



**Planning and Priorities Committee  
(Special Meeting)  
Revised Agenda**

PPC:004A

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

4 p.m.

Electronic Meeting

Trustee Members

Alexander Brown (Chair), Michelle Aarts, Rachel Chernos Lin, Stephanie Donaldson, Trixie Doyle, Harpreet Gill, Parthi Kandavel, Shelley Laskin, James Li, Alexandra Lulka, Dan MacLean, Christopher Mammoliti, Chris Moise, Patrick Nunziata, Zakir Patel, Robin Pilkey, Yalini Rajakulasingam, David Smith, Anu Sriskandarajah, Jennifer Story, Chris Tonks, Manna Wong

The purpose of the meeting is to provide strategic advice and recommendations to the Board on COVID-19 related matters.

**Pages**

- 1. Call to Order and Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands**
- 2. Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interest**
- 3. Delegations**  
To be presented
- 4. Report From the Director of Education**  
Oral Update
- 5. Report From the Chair of the Board**  
Oral Update
- 6. Report From Representative on the City's Board of Health**  
Oral Update
- 7. Report From the Directors on the Ontario Public School Boards' Association**  
Oral Update

8. **Report From the Chairs of the Governance and Policy Committee, the Program and School Services Committee, the Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee**  
Oral Update
9. **Report From Representatives on the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee and the Special Education Advisory Committee**  
Oral Update
10. **Reports From Student Trustees**  
Oral Update
11. **Other Questions, Insights and Advice From Trustees to Staff**  
To be presented
12. **Written Notice of Motion for Consideration**
  - 12.1. Vaccinations for Education Staff (Trustees Mammoliti and Brown) 1
13. **Written Notice of Motion as Emergency Business**
  - 13.1. Vaccinations for Congregated Site and Intensive Support Programs Staff (Trustees Chernos Lin and Laskin) 3
14. **Adjournment**

**Written Notice of Motion for Consideration (Trustees Mammoliti and Brown)**

From: Denise Joseph-Dowers, Manager, Board Services, Governance and Board Services

In accordance with Board Bylaw 5.15.2, notice of the following motion was provided at the special meeting of the Planning and Priorities Committee on January 12, 2021 and is therefore submitted for consideration at this time.

5.15.2 A notice of motion will be introduced by a member who is present as an advance notification of a matter at Board or Committee, and will be considered at a subsequent Committee meeting. A notice of motion will not be debated at the meeting at which it is introduced...

5.15.2 (c) A notice of motion submitted prior to, or at a committee meeting, will be considered at a subsequent committee meeting...

**Vaccinations for Education Staff**

Whereas, education workers face elevated risks for contracting COVID-19 due to their daily exposure to large numbers of students for extended periods of time where physical distancing is often times not possible; and

Whereas, remote learning cannot replace in-person instruction long term, creates equity gaps and, over time, poses significant risks to the mental health and well-being of not only staff but children, where it can inhibit developmentally-appropriate socialization, and challenge effective delivery of special education services; and

Whereas, no matter the heroic efforts of teachers and education workers, the longer the pandemic continues and schools remain closed, the risk of gaps in student learning, progress and achievement grows; and

Whereas, the Provincial Government has acknowledged the importance of prioritizing in-person learning in their COVID-19 response plan;

Therefore, be it resolved:

- (a) That the Chair of Board send a letter to the Premier of Ontario and the Ministers of Health and Education to request that teachers and other education workers be included as a priority population in Ontario's Vaccine Distribution Implementation plan<sup>1</sup>;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://files.ontario.ca/moh-covid-19-vaccine-distribution-implementation-plan-en-2020-12-11-v3.pdf>

- (b) That Toronto Public Health, the Ontario Public School Boards' Association and the chairs of all Ontario school boards be copied on the correspondence at Part (a).

**Written Notice of Motion as Emergency Business (Trustees Chernos Lin and Laskin)**

From: Denise Joseph-Dowers, Manager, Board Services, Governance and Board Services

In accordance with the Board's bylaws, emergency business is defined as:

a situation, or the threat of a situation, adversely affecting health, safety and/or well-being, or resulting in significant legal risk or financial damage or loss, which by its nature and seriousness requires an immediate response...

Further,

5.12.7 A matter not on the agenda or directly related to matters arising from discussion cannot be introduced by a trustee at a Board or Committee meeting, or after the notice of agenda has been circulated to members, unless the item qualifies as emergency business and is confirmed by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present.

**Vaccinations for Congregated Site and Intensive Support Programs Staff**

Trustees Chernos Lin and Laskin have submitted the following as a matter of urgency and for consideration as emergency business.

Therefore, be it resolved:

A. That the following matter be deemed as emergency business; and, if approved (requires a two-thirds majority vote of the members present to be considered);

B. That the following be considered:

Whereas, the Ministry of Education announced the closure of all Ontario schools for in-school learning on December 22, 2020, and made the following exception: *"As part of the government's efforts to protect the most vulnerable, boards will be required to make provisions for continued in-person support for students with special education needs who cannot be accommodated through remote learning for whom remote learning is challenging"*; and

Whereas, the Toronto District School Board recognizes the paramount importance of keeping its congregated settings and Intensive Support Programs (ISP) open and available for in-person learning for vulnerable students who cannot learn remotely with complex medical needs and/or complex learning needs; and

Whereas, the vast majority of the children currently being supported for in-person learning in Toronto are medically fragile, unable to physically distance, unable to wear masks consistently, and require extensive physical support from education workers;

Therefore, be it resolved:

- a) That the Chair write a letter to the Minister of Education, the Minister of Health, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Officer of Toronto Public Health asking:
  - i. for the immediate implementation of voluntary asymptomatic testing of staff and students in congregated settings and Intensive Support Programs that are exempted from the closure order;
  - ii. that all education workers and teachers working in congregated settings and Intensive Support Program classrooms exempted from the closure order have access to vaccinations immediately, so as to allow these sites to remain open in the safest manner possible and protect both the students and staff in these settings from COVID-19;
- b) That the Ontario Public School Boards' Association and all chairs of Ontario's public school boards be copied on the correspondence at Part (a).

### **Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands**

We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe (ANISH NA BEE), the Haudenosaunee (HOE DENA SHOW NEE) Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit people.

#### Mandate

The Planning and Priorities Committee shall make recommendations to the Board on:

- (a) the development and coordination of a strategic plan for the Board, in consultation with the Director and the standing Committees;
- (b) the Board's inter-governmental relations;
- (c) matters relating to meetings of the Board and the standing Committees;
- (d) the Board's Bylaws and procedures;
- (e) professional development for members of the Board;
- (f) planning and other related matters; and,
- (g) facility and property matters, including property disposition, major capital projects, boundary changes; and,
- (h) other issues referred time to time by the Board or the Chair of the Board or Committee.



# Our Mission

To enable all students to reach high levels of achievement and well-being and to acquire the knowledge, skills and values they need to become responsible, contributing members of a democratic and sustainable society.

## We Value

- Each and every student's interests, strengths, passions, identities and needs
- A strong public education system
- A partnership of students, staff, family and community
- Shared leadership that builds trust, supports effective practices and enhances high expectations
- The diversity of our students, staff and our community
- The commitment and skills of our staff
- Equity, innovation, accountability and accessibility
- Learning and working spaces that are inclusive, caring, safe, respectful and environmentally sustainable

## Our Goals

### **Transform Student Learning**

We will have high expectations for all students and provide positive, supportive learning environments. On a foundation of literacy and math, students will deal with issues such as environmental sustainability, poverty and social justice to develop compassion, empathy and problem solving skills. Students will develop an understanding of technology and the ability to build healthy relationships.

### **Create a Culture for Student and Staff Well-Being**

We will build positive school cultures and workplaces where mental health and well-being is a priority for all staff and students. Teachers will be provided with professional learning opportunities and the tools necessary to effectively support students, schools and communities.

### **Provide Equity of Access to Learning Opportunities for All Students**

We will ensure that all schools offer a wide range of programming that reflects the voices, choices, abilities, identities and experiences of students. We will continually review policies, procedures and practices to ensure that they promote equity, inclusion and human rights practices and enhance learning opportunities for all students.

### **Allocate Human and Financial Resources Strategically to Support Student Needs**

We will allocate resources, renew schools, improve services and remove barriers and biases to support student achievement and accommodate the different needs of students, staff and the community.

### **Build Strong Relationships and Partnerships Within School Communities to Support Student Learning and Well-Being**

We will strengthen relationships and continue to build partnerships among students, staff, families and communities that support student needs and improve learning and well-being. We will continue to create an environment where every voice is welcomed and has influence.