

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).