

## MINUTES

### Regular Board Meeting

**Tuesday, March 19, 2024, 7:00 p.m.  
Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre**

Trustees:	Luz del Rosario	Chair
	Thomas Thomas	Vice-Chair
	Brea Corbet	Trustee
	Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi	Trustee
	Darryl D'Souza	Trustee
	Bruno Iannicca	Trustee
	Mario Pascucci	Trustee
	Stefano Pascucci	Trustee
	Anisha Thomas	Trustee
	Christopher Joseph	Student Trustee
	Nathan Nguyen	Student Trustee
Regrets:	Shawn Xaviour	Trustee
	Herman Vilorio	Trustee
	Bailey Clyne	Indigenous Student Trustee
Staff:	Marianne Mazzorato, Ed.D.	Director of Education, Secretary to the Board
	Daniel Del Bianco	Associate Director, Corporate Services
	Julie Cherepacha	Executive Superintendent, Finance, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
	Dulcie Belchior	Superintendent, Family of Schools
	Wayne Brunton	Superintendent, Equity and Indigenous Education
	Ivana MacIsaac	Chief Information Officer
	Carmel Murphy	Superintendent, Program and Learning Services
	Laura Odo	Superintendent, Family of Schools
	Stephanie Strong	Superintendent, Human Resources and Employee Relations
	Mathew Thomas	Superintendent, Planning and Operations
	Margaret Beck	Counsel
	Bruce Campbell	General Manager, Communications and Community Relations
	Theresa Davis	General Manager, Human Resources
	Christiane Kyte	General Manager, Clinical Services and Special Education
	Richard Moriah	General Manager, Physical Plant Facilities
	Carrie Salemi	General Manager, Finance
Recorder:	Cindy Child	Board and Committee Information Officer

#### A. Routine Matters

1. Call to Order and Attendance  
Chair Luz del Rosario called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. National Anthem

The Chair acknowledged and thanked Martina Ortiz-Luis, Kibwe Thomas and Sole Power Productions for permission to use their recorded version of the national anthem.

3. Opening Prayer

Trustees Brea Corbet and Stefano Pascucci led the opening prayer and a prayer for the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin.

4. Land Acknowledgment - Christopher Joseph

5. Approval of Agenda

**Motion 1188 (24-03-19)**

**Moved by** Stefano Pascucci

**Seconded by** Darryl D'Souza

**THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE ADDITION OF IN CAMERA ITEMS L5a. and L5b.**

**CARRIED**

**Motion 1189 (24-03-19)**

**Moved by** Stefano Pascucci

**Seconded by** Darryl D'Souza

**THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED, AS AMENDED.**

**CARRIED**

6. Declaration of Interest

The following trustees declared an interest in agenda item L5a:

1. Trustee Mario Pascucci—family member belongs to OECTA
2. Trustee Bruno Iannicca—family members belong to OECTA and CUPE 2026
3. Trustee Stefano Pascucci—family member belongs to OECTA

**Motion 1190 (24-03-19)**

**Moved by** Anisha Thomas

**Seconded by** Thomas Thomas

**THAT THE DECLARED INTEREST ITEMS BE MOVED TO AGENDA ITEM L 8.**

**CARRIED**

7. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, February 27, 2024

**Motion 1191 (24-03-19)**

**Moved by** Thomas Thomas

**Seconded by** Anisha Thomas

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, FEBRUARY 27, 2024, BE APPROVED.**

**CARRIED**

- a. Business Arising from the Minutes - Attached.

**B. Pastor's Remarks:** Video Presentation by Monsignor Shiels - Lent

Chair Luz del Rosario asked Director Mazzorato to express our gratitude to Monsignor Shiels for his insightful words on Lent.

**C. Awards and Presentations - Nil**

**D. Delegations - Nil**

**E. Reports from Trustees for Receipt**

1. Regular Reports

- a. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Report

Trustee Mario Pascucci advised that the Large/Urban School Board Committee did meet on March 1.

- b. Student Voice Report

Student Voice Report: Student Trustees Nathan Nguyen (North) and Christopher Joseph (South) introduced themselves.

Indigenous Student Trustee Bailey Clyne is not present tonight as she is currently returning from New Zealand with the Indigenous Education Department. They traveled to learn about the Māori, the Indigenous people of New Zealand. We are looking forward to hearing about her experiences at our next board meeting.

On February 21, we held our Student Trustee election for the 2024-2025 school year. All speeches from the candidates who came forward demonstrated a commitment to Catholic education and uplifting student voice. We look forward to supporting the newly elected student trustees as they transition into their roles over the coming months. Congratulations once again to those elected. We are pleased to be leaving our seats to such well deserving future leaders.

On February 28, we combined our Student Senate meeting with the Equity Student Council and the Indigenous Student Council. We heard about the Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP). Students were able to ask questions and provide feedback. Students then heard from guest speaker Zoey Roy; a hip hop inspired spoken word poet. She led the students through a session on how to write a song about a topic of their choice. After choosing the topic of social justice, she walked us through picking a beat, writing a chorus, then writing a bridge. When finished writing the song we performed the song together. This simple task was a lesson in joy as a form of resistance and advocacy. In the afternoon students shared some initiatives that their schools have been working on to promote equity within their school communities. This was a way to network with others, and to demonstrate that collaboration between student groups in a school community is possible as most are working toward the same goals. To finish the day the students heard from Kevin Wendling, Assistant Superintendent, Math Lead. We heard how students in different grades

feel about Math and then students asked Assistant Superintendent Wendling questions.

On February 29, we had the opportunity to attend a Mental Health Advisory Committee meeting where two members of our Student Senate presented a report and highlighted school based initiatives. During the meeting it was announced that a follow-up *Elementary Well-Being Conferences* will be held in April for each Family of Schools. This was a recommendation from the Student Senate and the Mental Health champions. We are extremely grateful for this opportunity to reconvene with the elementary students to see how they have put their plans into action over the past few months.

March 1 marked Zero Discrimination Day, our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) working group collaborated successfully to create an Instagram video that spreads awareness of discrimination. The video demonstrates unity and how we stand together for diversity. Our Student Senate EDI Working Group also designed social media posts for Black Mental Health Week, and for International Women's Day to show solidarity.

c. Good News Reports

**Mario Pascucci**

**Mississauga Wards 1 & 3**

St. Basil Catholic Elementary School (CES) received a *Civic Award of Recognition* from the City of Mississauga for their outstanding leadership demonstrated in the field of active transportation and in promoting school zone safety. The enthusiasm and dedication of the school community: staff, students, parents/guardians and volunteers have exhibited and set an example for others to follow.

**Luz del Rosario**

**Mississauga Ward 6 & 11**

**DPCDSB Skilled Trades and Technology Students Showcase their Skills**

**Hosted by: Father Michael Goetz Catholic Secondary School (CSS)**

On March 6 over 230 secondary students competed in various trades-related and technology events. This included over 50 learners with differing abilities competing in Interview, Coding, Data Input and Job Demonstration Skills. Students who won Gold medals are now qualified to proceed to the Provincial Skills Competition on May 7 at the Toronto Congress Centre. Please see Appendix 1 for a list of Gold Medal Winners. Congratulations to all students who participated.

Special thanks to the Program Department headed by Superintendent Carmel Murphy, our Coordinators Irene Mota and Donna Indrakumaran, all the teachers and administrators of our secondary schools who encouraged these students, and to Father Michael Goetz CSS Principal Sharon Allegretto, Vice-Principals, Kristen Priestner and Ekwy Odozor for hosting this competition.

**St. Marcellinus CSS - Women Empowerment Student Society (WESS)**

Students were presented with a historical background of the progress and accomplishments of female leaders and innovators over the years. WESS is a newly established group of students who, since its inception, have coordinated different initiatives that have brought attention to issues of mental health and gender justice. The school assembly culminated with a video compiled of clips of female staff and students from St. Marcellinus CSS who shared their inspirational journeys with messages of hope and growth. Andrea Randall from the Salvation Army spoke about her life story of courage and determination, and her social justice work with youth, and encouraged all to value and live their authentic selves. Thank you to the Grade 11 WESS student leaders: Sophia Berry, Gretchen Dharmi, Aimalohi Akhibi, and Sierra Caputo, and the WESS staff advisor teacher Lucia Leo.

### **Ordinandi Youth Event**

#### **Hosted at the Pearson Convention Centre**

Approximately 850 students and staff from six Catholic school boards gathered to celebrate the gift of vocation and support the seminarians of the St. Augustine Seminary and the Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary, who with God's grace, will be ordained to the priesthood this coming Spring.

The theme was: *Called, Chosen, Sent!* Students heard from the seminarians and Sister Beata Victoria, from Sisters of Life, all shared their vocational stories. The Most Rev. Francis Leo, Archbishop of Toronto was also in attendance and inspired students to listen and pray as they recognize the loving presence of God in their lives.

The event provided 250 DPCDSB students and staff the opportunity to celebrate our Catholic faith and collective spirit in following the will of God and their own vocational journey. A special highlight of the event was to recognize two of the Ordinandi as DPCDSB alumni. They graduated from St. Joseph CSS and John Cabot CSS.

### **F. Updates/Information/Reports from Committees for Receipt**

1. Receipt of the Minutes of the Faith and Program Committee Meeting, January 16, 2024
2. Receipt of the Minutes of the Mississauga School Traffic Safety Action Committee Meeting, January 31, 2024
3. Receipt of the Minutes of the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee Meeting, October 17, 2023

### **G. Updates/Information/Reports from Administration for Receipt - Nil**

### **H. Updates/Information/Reports from Administration Requiring Action - Nil**

### **I. Additional Business - Nil**

1. Notices of Motion

## J. Questions Asked by Trustees

1. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi: I have had a parent/guardian question if there are any plans to build a secondary school in Orangeville?

Superintendent Thomas: School boards can apply for capital funding as part of the Ministry of Education (Ministry) Capital Priorities program. There are specific parameters when applying for funding. First, we need to present a business case that demonstrates sufficient sustainability for long term enrolment and that the school would be fully occupied on opening. Unfortunately, there are not sufficient numbers in Orangeville to build a secondary school, the minimum requirement is about 1,000 students. The students of Orangeville and Dufferin county are provided transportation to Robert F. Hall CSS. We continue to monitor numbers as there is slow growth in Orangeville.

2. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi: I understand that administration has decided that this year there will be no set *Respect for Life Week* or flying of the pro-life flags; and that educators will still be bringing students to Ottawa for the March for Life. I would like to know how the board will support this important event. I attended last year when DPCDSB students led the thousands who marched, it was a great educational experience. I would be pleased to volunteer to supervise students and I know there are many certified teachers that would supervise as well.

Director Mazzorato: Dufferin-Peel absolutely intends to recognize *Respect for Life Week*.

3. Trustee Brea Corbet: Regarding Our Lady of Mount Carmel CSS, at the time the school was built, air conditioning for the school gym was not included. Unfortunately, this is a safety issue. Can our Facilities Department prioritize the air conditioning?

Superintendent Thomas: This has been identified as a priority project for 2024.

4. Trustee Brea Corbet: The school's kitchen and tech areas are also without air conditioning. Can this work be included when the gymnasium is done? This would ensure the school is fully air conditioned.

Superintendent Thomas: A feasibility study will be done. We will do our best this year, if it cannot be completed this year, the work will be done next year.

5. Trustee Brea Corbet: Our Lady of Mount Carmel CSS has 10 portables that have not been removed. Can staff comment?

Superintendent Thomas: My understanding is that these portables are on the priority list.

6. Trustee Bruno Iannicca: Thank you to the Plant Department for their work on removing the skunks under the portables at Mary Fix Catholic Elementary School (CES). The school was closed for two days to deal with the matter. The staff, students and community are very appreciative.

How do we know how well our online students are doing? Can staff comment on the absenteeism for online students?

Superintendent Murphy: Online students are put through the same rigors as in-class students. They have tests and assignments, and their results are shared with the students and discussed to see how they can improve. We will be looking at reports cards and EQAO data to assess and compare if there are any discrepancies in terms of overall results. Support is provided to online

students, as afforded to all in-classroom students. Teachers are in touch with administrators to ensure that the services provided are equitable for online students. The expectation is that students have their cameras on while learning unless the teacher is aware of technical difficulties.

7. Trustee Bruno Iannicca: I am concerned that we are giving students extra chances, unlike what will occur when they enter the workforce. For instance, in a situation where a student is expected to write an exam on a Friday but asks for an extension to write the exam on the following Monday, and then is not prepared to write the exam on the new date. Can staff comment?

Superintendent Murphy: We understand that the work environment does not allow workers extra chances, however, we know that our students have had to deal with a lot in the last few years due to the pandemic. The mental health challenges that some students and their families have experienced, and the consequences are real. We try to deal with students on a one-to-one basis with empathy and kindness and to support them as needed in consultation with their parents/guardians and the school team. The effects the pandemic has had on students will be measurable for a number of years. We try to work through all accommodations fairly and equitably. I can bring back your concern to the team for consideration.

8. Trustee Bruno Iannicca: Can staff comment on the possibility that a teacher could leave our board for a year, go to another board and then return to DPCDSB and retain their job?

Director Mazzorato: In the collective agreement teachers have the right to take a leave of absence for a year with a right to return to DPCDSB.

9. Trustee Darryl D'Souza: In the script that is used by the Discipline Committee, it states that St. Oscar Romero CSS is an expulsion school, can staff comment?

Director Mazzorato: Historically, it was established for students under expulsion. St. Oscar Romero CSS offers a range of programs. Thank you for bringing this to our attention, we will update the literature and script.

10. Trustee Brea Corbet: It has been brought to my attention that some snow removal contractors pile snow that blocks parking spaces. Can staff follow up with our contractors regarding this issue?

Director Mazzorato: We will follow up.

11. Trustee Brea Corbet: At St. Elizabeth Seton CES there is a rear access point to the school grounds near the kindergarten area that parents/guardians have identified as a safety concern; the ground is an uneven mess. Can staff please investigate the site and have this area paved as soon as possible?

Superintendent Thomas: The Facilities Department has confirmed that the construction of a walkway to address this issue will be undertaken in 2024.

12. Trustee Bruno Iannicca: Can staff comment on the status of having our elementary student voices raised via the secondary schools that they feed into?

Superintendent Belchior: The Student Trustees and Student Senate are working on this and are pleased to report that in April there will be a virtual meeting. The meeting will have a prayer,

liturgy, discussion time and a survey will be distributed to the elementary students. They will share the survey with their peers for input, and then the group will reconvene to review the survey findings.

**K. Declared Interest Items - Nil**

**L. In Camera Meeting of the Committee of the Whole**

**Motion 1192 (24-03-19)**

**Moved by** Darryl D'Souza

**Seconded by** Stefano Pascucci

**THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MOVE INTO A CLOSED MEETING AS DISCUSSIONS WILL INVOLVE THE DISCLOSURE OF INTIMATE, PERSONAL OR FINANCIAL INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OR COMMITTEE, OR AN EMPLOYEE.**

**CARRIED**

**M. Report from the In Camera Meeting of the Committee of the Whole**

The Committee of the Whole Received In Camera Board Minutes from February 27, 2024. There were Questions Asked by Trustees of an In Camera Nature, and there are Recommended Motions to the Board of Trustees to consider.

**Motion 1193 (24-03-19)**

**Moved by** Brea Corbet

**Seconded by** Darryl D'Souza

**THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION AS OUTLINED IN REPORT L 5 B.**

**CARRIED**

*Trustees who have a declared interest left the meeting.*

**Motion 1194 (24-03-19)**

**Moved by** Darryl D'Souza

**Seconded by** Paula Dametto-Giovannozzi

**THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THAT THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD RATIFY THE CENTRAL TERMS CONTAINED WITHIN THE MEMORANDUM OF SETTLEMENT AND ATTACHED APPENDICES, DATED MARCH 5, 2024, MADE BETWEEN THE ONTARIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ONTARIO ENGLISH CATHOLIC TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION AND AGREED TO BY THE CROWN. FURTHER THAT THE APPROVAL OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE CENTRAL TERMS BE REPORTED TO OCSTA.**

**CARRIED**

*Trustees who have a declared interest returned to the meeting.*

**N. Future Meetings**

April 23, 2024

May 28, 2024

June 18, 2024



**O. Adjournment**

**Motion 1195 (24-03-19)**

**Moved by** Darryl D'Souza

**Seconded by** Brea Corbet

**THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 9:03 P.M.**

**CARRIED**



<b>J</b>	<b>Questions Asked by Trustees</b>	
<b>Q 9</b>	Trustee Darryl D'Souza: In the script that is used by the Discipline Committee, it states that St. Oscar Romero CSS is an expulsion school, can staff comment?	Staff have updated the report template and script to clarify that a student who is being recommended for expulsion, if expelled from all schools of the Board, will be assigned "to the New Directions Program delivered through St. Oscar Romero Catholic Secondary School"
<b>Q 10</b>	Trustee Brea Corbet: It has been brought to my attention that some snow removal contractors pile snow that block parking spaces. Can staff follow up with our contractors regarding this issue?	Facilities staff will meet with all snow removal contractors to review these concerns as part of the seasonal year-end debrief and as part of the planning for the upcoming winter season.