders" who helped with the presentation, stayed back for a day of action at the CEC. The students worked on their calls to action plan, writing a draft proposal about their school's call to action. With guidance from Mim and Todd, these plans received the care and attention needed to get off the ground. Students will continue to work with each other, but with their respective school communities as well, to see their plans and vision come to fruition. We look forward to seeing the projects come to life in our schools, and we wish our "gentle leaders" the best of luck on their journey to help the YCDSB community in our goal toward reconciliation.

Throughout October 19th-22nd, the YCDSB Students Trustees Attended the OSTA-AECO FGM conference in Toronto. OSTA-AECO conferences have always been an integral part of student trustees, as they not only act as an opportunity to network and collaborate with student trustees across the province but also as a space of collective action, where Students work together to further a cause, and bring solutions to the table for the students of Ontario. The Catholic Education Interest Group (formally known as the Catholic Board Council), used FGM to familiarize new and old students trustees with the world of Catholic Education in Ontario. CEIG was joined by Pat Daly from OCSTA, to talk about the continued commitment of collaboration between the two organizations. Catholic Student Trustees and Catholic Trustees have a special bond, and we are truly happy to see the bond between CEIG and OCSTA continuing to grow stronger, every day. I continue to be amazed by the Catholic Education Interest group, and I look forward to continuing working with the amazing Catholic Education Cabinet, members of the Catholic EIG, and the various stakeholders of Catholic Education. The collaborative work of Student Trustees doesn't end there, as Student Trustees also work together on furthering the goals of their new, respective Advocacy Interest Group (AIG). With Trustee Zamanifar and I working with the newly formed Curriculum AIG, and Trustee Galstyan working with the Student Well-being AIG, we look forward to

collaborating with other student trustees in advancing the work of these AIGs and collaboratively working on how we all can improve these very important aspects of Education. Overall, the conference was truly an amazing experience, and we look forward to our continued work and commitment to the great student leaders at OSTA-AECO.

The YSCPC has been up to some truly amazing and impactful stuff. As you've heard from Trustee Galstyan, the YSCPC has concluded their meeting on Catholic faith in our schools. The YSCPC has also begun two truly amazing projects. The first project is the "Good News Movement". Every month, 2 high schools will be featured on the YSCPC Instagram, where High schools create a video demonstrating acts of kindness and benevolence in their schools. The videos are promoted on the YSCPC Instagram page, with the purpose of spreading positivity, helping students interact more compassionately with each other, and elevate school spirit. The first edition was from Father Bressani, who created a truly wholesome video that will melt your heart. This month's edition will be from St. Theresa of Lisieux and Sacred Heart. The second Project is the "YSCPC Secret Santa Envelopes for Indigenous Children". The YSCPC has partnered with Hands Up Canada, a registered charity that supports education in ensuring that students from poor, underemployed, and disadvantaged families and communities. This new YSCPC initiative represents an opportunity for students to build more collaboration, unity, and positive relationships between the YCDSB schools and the Indigenous communities. This year, generous students from 7 YCDSB schools are enthusiastic to send Secret Santa presents and bring Christmas cheer to 75 Indigenous children from Kindergarten to Grade 3 in a school in Nunavut.

These are some truly amazing projects, and we look forward to seeing the many amazing projects that will come from YSCPC.

And that concludes the first ever, 3 YCDSB student Trustee report!"

2023:451 RECOGNITIONS / OUTSIDE PRESENTATIONS: NIL

2023:452 DELEGATIONS:

Chair Alexander welcomed the Delegations and recited the following:

"The York Catholic District School Board recognizes that stakeholders should have an opportunity to address the Board of Trustees. The Board has established a delegation process and this process is clearly outlined in Policy 106 Delegations to the Board and Input to Agenda Items. This policy reflects the guidelines to which delegations may come forward. To YCDSB community members visiting tonight, I wish to be very clear that views expressed by the delegations are those of the speakers. We will not be engaging in question or debate and I will be asking Trustees if they have questions at the end of your presentation for clarification. Please be reminded that York Catholic District School Board promotes positive, respectful, and civil behaviour. Therefore, the expectation is to treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, and if you do not adhere to these instructions, your delegation will be terminated."

a) St. Cecilia CES & Feeder Schools

Patrizio Tempio expressed her feedback regarding the latest boundary review within the St. Cecilia CES community. Ms. Tempio wanted the Maple students to stay in Maple and not be bussed which made it difficult for participation in extracurricular activities.

b) St. Cecilia CES Student Feeding into St. Joan of Arc CHS

Annette Badali-Santilli conveyed her thoughts on the decision to change the boundaries for students to attend St. Elizabeth. Ms. Badali-Santilli was in favour of the staff recommendation to keep alignment with St. Elizabeth CHS.

2023:453 JOURNEY TOWARDS OUR VISION:**a) Math Achievement Action Plan**

A. Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment introduced Maria Rosa Schniering and Robert Ball, Math Consultants to introduce the Math Achievement Action Plan. The goal of the Math Achievement Action Plan is to support student achievement and results in math to meet provincial standards, with a focus on high-impact instructional practices to improve math performance. A summary of the current Ministry funding and support structure was shared. The Ministry of Education provided three priorities that will be implemented at the Board, school and classroom level. Each priority identified the board-level, school-level and classroom-level strategy that will be in place. The Ministry of Education identified schools based on the lowest percentage of EQAO scores. The Board will disseminate the PD and content knowledge to support math academic achievement efforts at the identified schools. The Ministry will monitor the progress of the 1.4 FTE facilitators to support math.

Priority schools include: St. Bernadette CES (Grade 3, 6), St. Brendan CES (Gr 3), St. Joseph R/H (Grade 6), St. Peter CES (Grade 6), St. Jean de Brebeuf CHS (Grade 9), St. Joan of Arc CHS (Grade 9).

The Board of Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions for clarification. The Board of Trustees thanked staff for an informative presentation.

2023:454 ACTION ITEM(S) (including Committee Reports):**a) RECEIPT OF MATH ACHIEVEMENT ACTION PLAN****MOTION: Crowe/McNicol**

THAT the YCDSB Math Achievement Action Plan be received as presented.

- **MOTION CARRIED** -

b) ST. CECILIA CES SECONDARY BOUNDARY REVIEW – FINAL REPORT

A. McDonald, Manager of Accommodation Planning and Property provided the Board with a recommendation regarding the St. Cecilia Secondary Boundary Review. Consistent with the Board's Boundary Review Process, a Local Boundary Review Committee (LBRC) was formed and several meetings were held. A public Information Session took place on September 27, 2023, where two options were presented for review and comment by the community. The St. Cecilia CES Secondary Boundary Review was in response to Board direction to review the secondary feeder alignment. 257 responses were received from the feedback form and three emails were received (copy was included).

Trustee Angela Saggese thanked Mr. Pechkovsky and staff for the report, and expressed her concerns with the process and the format of the public meeting. In response to a question, Mr. McDonald explained that data discrepancies related to schools outside the area were due to students attending on TCH19s. Trustee comments both for and against the staff recommendations included: the long-term viability of both high schools, needing to keep balance, making decisions based on future construction (projections), cost of transportation/fiscal responsibility, and taking into account community feedback.

Trustees Wigston and Grella both encourage fellow trustees to support the overwhelming community support for the staff recommendation.

After more debate, Trustee Saggese asked the mover and seconder if they would consider returning to dual feeder status for St. Cecilia CES. They agreed.

MOTION: Withdrawn

MOTION: Wigston/Grella

(from June 20, 2023, Regular Board Meeting)

THAT the motion in 2010 designating Area G as a dual feeder be rescinded to discontinue the dual feeder arrangement at Area G as of September 1, 2024, with the final alignment of St. Cecilia to be determined by the in-process boundary review.

THAT St. Cecilia CES, being located south of Major Mackenzie Drive, become a dual feeder to St. Joan of Arc CHS and St. Elizabeth CHS, including all Block 17 students. *(November 23, 2010 Regular Board Meeting)*

Trustee Saggese brought forward the following Motion:

TRUSTEE MOTION: Transportation to St. Joan of Arc Catholic High School (A. Saggese)

- Whereas** in accordance with YCDSB Policy 203 Student Transportation Services, eligibility for transportation to and/or from a student's designated home school is a function of the distance from their residence to their home school and grade level;
- Whereas** (a) A secondary student whose residence is more than 4.8 kilometers from their home secondary school, is eligible for Board-provided transportation.;
- (b) A secondary student whose residence is more than 3.2 kilometers from their home secondary school, whose home address is not transit served, is eligible for Board Approved Transportation;
- Whereas** students in the St Cecilia area who want to attend St. Joan of Arc CHS have no Direct access to the school.
- Whereas** the current transportation arrangements are in breach of board's policy:
- 3.11 Walking distances to school bus collector points (bus stops) are targeted at 400 meters for elementary students and 600 meters for secondary students. Walking distances are measured by STS using the most direct walking route.
- 3.11.1 Collector points may be added/ adjusted to address unique circumstances
- 3.11.1.1 A physical hazard, or barrier associated with the collector point, and/or pedestrian route to the collector point. Railroad tracks cause a hazard for students walking and crossing in this area.
- Whereas** students in Area G (St. Cecilia CES) are not properly public transit served and therefore eligible for bussing under board policy and denying them bussing would be contrary to board policy.

MOTION: Saggese/Wigston

THAT the exception to Policy #203 that was passed in April 26 2022 continues to provide all Students within Area G (St. Cecilia CES) with school transportation to attend St. Joan of Arc Catholic High School;

THAT the Board continues to provide students from the St. Cecilia CES community transportation to St. Joan of Arc CHS until the YRT incorporates public transit for the St. Cecilia CES school community and until the Secondary boundary review is completed for all Secondary Schools throughout the Board.

Trustee Crowe said that GO rail is expanding to all day service between Barrie and Union Station and the rail crossing at McNaughton is a hazard and so she supports the motion and seconded it.

MOTION: Saggese/Crowe

- **MOTION CARRIED-**

The Board of Trustees asked that the definition of non-transit served be referred to the newly formed Transportation Review Committee for further discussion/review/processing.

RECESS from 10:27 pm to 10:36 pm

Trustee Theresa McNicol left the meeting at 10:30 pm.

c) APPROVAL OF REPORT NO. 2023:03 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Board Vice Chair Maria Iafrate, presented for approval, Report No. 2023:03 of the Executive Committee meeting held on October 24, 2023.

MOTION: Iafrate/Barbieri

THAT the Ad-Hoc Transportation Review Committee be established.

THAT the Ad-Hoc Transportation Review Committee be added to the Trustee Committee Selection Sheet in preparation for the Inaugural Board Meeting taking place on Monday, November 20, 2023

- MOTION CARRIED -

d) APPROVAL OF REPORT NO. 2023:04 POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Maria Iafrate, presented for approval, Report No. 2023:04 of the Policy Review Committee meeting held on October 2, 2023.

MOTION: Iafrate/Cotton

THAT the Board approve the following revised policies:

Policy 115 Perquisites

Policy 119 Electronic Communications & Social Media

Policy 607 Sponsorships

Policy 413 Attendance Support Program

Policy 707 Acquisition and Development of School Sites

Policy 808 Travel, Meals and Expenses Reimbursement

Policy 118 Trustee Code of Conduct

- MOTION CARRIED -

e) RECEIPT OF REPORT NO. 2023:09 SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Jennifer Wigston presented for receipt, Report No. 2023:09 of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on October 17, 2023.

MOTION: Wigston/Barbieri

THAT the Report No. 2023:09 from the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on October 17, 2023 be received as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED -

f) RECEIPT OF REPORT NO. 2023:03 JOINT BOARD CONSORTIUM

Committee Member, Joseph DiMeo, presented for receipt, Report No. 2023:03 of the Joint Board Consortium meeting held on October 18, 2023.

MOTION: DiMeo/Wigston

THAT the Report No. 2023:03 from the Joint Board Consortium meeting held on October 18, 2023 be received as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED -

g) RECEIPT OF REPORT NO. 2023:03 AD-HOC INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE EXTENDED DAY COMMITTEE

Committee Chair, Angela Saggese, presented for receipt, Report No. 2023:03 of the Ad-Hoc International Language Extended Day Committee meeting held on October 19, 2023.

MOTION: Saggese/Iafrate

THAT the Report No. 2023:03 from the Ad-Hoc International Language Extended Day Committee meeting held on October 19, 2023 be received as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED -

h) RECEIPT OF REPORT NO. 2023:03 STUDENT SUCCESS & PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

Committee Chair, Angela Saggese, presented for receipt, Report No. 2023:03 of the Student Success & Pathways Committee meeting held on October 23, 2023.

MOTION: Saggese/Grella

THAT the Report No. 2023:03 from the Student Success & Pathways Committee meeting held on October 23, 2023 be received as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED –

i) RECEIPT OF REPORT NO. 2023:04 CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Committee Chair, Jennifer Wigston, presented for receipt, Report No. 2023:04 of the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on October 24, 2023.

MOTION: Wigston/Barbieri

THAT the Report No. 2023:04 from the Corporate Services Committee meeting held on October 24, 2023 be received as presented.

- MOTION CARRIED –

j) APPROVAL OF TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT TO YCDSB CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Board Chair Frank Alexander, presented for approval, the Trustee appointment for the YCSB Charitable Foundation.

MOTION Alexander/lafrate

THAT the Board appoint Trustees Michaela Barbieri, Elizabeth Crowe and Jennifer Wigston to the YCDSB Charitable Foundation Committee.

- MOTION CARRIED -

k) POLICY 106 DELEGATIONS TO THE BOARD

Trustee Elizabeth Crowe asked that the policy be forwarded to the Policy Review Committee for further processing.

MOTION: Crowe/lafrate

THAT Policy 106 Delegation to the Board be forwarded to the Policy Review Committee.

- MOTION CARRIED -

MOTION TO GO PAST 11:00 PM**MOTION: Crowe/lafrate**

- MOTION CARRIED –

2023:455

DISCUSSION ITEM(S):**a) Expansion of the Secondary Gifted Program for Academic and Creative Extension (PACE)**

D, Candido, Superintendent of Exceptional Leaders provided a report proposing the expansion of the secondary Gifted Program for Academic and Creative Extension (PACE). The expansion would increase the total number of secondary schools offering the PACE program from 4 schools to 8 schools. The new PACE programs would be introduced at the 4 secondary schools currently offering AP regional program. As a result, the current PACE boundary would be changed as of September 2025 with the understanding that Gifted student currently in grades 7-10 who are enrolled in the PACE program would have the option to attend the PACE program at the secondary high school based on the current boundaries or the new boundaries that take effect in September 2025.

Trustee Elizabeth Crowe expressed her concerns with the changes in the boundary and advised that further processing is required as it poses a dilemma that staff need to find a solution. This will assist Trustees to better understand how to respond to parent concerns.

Vice-Chair Iafrate had many questions with respect to the changes that are being proposed. Due to numerous questions, she suggested that her questions be sent to Superintendent Candido for her to review and to answer. Vice-Chair Iafrate noted that staff must understand that before any movement to this program is approved, it must come to the Board of Trustees as it falls under student success and well-being.

b) TRUSTEE MOTION: Temporary Hiring Freeze (J. DiMeo)

- Whereas** *the Board is currently in a deficit and as a result has many pressures throughout the Board;*
- Whereas** *the Board will be having an audit conducted by the Ministry of Education which could provide strategies to assist in effective management of Board processes;*
- Whereas** *the Board's Current practices for hiring personnel need to be followed.*

LET IT BE RESOLVED

- THAT** *effective immediately all hiring for new positions will cease until Ministry completes the York Catholic District School Board's audit;*
- THAT** *current vacant positions be brought to Trustees for approval;*
- THAT** *all vacancies including "backfills" cease effective immediately;*
- THAT** *when hiring resumes, going forward that the Board hiring policy be the framework for all hires because it is fair and transparent and follows Human Rights.*

Trustee DiMeo advised that he would be revising his Motion and will bring it forward for Action at the November 13, 2023 Special Board Meeting.

c) TRUSTEE MOTION: Advanced Placement / PACE Program (M. Iafrate, J. DiMeo)

- Whereas** *families have received communication regarding the changes to the location of their child's secondary school AP/PACE Program location beginning 2024-2025 which Trustees have not been provided, contrary to the Board's Communication Policy 110 and the student changes have left families feeling stressed and worried about possible Mental Health concerns for their children;*
- Whereas** *the changes have had a significant impact on these families in the community but yet there was no community consultation on the proposed changes, including a failure to establish a Boundary Review Committee as outlined in the Board's Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP);*
- Whereas** *the changes involve boundary changes which are not operational issues and require the approval of the YCDSB Board of Trustees for which there is no Board of Trustees resolution for the change;*
- Whereas** *PACE/Advanced Placement programming falls under the powers of the Board of Trustees and no such approval was given by Trustees for the programming change;*
- Whereas** *changes to the boundaries is part of the LTAP process but were done outside the LTAP process without engaging the boundary review process.*

MOTION: Iafrate/DiMeo

THAT any changes to the Advanced Placement/PACE Program stop immediately, including the cancellation of the Board staff's proposed changes expected to take effect for the 2024-2025 school year.

THAT any changes being considered by the Senior Staff of the Board to Advanced Placement /PACE Boundary or program changes be fully outlined in a detailed report to the Board of Trustees, explaining all the rationale for the proposed changes including students impacted, transportation costs, plans as to community consultation.

- MOTION CARRIED -

Staff was asked to prepare a Q&A to answer concerns and questions and to return with a report.

2023:456 INFORMATION ITEM(S):**a) YCDSB Gender, Sexuality and Catholic Education Committee Terms of Reference**

Board Chair Frank Alexander asked that the Terms of Reference be added to the Regular Board agenda to bring awareness to parents/guardians of the staff committee. Trustee Jennifer Wigston, OCSTA Regional Director representing York Catholic District School Board, asked that parents/guardians be referred to the OCSTA website for further information. Director Scuglia noted that part of the reason this Committee was created as it came from the data collected from students, indicating there is a marginalized community for whom there are gaps.

b) OCSTA Resolution Information Package

Board Chair Frank Alexander shared the OCSTA Resolution Information Package.

c) Policy 115 Perquisites – Annual Report

C. McNeil, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer of the Board reported on the perquisites in accordance with York Catholic DSB's *Policy 115 Perquisites*. No perquisites were requested or approved during the 2022-2023 school year.

d) Policy 203 Student Transportation Services – Semi Annual Report

T. Pechkovsky, Coordinating Manager Planning and Operations provided a summary of Transportation Exemptions approved by the Director for 2023-2024 as per *Policy 203 Student Transportation Services*.

e) Trustee Honoraria Term November 15, 2023 to November 14, 2024

C. McNeil, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer of the Board provided the Trustee honoraria rates for the term November 15, 2023 to November 14, 2024 in accordance with *Policy 114 Trustee Honorarium*.

f) Finding Transportation Efficiencies Thru School Bell Times Review

T. Pechkovsky, Coordinating Manager Planning and Operations provided a report regarding the review school bell times conducted by STSYR this past summer. Administration will continue to work with STSYR and YRDSB to explore a joint bell time review as well as other efficiencies and will provide updates to the Board accordingly. (*Trustee Crowe asked that her correct motion be included in the Board agenda package for October 30, 2023.*)

Vice-Chair Iafrate asked which five schools were identified to have their bells adjusted. How were the schools selected? What criteria was used? If the schools were identified in the report, it may have added to the understanding of why the Board would approve such a change (ie, high traffic area, etc). Any consideration given for community consultation, as they need to understand the logic. Further comments included why would we disrupt five schools, students, families, the community to save \$210K (30% of \$700K).

g) Stouffville Multi-Use Project Update

K. Elgharbawy, Superintendent of Facilities Services and Plant, provided an update on the progress of the Stouffville Multi-Use project. Recent photographs capturing the building's current state were provided in the report.

h) Curriculum Department Updates (from October 23, 2023 Student Success & Pathways Committee)

A Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment provided a copy of the presentation from the Curriculum Department provided at the Student Success & Pathways Committee Meeting of October 23, 2023.

i) Advanced Placement (AP) Multiplier

D. Candido, Superintendent of Exceptional Learners provided a summary of how YCDSB uses a multiplier of 1.05 (final percentage mark x 1.05) for all secondary AP-Prep and AP courses. Student Services will meet and consult with the Curriculum & Assessment Department, Principals

and AP teachers for further input to share with the Board. Vice-Chair lafrate asked that no further action with respect to AP/PACE including the multiplier until a full report is provided to the Board of Trustees.

j) Summer School Credit Courses in Italy

A Arcadi, Superintendent of Curriculum & Assessment provided a report to re-introduce offering summer school credit courses in Italy, beginning July 2024. Administration is still investigating options with approved travel providers and finalizing costs. Once completed, a parent information session will take place in order to gauge interest for this re-introduction.

k) November Calendar

The calendar was shared.

l) Pope Francis CES Portapak Update

K. Elgharbawy, Superintendent of Facilities Services and Plant, provided a verbal update and advised that significant progress has been made with the portapak's installation. The connection to the school is securely in place and the unit now has full power, sprinkler system is fully connected and operational. Substantial upgrades were made to the lighting by transitioning all fixtures to LED, reflecting the Board's commitment to energy efficiency and sustainability. The restoration of heat within the unit was scheduled for the week of October 30th, the Building Automation System is fully connected and functional. The team is working diligently to ensure the fire alarm system is fully verified which is the final step before proceeding to request full occupancy. The portapak is anticipated to be ready for occupancy by mid-November.

2023:457 NOTICES OF MOTION: NIL

2023:458 FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S) / REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

RECESS AT 11:20 PM TO RECONVENE THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION AT 11:37 PM

2023:459 APPROVAL OF REPORT NO. 2023:24 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Vice-Chair Maria lafrate presented, for approval, Report No. 2023:24 of the Committee of the Whole private session held on October 30, 2023.

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

(ii) CLASSIFIED:
MOTION: lafrate/Saggese

THAT the confidential action items from the Private Session held October 30, 2023 be approved as presented.

– MOTION CARRIED –

2023:460 ADJOURNMENT: 11:39 PM
ON MOTION: Barbieri/Crowe and CARRIED

Secretary of the Board

Chair of the Board