

	Chair
Brea Corbet	Trustee
Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi	Trustee

7. Declaration of Interest

The following trustees declared an interest in agenda items A8 K1:

1. Trustee Mario Pascucci - family members belong to OECTA
2. Trustee Brea Corbet - a family member is a DPCDSB employee
3. Trustee Stefano Pascucci - a family member belongs to OECTA
4. Trustee Bruno Iannicca - family members belong to OECTA and CUPE 2026
5. Trustee Shawn Xaviour – a family member belongs to CUPE 1483

Darryl D'Souza
Paula Dametto-Giovannozzi

8. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, December 10, 2024

Anisha Thomas

Delegate Josephine Luetke: I have delegated before and at that time did detail the history of the Rainbow flag by Gilbert Baker. He created it for the San Francisco Pride Parade. He was part of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence; an anti-Catholic drag group. The original Pride Flag is interpreted as a sign of inclusion, but it has sexual connotations.

2. Student Trustee Raheem: You said that the Pride flag confuses and harms students, how?

Delegate Josephine Luetke: The Catholic church is opposed to transgenderism and homosexual activities. By displaying or flying the Pride flag in our Catholic schools, it appears that the Catholic church promotes and/or supports these behaviours, which is not the case. Transgenderism and homosexual activity can be emotionally, physically and spiritually harmful. Pope Francis has said on a deep inner most level it can separate one from God.

3. Student Trustee Raheem: Understanding that the board has declining enrolment, do you not think that having a policy of exclusion will negatively affect the board?

Delegate Josephine Luetke: I do not agree with the question. The cross is inclusive of all people and I believe it attracts people to the Catholic board.

3. Kathleen Wynne

1. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi: Are you a ratepayer of Dufferin-Peel?

Delegate Kathleen Wynne: No, I am a former premier of Ontario and a former minister of education.

2. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi: Have you ever done this same delegation to another religion based school board, other than Catholic?

Delegate Kathleen Wynne: I have not been asked to or had the need to delegate on this issue at other publicly funding schools boards.

3. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi: Have you consulted the local Cardinal or Archbishop before delegating tonight?

Delegate Kathleen Wynne: I did not. As I have said, I have had many meetings with senior members of the church and have worked to find common ground.

4. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi: Do you believe the bible is the authoritative word of God?

Delegate Kathleen Wynne: I am a member of the United Church of Canada. I am a Christian. I am not a Catholic and I do not follow the teaching of the Catholic Church. My faith is based in my belief of Jesus.

5. Student Trustee Raheem: Thank you for your incredible record of public service. Why do you say we are moving away from inclusion?

Delegate Kathleen Wynne: The discussion is just that. The question is, will this board and other Catholic boards make similar decisions? Flying the flag says to the world, to the children and their families that this is a safe place.

6. Student Trustee Raheem: Are you in support of publicly funded Catholic education?

Delegate Kathleen Wynne: I think I have demonstrated with my experience that I support publicly funded Catholic education. Catholic boards have a responsibility to follow the Ministry of Education guidelines and policies and to apply the charter of rights and freedoms.

7. Student Trustee Raheem: Why did you think it was important to delegate today?

Delegate Kathleen Wynne: I quoted Mariann Budde, as she says there is a new permission, and we are moving away from tolerance, love and acceptance. We need to protect the work we have been doing for 50 years in respect to tolerance, love and acceptance.

8. Trustee Brea Corbet: From your experience as education minister, can you please provide any clarification from a board policy perspective, that would be helpful for us to understand?

Delegate Kathleen Wynne: The Human Rights Code applies to everyone, in education and within the Catholic boards, there should be no discrimination of protected groups, there is a moral obligation to support people that otherwise live in fear, risk being harmed, or harming themselves. The board needs to examine their practices to ensure that policies are for inclusion, not exclusion.

4. Anna Deamaral

1. Student Trustee Raheem: You mentioned "virtue signa s

Councillor Alvin Tedjo: Yes.

11. Nicole Richard, Protect Our Youth - Withdrawn

12. Keri Morris – No follow-up questions.

13. Melanie Cormier on behalf of the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) Indigenous Education Council (IEC)

1. Trustee Brea Corbet: Can you explain why our change in the policy violates your rights and negatively impacts our Indigenous students? Can you speak to the claim that the Canadian flag is the only flag that Catholic school boards need, as it is inclusive of everyone, and how it impacts the Indigenous community?

Delegate Melanie Cormier: Canada has not honoured the treaties. The reservations are still under boiling water advisories, they do not have clean drinking water. If the treaties were honoured, we would at the bare minimum have clean drinking water. For some Indigenous people, the flag is a reminder of the genocide, and for the surviving - a reminder of the intergenerational trauma of residential schools.

14. Erin Doherty - Video Presentation

Trustee Questions to Staff:

1. Trustee Brea Corbet: The first delegate said that flying the rainbow flag does not diminish the importance of the cross, it reaffirms its message of love, support, and inclusion. There is much discussion of what is a symbol and what is a flag. Can we ensure the system is clear about what is permitted?

Director Mazzorato: We will provide clarity following the outcome.

2. Student Trustee Raheem White: Commented that, as Ontario is the last remaining province to receive public funding, this has garnered a lot of attention regarding defunding.

Director Mazzorato: DPCDSB is grounded in our Catholic values and we continue to foster an environment of inclusion and acceptance. Our board is committed to excellence in Catholic education and we continue to see strong enrolment in our schools and have strong support of our parents/guardians, who are voters, who with confidence will vote for our Catholic faith.

3. Indigenous Student Trustee Bailey Clyne: We spoke last week about the Opening Exercises protocol. In the spirit of working for truth and reconciliation some Catholic institutes, including the Waterloo Catholic District School Board (CDSB) and Huron-Superior CDSB have re-ordered and prioritized the Land Acknowledgment. Can we reorder our Opening Exercises to Land Acknowledgment, Prayer and then national anthem?

Executive Superintendent Vecchiarino: The order of tribute is to put our Catholic faith first the beginning of our meetings and at the beginning of each school day. The Ministry of Education recently reviewed the order with the Indigenous Education Committee (IEC). We continue to support individual Indigenous students, the Indigenous

community, and work with staff and trustees to ensure that there is detailed and effective education as needed. We have a healthy Indigenous team and work to increase our numbers.

4. Student Trustee Raheem White: It was said that the Pride flag causes confusion to some students, have staff received any such issues?

Director Mazzorato: My office has not received any issues.

1. Regular Reports

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4. Receipt of the Minutes of the Peel Safe and Active Routes to School Committee Meeting, January 21, 2025

1. Retirement - B. Gillis, Principal

Director Mazzorato paid tribute to Bernadette Gillis as she begins her retirement after 34 years with Dufferin-Peel. She began her teaching career in 1990 as a teacher at St. Giovanni Scalabrini CES. She enjoyed teaching in a variety of grades and Special Education classrooms. In 2003 Bernadette connected with students in her role as an Itinerant Teacher in the Special Education and Learning Services Department. She loved to work with and support some of our neediest students in elementary and secondary schools.

In 2007, Bernadette answered the call to leadership and was promoted to vice-principal at St. Herbert CES and St. Barbara CES. Bernadette then gladly embraced the position of principal at St. David of Wales CES followed by St. John XXIII CES. During her time as principal, she has experienced many memorable occasions, graduations, first days of school, concerts, Sacraments and especially welcoming first-time parents into our Catholic community.

Bernadette is thankful to God for granting her the opportunity to work with many exceptional people: colleagues, staff, board resource staff, families, parish priests, trustees, and senior administration. We wish her health and happiness and all God's blessings as she begins her retirement.

2. Retirement - J. Vieira, Principal

Director Mazzorato paid tribute to Jennifer Vieira, principal of St. Rita CES. After 25 years of dedicated service in Catholic education, Jennifer has discerned that the time has come to embrace the next chapter of her life and explore new opportunities.

Her remarkable journey has seen her fulfill the roles of teacher, consultant, coordinator, vice-principal, and principal. She reflects with pride and gratitude on the many communities she has served, including St. Maria Goretti CES, St. Thomas More CES, Holy Cross CES, Our Lady of Peace CES, St. Monica CES, Good Shepherd CES, and St. Rita CES. With each stop along the way, she built lasting relationships with staff, students, Catholic School Councils (CSC), families, and parish priests.

As she bids farewell to St. Rita CES, Jennifer leaves behind a legacy of care, leadership, and faith. Surrounded by supportive students and staff who embody these same values, she feels blessed to conclude her career in such a nurturing community.

Jennifer extends her heartfelt thanks to the incredible principals, vice-principals, and colleagues she has worked alongside, as well as to DPCDSB for providing opportunities that allowed her to grow, flourish, and form lifelong friendships. Her journey has been one of blessings, achievements, and service, and she moves forward with faith and excitement for what lies ahead.

1. Trustee Paula Dametto-Giovanozzi: I receive Jennifer's letter of retirement with regret. She is a strong Catholic leader. Best wishes and God's blessings in her retirement.

1. Indigenous Student Trustee Bailey Clyne: Would the Board of Trustees be willing to fly an Indigenous flag – The Mississaugas of the First Nation flag and/or Every Child Matters flag during observance periods.

Trustee Brea Corbet: I can put that motion on the table.

2. Indigenous Student Trustee Bailey Clyne called for non-binding vote.
3. Student Trustee Raheem White: We listened to all delegates this week and last week regarding the Pride flag; those that oppose it and those that feel the Pride flag matters. My Grade 10 teacher always asked students – WWJD? Jesus was radical. Last week we had an opportunity to embrace inclusivity and reject hate, there is nothing anti-Christ about the Pride flag. The Pride flag does not represent sex. Let's not align ourselves with groups that believe in conversion therapy and promote harmful messages. We need to be radical and Christ-like in our support of marginalized students.

Territories of Canada and the DPCDSB flag may be displayed inside DPCDSB schools

deliver the work. I will not comment specifically on other board's practices, however, I believe they have similar policies in place.

2. Trustee Bruno Iannicca: My understanding is that the Principals and Vice-Principals across the province have received salary increases.

Director Mazzorato: Across the province they are trying to harmonize salaries and move toward a provincial salary grid.

3. Trustee Bruno Iannicca: What will Principals and Vice-Principals be doing during the additional 15 days of summer?

Director Mazzorato: There is the Directors meeting, Superintendent meetings, professional development and a faith formation session, staffing, scheduling etc. Custodians are present in the buildings during the summer.

4. Trustee Bruno Iannicca: Will this not have an increased effect on administrators who go to our coterminous board where they may not have to work an additional 15 days?

Director Mazzorato: This was done at the central bargaining for

Mario Pascucci
Stefano Pascucci

Executive Superintendent Cherepacha: Everything is running smoothly, there have been no complaints and we are in discussion with our secondary administrators and three providers often to monitor their success. Part of the Supply Chain team recently visited schools to review the sites.

10. Trustee Stefano Pascucci: With Easter coming up, can we ensure fish is offered in the Catholic secondary school cafeterias?

Executive Superintendent Cherepacha: We will communicate your request to the providers.

11. Trustee Stefano Pascucci: Director Mazzorato on your webcast with administrators, can you remind staff that their families are not to park in the fire lanes?

Director Mazzorato: We will advise.

12. Trustee Darryl D'Souza: I received an email from OCSTA that I would normally receive from the Chair of the Board regarding security.

Associate Director Del Bianco: The software that OCSTA uses triggered something in the fire wall. We are meeting with PowerSchools to discuss the challenges we have recently experienced.

Stefano Pascucci
Shawn Xaviour

Darryl D'Souza
Luz del Rosario

Business Arising from
Regular Board Meeting,
January 28, 2025

J. Questions Asked by Trustees

Q 3	Trustee Bruno Iannicca: In the past we had discussed having one license from the City of Mississauga for DPCDSB that will allow all schools to use if they hold a raffle or lottery. These kinds of fundraisers are very successful. Can staff provide an update?	As provided in the Issues & Events on February 21, 2025. Following several consultations with the City of Mississauga's Legal Department, Counsel Beck had a discussion with the Senior Eligibility Officer at the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario ("AGCO"). Counsel Beck expressed to the City of Mississauga and AGCO the DPCDSB's concerns about laborious processes that schools must go
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Attendance at CLSS is mandatory for vice-principal and principal pool candidates, as well as newly appointed vice-principals and principals.

Mentoring Program

Designed for newly appointed principals and vice-principals in their first two years of the role. The Mentoring Program pairs new administrators (mentees) with experienced administrators (mentors). This reciprocal learning relationship fosters professional growth, supporting mentees in developing their skills, knowledge, and leadership abilities. The goal is to cultivate a system where every