



MINUTES

Special Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 11, 2024, 6:00 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
	Anisha Thomas	Trustee
	Herman Vioria	Trustee
	Bailey Clyne	Indigenous Student Trustee
	Nathan Nguyen	Student Trustee
Regrets:	Shawn Xaviour	Trustee
	Stefano Pascucci	Trustee
	Christopher Joseph	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
	Max Vecchiarino	Executive Superintendent, Policy, Strategy, Research, Safe Schools
	Dulcie Belchior	Superintendent, Family of Schools
	Wayne Brunton	Superintendent, Equity and Indigenous Education
	Brian Diogo	Superintendent, Family of Schools
	Silvana Gos	Superintendent, Family of Schools
	Scott Keys	Superintendent, Financial Services
	Jodi Kuran	Superintendent, Family of Schools
	Ivana Maclsaac	Chief Information Officer
	Richard Moriah	Acting Superintendent, Planning and Operations
	Laura Odo	Superintendent, Family of Schools
	Lucy Papaloni	Superintendent, Special Education and Learning Services
	Tammy-Lynne Peel	Superintendent, Family of Schools
	Adrian Scigliano	Superintendent, Family of Schools
	Stephanie Strong	Superintendent, Human Resources and Employee Relations
	Kevin Wendling	Assistant Superintendent: Math Lead
	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
	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 6:04 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer

Opening prayers were led by Trustees Herman Vilorio and Brea Corbet.

3. Land Acknowledgment - Trustee Darryl D'Souza

4. Approval of Agenda

1. Trustee Herman Vilorio: The Special Board Meeting was called contrary to the Procedural By-Laws.

2. Trustee Mario Pascucci: What policy articles are you quoting?

Trustee Herman Vilorio: Article 5.6 of the Procedural By-Law.

3. Director Mazzorato: The Special Board meeting was called in accordance to the Procedural By-Law by two trustees and/or the Chair of the Board as they believed there needed to be immediate action to deal with an item of a time sensitive matter that fell in the category of a Special Meeting. The rationale is that it could pose "harm" to certain individuals in our board; staff and students. Trustee Herman Vilorio's concern has been noted.

4. Trustee Herman Vilorio: Can I appeal against the decision of the Chair to continue the meeting?

Director Mazzorato: To proceed with the meeting, I will assume the role of the Chair, and appeal to the Chair's interpretation of the rationale for why the Special Board Meeting is procedurally correct today, has been noted by Trustee Herman Vilorio.

All in favor of upholding the appeal that Trustee Herman Vilorio has put forward please raise your hand.

In Favour 2

All not in favour of upholding the appeal please raise your hand.

Not in Favour of Upholding the Appeal 7

Absent 2

DEFEATED

Chair Luz del Rosario resumed the chair.

5. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanazzi: I wish to point out that both Motions in G 1 of the Agenda were improperly introduced during Question Asked and not on the Agenda. Trustee Brea Corbet amended and moved the second motion; however, she was not present at the April 16 Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee Meeting, she was not in a position to reconsider a motion. Are we going to respect our Procedural By-Law?

Director Mazzorato: The motions were brought forward at a committee meeting; they were not Reconsider Motions. They were motions to amend specific articles. They are Recommendation Motions that will be considered tonight.

6. Trustee Herman Vioria: Procedurally, I was incorrect to bring up the motions at the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee Meeting. As the motions were not on the agenda, both of the motions, by Trustee Brea Corbet and I, should be thrown out.
7. Director Mazzorato: We can deal with the motion that Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi has raised before we approve the agenda.

Motion 1238 (24-06-11)

Moved by Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi

Seconded by Herman Vioria

MOTION TO REMOVE ITEM G FROM THE AGENDA.

Favour 2

Opposed 7

Absent 2

DEFEATED

Motion 1239 (24-06-11)

Moved by Darryl D'Souza

Seconded by Mario Pascucci

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

5. Declaration of Interest- Nil

B. Awards and Presentations – Nil

C. Delegations

1. Delegation: J. Luetke, Campaign Life Coalition
2. Delegation: T. Pierre, Parents as First Educators

Questions of Clarification to the Delegate:

1. Trustee Herman Vioria: You referred to a letter from Cardinal Collins, please explain.

Delegate Theresa Pierre: The letter which the first delegate and I spoke of, is a letter from Cardinal Thomas Collins from 2021. He counselled Catholic school boards that the appropriate symbol "that represents our faith, and the inclusion and acceptance of others, is the cross."

Questions of Clarification to the Staff:

1. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi: It was not an amendment that was needed, but a motion to amend a matter previously adopted.

Director Mazzorato: Trustees do have the privilege of amending and bringing motions forward. It was an amendment to a policy.

3. Delegation: G. Tomchyshyn, CitizensGO

Questions of Clarification to the Delegate:

1. Indigenous Student Trustee Bailey Clyne: Where in the bible does it say same sex relationships are wrong and that it is a sin?

Delegate Gregory Tomchyshyn: In Genesis Chapter 1 it says God created them male and female. The design for marriage is one man and one woman.

4. Delegation: Sheri Cooper

Recess was called at 7:00 to commence the Administration and Finance Committee Meeting.

Motion 1240 (24-06-11)

Moved by Darryl D'Souza

Seconded by Anisha Thomas

RECESS BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

5. Delegation: Diane Borelli

Questions of Clarification to Staff:

1. Trustee Darryl D'Souza: How many schools have more than one flag pole?

Director Mazzorato: Three schools, which are not joint use facilities.

2. Trustee Darryl D'Souza: 148 schools can only fly the Canadian flag. On the second flag pole they can fly the provincial flag, and what can be flown on the third flag pole?

Director Mazzorato: Policy 2.2, as amended in May, the second pole can fly the Provincial and Municipal flags. Prior to the amendments there was no articulation other than these flags. The motion tonight raised by Trustee Herman Vilorio would allow the Vatican flag, ShareLife flag, DPCDSB flag to be flown on the second pole. Nothing is specified for the third flag pole.

3. Trustee Herman Vilorio: At the board office who decides which flag will occupy the second and third flag pole? At secondary schools with two flag poles who determines what flags fly?

Director Mazzorato: This depends on the policy, and at schools, the principal would determine which flag to fly based on the articulated parameters.

4. Trustee Brea Corbet: In fulfilling our governance responsibilities, can you please share again with our members of the public whether or not correct procedure has and was followed at our June 4, 2024, Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee Meeting?

Director Mazzorato: Procedurally, trustees can amend their policy or sections of a policy, the call for the Special Board Meeting was correct.

D. Reports from Trustees for Receipt

1. Regular Reports – Nil
 - a. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Report
 - b. Good News Reports

E. Updates/Information/Reports from Committees for Receipt – Nil

F. Updates/Information/Reports from Administration for Receipt – Nil

G. Update/Information/Reports from Administration Requiring Action – Nil

1. Motions Recommended by the Board By-Law/Policies Review Committee, June 4, 2024

Motion 1241 (24-06-11)

Moved by Bruno Iannicca

Seconded by Anisha Thomas

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE REVISION OF POLICY 8.06: FLAG PROTOCOL ARTICLE 2.3. THAT THE VATICAN FLAG, THE SHARELIFE FLAG, THE DPCDSB FLAG MAY BE FLOWN OUTSIDE OF ALL SCHOOLS AND BOARD FACILITIES, AS WELL THEY MAY BE DISPLAYED IN ALL SCHOOLS OR BOARD FACILITIES.

Favour 7

Opposed 2

Absent 2

CARRIED

1. Director Mazzorato: In House Counsel has confirmed that procedurally the meeting was called correctly. Interpretation of the words “time sensitive” and “harm” for a particular group of people who are protected under Human Rights.
2. Trustee Darryl D’Souza: My understanding was that where we have a second flag post a provincial flag will fly. I would like to put a motion on the table that says the provincial flag should fly on the second flag pole.
3. Trustee Bruno Iannicca: We might as well add specifics to which flags can fly on the third flag pole where it exists. How many sites have a third flag pole? The question then becomes what flies on the third flag pole?

Director Mazzorato: One school and the Catholic Education Centre (CEC) have a third flag pole.

Subsequently, Director Mazzorato noted: By adding the specifics of which flags fly on the second and third flag, Article 2.3 would be nullified.

4. Student Trustee Nathan Nguyen: I would like to request a non-binding recorded vote.

Director Mazzorato: Student Trustee votes do not impact the vote; however, they demonstrate their position on an issue.

5. Trustee Brea Corbet: Commented that our DP schools can and are currently displaying the rainbow flag inside their schools. The MYSP values are a commitment of this board: Believe, Excel, Respect, Thrive and Trust, recognizing the human dignity of each person, created in the image and likeness of God. Our Catholic Board Improvement Learning Cycle (CBILC) identifies the need to eliminate disproportionalities and articulates the importance of dismantling the impacts of homophobia, transphobia, sexism and other oppressions. We are working to ensure our school communities are safe, accepting and welcoming.
6. Trustee Herman Viloría: Commented that we must remember the core mission of a Catholic school board: to educate and nurture students in a manner consistent with Catholic teachings. The Catholic Church's teachings on human dignity and sexuality are clear and well-established. While the Church recognizes the inherent dignity of every individual, regardless of their sexual orientation, it maintains specific teachings on marriage and sexuality that do not align with broader social movements often associated with the pride flag. Moreover, there are other, more effective, ways to show love and support for individuals within the LGBTQ+ community that are fully aligned with Catholic teachings. The Church calls for compassion, respect, and sensitivity towards individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation. Catholic schools can emphasize these values through inclusive policies, open dialogue and pastoral care. That is why we have chaplains in our secondary schools who should be leading this. By focusing on the inherent dignity of every person and providing a supportive environment without compromising on doctrinal teachings, Catholic schools can foster true inclusivity.
7. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi: Commented that she has 15,879 signatures and 192 emails of support from teachers and parents. Their stand is that there is only one symbol that should be promoted by Christians and that is the cross, no other symbol has any importance to a Christian and under the banner of the cross we do embrace and love our LGBTQ+ friends. Not promoting something does not mean we are against it. A Catholic school board should not promote any political or cultural belief that is not biblical.
8. Student Trustee Nathan Nguyen: Commented in regard to Trustee Herman Viloría's comment regarding that if the motion passes, we will be moving away from our school board's morale principles, the MYSP pillar of Respect is to recognize the human dignity of all. How can we tell our 2SLGBTQ+ brothers and sisters that we support them by not flying their symbol? A symbol that signifies we accept them for who they are. Our school board is combating bullying, yet there is a disproportionate amount of 2SLGBTQ+ students that feel unwelcome. The schools are to support and serve all students. I can tell you there are students that do not feel safe and supported.
9. Trustee Bruno Iannicca: I would like to clarify something with Trustee Herman Viloría. My understanding is that you flew the Pride flag in Brampton when you were principal, is that true?

Trustee Herman Viloría: I did fly the flag at my school.

Trustee Bruno Iannicca: What made it okay to fly the flag back then, and not now?

Trustee Herman Vioria: At the time, I was bullied into flying the flag. In Open Session I cannot name by whom.

Motion 1242 (24-06-11)

Moved by Brea Corbet

Seconded by Bruno Iannicca

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE REVISION OF POLICY 8.06: FLAG PROTOCOL ARTICLE 2.5. THAT ADDITIONAL FLAGS MAY BE FLOWN OUTSIDE OR DISPLAYED INSIDE DPCDSB BUILDINGS IN SUPPORT OF PARTICULAR OBSERVANCES. WHERE SUCH FLAGS ARE FLOWN OR DISPLAYED, THEIR USE SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE AREAS OF THE SCHOOL OR FACILITY ALLOCATED TO THE ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CORRESPONDING OBSERVANCES AND SHALL BE REMOVED WHEN THE OBSERVANCE PERIOD ENDS.

Non-Binding Vote:

Favour: Trustees Bruno Iannicca, Brea Corbet, Mario Pascucci, Student Trustee Nathan Nguyen, and Indigenous Student Trustee Bailey Clyne

Opposed: Trustees Anisha Thomas, Thomas Thomas, Luz del Rosario, Darryl D’Souza, Herman Vioria and Paula Dametto-Giovannozzi

Absent: 2

VOTE:

Favour 3

Opposed 6

Absent 2

DEFEATED

Director Mazzorato: Commented that it was not intentional to misrepresent Trustee Thomas Thomas’s vote, we were having audio difficulties.

Motion 1243 (24-06-11)

Moved by Darryl D’Souza

Seconded by Bruno Iannicca

MOTION TO AMEND POLICY 8.06: FLAG PROTOCOL ARTICLE 2.2 AT ANY BOARD FACILITY WHERE TWO FLAG POLES EXIST THE PROVINCIAL FLAG OF ONTARIO MUST BE FLOWN. WHERE A THIRD FLAG POLES EXISTS OUTSIDE BOARD FACILITY THE FLAG FLOWN SHALL BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE LITURGICAL YEAR.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Please see Appendix 1 Policy 8.06: Flag Protocol

H. Additional Business - Nil

1. Notices of Motion

I. Questions Asked by Trustees – Nil

- J. **Declared Interest Items – Nil**
- K. **In Camera Session - Nil**
- L. **Report from the In Camera Meeting of the Committee of the Whole – Nil**
- M. **Adjournment**

Motion 1244 (24-06-11)

Moved by Darryl D'Souza

Seconded by Anisha Thomas

THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:07 P.M.

CARRIED



<u>DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD</u>	
<u>BOARD POLICY</u>	
BOARD POLICY NUMBER:	8.06
SUBJECT:	Flag Protocol
REFERENCE:	Guidelines for National Symbols, Government of Canada Regulation 298 of the <i>Education Act</i>
EFFECTIVE DATE:	(299) May 20, 2003; Revised (040) December 8, 2015; April 24, 2024; June 18, 2024

*“Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.”*

Psalm 67:4

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) adheres to the guidelines regarding the flying of flags in accordance with Guidelines for National Symbols, Government of Canada, and Regulation 298 of the *Education Act*.

2 FLAGS

- 2.1 The National Flag of Canada shall be flown at each DPCDSB facility including all schools and DPCDSB facilities. Wherever the National Flag of Canada is flown, it shall be flown on a flagpole alone.
- 2.2 At board facilities where two flag poles exist the provincial flag of Ontario shall be flown. Where there are three flag poles at a board facility the third flag flown shall be associated with the liturgical year.
- 2.3 The Vatican (Papal) flag, ShareLife flag, and DPCDSB flag may be flown or displayed inside schools or other DPCDSB facilities.
- 2.4 Flags of the Provinces and Territories of Canada may be displayed inside schools or other DPCDSB facilities.
- 2.5 Additional flags may be displayed inside DPCDSB buildings in support of particular observances. Where such flags are displayed, their use shall be limited to the areas of the school or facility allocated to the activities associated with the corresponding observance and shall be removed when the observance period ends.
- 2.6 The display of additional flags is to be approved by the Director of Education or designate.
- 2.7 On Remembrance Day, only the National Flag of Canada shall be flown.

- 2.8 During liturgical celebrations, only the National Flag of Canada and flags associated with the Catholic Christian faith shall be flown.

3 HALF-STAFF

- 3.1 All flags at DPCDSB schools and facilities shall be flown at half-staff upon the direction of the Director of Education or designate. Flags are flown at half-staff in recognition of the death of prominent public figures and other individuals, as well as for national memorial days.
- 3.2 Individual schools, at the discretion of the principal and in consultation with their supervisory officer, may fly their flag at half-staff to recognize the death of a student or staff member.
- 3.3 On Remembrance Day, flags at all DPCDSB schools and facilities shall be flown at half-staff from 11:00 a.m. to the end of the instructional day as a symbol of respect.

4 FLAG REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 Flags must always be treated with dignity and respect.
- 4.2 Flags shall be regularly inspected for signs of wear and damage, and shall be replaced when worn, noticeably faded, or otherwise unfit for service. When a flag is tattered and is no longer in a suitable condition for use, it should be destroyed in a dignified way.
- 4.3 When raised or lowered, a flag should be prevented from touching or falling to the ground.
- 4.4 No banners or pennants should be flown together on the same pole except at single pole locations.
- 4.5 The Canadian flag may be displayed flat or flown on a staff. If flat, it may be hung horizontally or vertically. If it hangs vertically, against a wall, the flag should be placed so that the upper part of the leaf is to the left and the stem is to the right as seen by spectators.
- 4.6 In a procession, the Canadian flag shall be at the marching right or at the centre front.
- 4.7 No flag, banner, or pennant shall be flown or displayed above the Canadian flag.
- 4.8 Where possible, the Canadian flag shall be flown from the highest pole.
- 4.9 No flag flown at schools or DPCDSB facilities shall be larger than the Canadian flag.
- 4.10 Where three flags are flown together, the Canadian flag shall be in the centre.

5 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE CANADIAN FLAG

- 5.1 Opening exercises for a school day may include a pledge to the Canadian flag. Schools may use the following pledge or adapt it to their specific situation:

Pledge of Allegiance to the Canadian Flag:

I pledge allegiance to my flag and to the country it represents, I pledge respect and loyalty. Wave with pride from sea to sea and within your folds, keep us ever united. Be for all a symbol of love, freedom, and justice. God keep our flag. God protect our Canada.

- 5.2 Principals should consider including a Pledge to the Flag as part of the opening exercises on school days which are on or near days of special national significance (e.g. Remembrance Day, Canada Day).