

## **MINUTES**

### **Organizational Meeting of the Board**

**Tuesday, November 21, 2023, 7:00 p.m.  
Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre**

#### **A. Call to Order by the Secretary of the Board**

At 7:10 p.m. the Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, Marianne Mazzorato, called the meeting to order. Director Mazzorato welcomed all in attendance to the Organizational Meeting of the Board.

#### **B. Opening Prayer led by Deacon Ray Frendo**

#### **C. National Anthem**

The national anthem was performed by the St. Joseph Catholic Secondary School (CSS) Grade 10 band under the direction of teacher Jadelyn Morrison. Thank you to the students and their teacher for sharing their talents.

*Trustee Shawn Xaviour arrived at 7:16 p.m.*

#### **D. Land Acknowledgment - Director Mazzorato**

#### **E. Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion 1113 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Mario Pascucci

**Seconded By** Stefano Pascucci

**THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.**

**CARRIED**

#### **F. Director's Address to the Board**

Members of the Board of Trustees, staff, and guests. Similar to the chair's address at the last board meeting, it is a Dufferin-Peel tradition that the Director addresses the board at the annual Organizational meeting, and it is my pleasure to say a few words to you this evening. I promise to be brief.

As hard as it is to believe, here we are, standing on the cusp of Advent where we, as a community of believers, anticipate the coming of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Advent encourages us to reflect on the contrast between our daily routines and the unexpected coming of the Lord.

Pope Francis invites us to reflect on the Gospel that encourages us "to open our horizons" to further dimensions, giving meaning even to everyday occurrences. During this time of waiting,

Pope Francis invites us to reflect and be mindful that, “we are called to enlarge the horizons of our hearts, to be surprised by the life that is presented each day with its newness.”

At the Regular Board meeting on December 12, I will be presenting the Director’s Annual Report which outlines how we, as a Catholic school system, have met the goals of our Board of Trustees’ Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

Accordingly, my comments tonight will focus more on my profound gratitude to the Board of Trustees and our multitude of system partners that work together to create opportunities for the success and well-being of our students and the families we serve.

I have said it before, and I will repeat it here. We are good. In fact, we are really good. In EQAO assessments, our students routinely match or outperform the provincial average year in and year out in most subject areas. We know we have work to do in some areas and we are working hard to address these areas of concern.

Our graduation rates continue to be among the highest in the entire province.

Year in and year out, we produce outstanding, well rounded graduates who go on to be impactful citizens, both locally and in a global context. I encourage you to check out our Distinguished Alumni who we celebrate annually. Amazing people who epitomize the very notion of the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations.

We have superb faculty and staff in all areas, whether they work directly with students or in other supporting capacities. The Board of Trustees recently recognized two such staff, Teacher Melanie Williams and DECE Reagan Johnson, both of whom received Prime Minister’s Awards for Teaching Excellence.

On the corporate side, the Board of Trustees recognized General Manager Richard Moriah on two occasions this past year for his work.

Krystyna Koops from our Planning Department and Principal Julie Lavalle received the City of Mississauga’s Community Partnership Award in support of the School Streets Pilot Program to promote active school travel.

Environmental Support Services Manager Edward Cai received the Save on Energy’s Energy Manager of the Year Award in recognition of DPCDSB’s efforts in energy conservation.

This is a small sample of the ongoing level of excellence that takes place across our system regularly. So many more go unrecognized in the sense that they are not tied directly to an award or a recognition program. This does not diminish their significance in terms of their impact on students, staff, or the community.

The common strand among so many of these examples is service and servant leadership.

Our Catholic response to the historical event of Jesus Christ is to serve one another.

In serving one another and God we come to know ourselves and God better.

St. Teresa of Calcutta said, “Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God’s kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile.”

As we continue our journey towards Advent and Christmas, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to the Board of Trustees for your support and leadership.

Despite challenges we face, I truly believe we are one of the leading school boards in this province and this is in no small part due to the dedication, commitment, passion, and sense of duty that you bring to the table, both individually and collectively.

You each may have your individual interests and that is because you each represent different strands of our community. Yet, you also represent the community in its entirety, and you have demonstrated, time and time again, often in difficult circumstances, that it is the board as a collective that makes decisions, and that you, as individual trustees have the courage and strength to stand behind those decisions.

This collective approach is fundamental to our notion as a Catholic community.

I would also take the opportunity to thank my colleagues on the Executive Council, David Amaral, Daniel Del Bianco and Julie Cherepacha, for your support and leadership.

As well, I thank our senior management team, school and board administrators, faculty, and support staff....each and every member of the Dufferin-Peel team who work so hard each day to make sure our students receive the best Catholic education we can provide.

I acknowledge and thank our Unions and Associations for the work they do, our parish priests, our Bishop, Archbishop and Cardinal for their spiritual and moral guidance.

And last but not least, I thank our parents and guardians for entrusting your children to us each day.

It is my honour and privilege to work with you. I feel blessed and comforted knowing that whatever challenges lie ahead, we will respond in the best interests of the common good, anchored in our faith, to meet those challenges head on.

Thank you and may God bless you.

**Motion** 1114 (23-11-21)

**Moved By** Mario Pascucci

**Seconded By** Thomas Thomas

**THAT THE DIRECTOR'S ADDRESS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BE READ INTO THE MINUTES.  
CARRIED**

**G. Election of the Chair of the Board in Accordance with the By-Law**

Elections were conducted in accordance with the Board's Procedural By-Law. Associate Director of Corporate Services, Daniel Del Bianco and Executive Superintendent of Finance, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, Julie Cherepacha and Superintendent Max Vecchiarino were appointed scrutineers.

Secretary of the Board, Director Mazzorato called for nominations for the Chair of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board of Trustees.

Trustee Luz del Rosario was nominated by Trustee Bruno Iannicca. Trustee Luz del Rosario accepted the nomination.

Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanazzi self-nominated.

In accordance with Board practice, Secretary of the Board, Director Mazzorato, requested further nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

**Motion 1115 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Mario Pascucci

**Seconded By** Stefano Pascucci

**THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.**

**CARRIED**

The nominees briefly addressed the assembly.

*The Board of Trustees voted online by secret ballot.*

*The three scrutineers left the meeting to analyze the voting and then returned to the meeting.*

Director Mazzorato announced that Trustee Luz del Rosario has been re-elected Chair of the Board.

Trustee Luz del Rosario assumed the Chair to conduct the remainder of the proceedings.

**Motion 1116 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Shawn Xaviour

**Seconded By** Anisha Thomas

**MOTION TO DESTROY THE POLLING.**

**CARRIED**

#### **H. Election of the Vice-Chair of the Board**

Elections were conducted in accordance with the Board's Procedural By-Law. Chair Luz del Rosario called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board of Trustees.

Trustee Thomas Thomas was nominated by Trustee Mario Pascucci. Trustee Thomas Thomas accepted the nomination.

Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanazzi was nominated by Trustee Herman Vilorio. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanazzi accepted the nomination.

Trustee Brea Corbet was nominated by Trustee Bruno Iannicca. Trustee Brea Corbet accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair Luz del Rosario requested further nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

**Motion 1117 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Stefano Pascucci

**Seconded By** Darryl D'Souza

**THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.**

**CARRIED**

The nominees briefly addressed the assembly.

*The Board of Trustees voted online by secret ballot.*

*The three scrutineers left the meeting to analyze the voting and then returned to the meeting.*

Chair Luz del Rosario announced that Trustee Thomas Thomas was re-elected Vice-Chair of the Board.

**Motion 1118 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Herman Vioria

**Seconded By** Shawn Xaviour

**MOTION TO DESTROY THE POLLING.**

**CARRIED**

**I. Remarks from the Vice-Chair of the Board**

Vice-Chair Thomas Thomas thanked the Board of Trustees for their trust. He stated that he was proud of the work accomplished in the past year and looked forward to working together this year. He congratulated Chair of the Board, Luz del Rosario and thanked Trustee Mario Pascucci for his nomination.

**J. Remarks from the Chair of the Board**

Thank you to his Grace, Archbishop Francis Leo for celebrating the Mass with us this evening.

Thank you to my fellow trustees for your vote of confidence in me as Chair of DPCDSB for 2023-2024. It is my honour to represent you and this Board. This is a hardworking and caring Board of Trustees who have faced a lot of challenges and opportunities, especially in the last few years. We have a long history of defending Catholic education and we stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. We will continue to face those challenges together because we care about Catholic education and our students' success and well-being. I welcome Trustee Thomas Thomas as my Vice-Chair and look forward to working together again.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Director, Marianne Mazzorato, Associate Directors David Amaral and Daniel Del Bianco, Executive Superintendent Julie Cherepacha, our superintendents, and union and association leaders for all your hard work on behalf of our students and communities. To our students, parents and guardians, thank you for choosing Catholic education.

Thank you and God bless.

**K. Election of the Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee**

Chair Luz del Rosario called for nominations for Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee.

Trustee Brea Corbet was nominated by Trustee Mario Pascucci. Trustee Brea Corbet declined the nomination.

Trustee Shawn Xaviour was nominated by Trustee Brea Corbet. Trustee Shawn Xaviour declined the nomination.

Trustee Herman Vioria was nominated by Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovannozzi. Trustee Herman Vioria accepted the nomination.

Trustee Bruno Iannicca self-nominated.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair Luz del Rosario requested further nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

**Motion 1119 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Mario Pascucci

**Seconded By** Thomas Thomas

**THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Herman Vilorio briefly addressed the assembly. Trustee Bruno Iannicca declined the opportunity to address the assembly.

*The Board of Trustees voted online by secret ballot.*

*The three scrutineers left the meeting to analyze the voting and then returned to the meeting.*

Chair Luz del Rosario announced that Trustee Bruno Iannicca has been elected Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee.

**Motion 1120 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Mario Pascucci

**Seconded By** Thomas Thomas

**MOTION TO DESTROY THE POLLING.**

**CARRIED**

**L. Election of the Vice-Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee**

Chair Luz del Rosario called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee.

Trustee Herman Vilorio was nominated by Trustee Thomas Thomas. Trustee Herman Vilorio accepted the nomination.

Trustee Shawn Xaviour was nominated by Trustee Mario Pascucci. Trustee Shawn Xaviour declined the nomination.

Trustee Mario Pascucci was nominated by Trustee Shawn Xaviour. Trustee Mario Pascucci accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair Luz del Rosario requested further nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

**Motion 1121 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Stefano Pascucci

**Seconded By** Thomas Thomas

**THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Herman Vilorio declined the opportunity to address the assembly. Trustee Mario Pascucci briefly addressed the assembly.

*The Board of Trustees voted online by secret ballot.*

*The three scrutineers left the meeting to analyze the voting and then returned to the meeting.*

Chair Luz del Rosario announced that Trustee Mario Pascucci has been elected Vice-Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee.

**Motion 1122 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Mario Pascucci

**Seconded By** Darryl D'Souza

**MOTION TO DESTROY THE BALLOTS.**

**M. Election of the Chair of the Faith and Program Committee**

Chair Luz del Rosario called for nominations for Chair of the Faith and Program Committee.

Trustee Shawn Xaviour was nominated by Trustee Brea Corbet. Trustee Shawn Xaviour accepted the nomination.

Trustee Herman Vilorio was nominated by Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovannozzi. Trustee Herman Vilorio accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair Luz del Rosario requested further nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

**Motion 1123 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Thomas Thomas

**Seconded By** Stefano Pascucci

**THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.**

**CARRIED**

The Trustees briefly addressed the assembly.

*The Board of Trustees voted online by secret ballot.*

*The three scrutineers left the meeting to analyze the voting and then returned to the meeting.*

Chair Luz del Rosario announced that Trustee Shawn Xaviour has been elected Chair of the Faith and Program Committee.

**Motion 1124 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Mario Pascucci

**Seconded By** Darryl D'Souza

**MOTION TO DESTROY THE BALLOTS.**

**CARRIED**

**N. Election of the Vice-Chair of the Faith and Program Committee**

Chair Luz del Rosario called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Faith and Program Committee.

Trustee Brea Corbet was nominated by Trustee Shawn Xaviour. Trustee Brea Corbet accepted the nomination.

Trustee Herman Vioria was nominated by Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi. Trustee Herman Vioria declined the nomination.

Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi self-nominated.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair Luz del Rosario requested further nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

**Motion 1125 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Darryl D'Souza

**Seconded By** Mario Pascucci

**THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.**

**CARRIED**

The Trustees briefly addressed the assembly.

*The Board of Trustees voted online by secret ballot.*

*The three scrutineers left the meeting to analyze the voting and then returned to the meeting.*

Chair Luz del Rosario announced that Trustee Brea Corbet has been elected Vice-Chair of the Faith and Program Committee.

**Motion 1126 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Bruno Iannicca

**Seconded By** Stefano Pascucci

**MOTION TO DESTROY THE POLLING.**

**CARRIED**

**O. Election of the Chair of the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee**

Chair Luz del Rosario called for nominations for Chair of the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee.

Trustee Stefano Pascucci was nominated by Trustee Shawn Xaviour. Trustee Stefano Pascucci accepted the nomination.

Trustee Herman Vioria was nominated by Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi. Trustee Herman Vioria declined the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair Luz del Rosario requested further nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

**Motion 1127 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Mario Pascucci

**Seconded By** Thomas Thomas



**THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Stefano Pascucci was acclaimed Chair of the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee.

**P. Election of the Vice-Chair of the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee**

Chair Luz del Rosario called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee.

Trustee Darryl D'Souza was nominated by Trustee Brea Corbet. Trustee Darryl D'Souza declined the nomination.

Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovannozzi self-nominated.

Trustee Anisha Thomas was nominated by Trustee Darryl D'Souza. Trustee Anisha Thomas accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair Luz del Rosario requested further nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

**Motion 1128 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Thomas Thomas

**Seconded By** Darryl D'Souza

**THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.**

**CARRIED**

The trustees briefly addressed the assembly.

*The Board of Trustees voted online by secret ballot.*

*The three scrutineers left the meeting to analyze the voting and then returned to the meeting.*

Chair Luz del Rosario announced that Trustee Anisha Thomas has been elected Vice-Chair of the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee.

**Motion 1129 (23-11-21)**

**Moved By** Darryl D'Souza

**Seconded By** Bruno Iannicca

**MOTION TO DESTROY THE POLLING.**

**CARRIED**

**Q. Election of the Chair of the Multi-Year Strategic Planning Committee**

Chair Luz del Rosario called for nominations for Chair of the Multi-Year Strategic Planning Committee.

Trustee Mario Pascucci was nominated by Trustee Darryl D'Souza. Trustee Mario Pascucci accepted the nomination.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair Luz del Rosario requested further nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

**Motion 1130 (23-11-21)**  
**Moved By** Stefano Pascucci  
**Seconded By** Shawn Xaviour

**THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.**

**CARRIED**

Trustee Mario Pascucci was acclaimed the Chair of the Multi-Year Strategic Planning Committee.

**R. Election of the Vice-Chair of the Multi-Year Strategic Planning Committee**

Chair Luz del Rosario called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Multi-Year Strategic Planning Committee.

Trustee Darryl D'Souza was nominated by Trustee Thomas Thomas. Trustee Darryl D'Souza accepted the nomination.

Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovannozzi self-nominated.

In accordance with Board practice, Chair Luz del Rosario requested further nominations three times. There being none, nominations were declared closed.

**Motion 1131 (23-11-21)**  
**Moved By** Stefano Pascucci  
**Seconded By** Mario Pascucci

**THAT THE NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED.**

**CARRIED**

The trustees declined to address the assembly.

*The Board of Trustees voted online by secret ballot.  
The three scrutineers left the meeting to analyze the voting and then returned to the meeting.*

Chair Luz del Rosario announced that Trustee Darryl D'Souza has been elected Vice-Chair of the Multi-Year Strategic Planning Committee.

**Motion 1132 (23-11-21)**  
**Moved By** Stefano Pascucci  
**Seconded By** Mario Pascucci

**MOTION TO DESTROY THE POLLING.**

**CARRIED**

**S. Adjournment**

**Motion 1133 (23-11-21)**  
**Moved By** Bruno Iannicca  
**Seconded By** Anisha Thomas

**THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:17 P.M.**

**CARRIED**