

Written Notice of Motion for Consideration (Trustees Mammoliti and Chernos Lin)

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

In accordance with Board Bylaw 5.15.2, the following motion has been provided as notice at the November 23, 2021 special meeting of the Planning and Priorities Committee and 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 to be considered at a subsequent Board or Committee meeting. A notice of motion will not be debated at the meeting at which it is introduced...

5.15.2 (b) A notice of motion submitted prior to, or at a Board meeting, will be referred to the appropriate committee...

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

Increased Resource Support and Financial Flexibility to Ensure Multi-Year Strategic Plan Delivers on Equity and Students Achievement

Whereas, as per the *Education Act*, Ontario school boards have a legislative requirement to oversee and maintain a Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP) to ensure (a) effective use of the resources entrusted to it; (b) use the resources entrusted to it for the purposes of delivering effective and appropriate education; and (c) manage the resources entrusted to it in a manner that upholds public confidence;¹ and

Whereas, the TDSB MYSP calls for equity of access to learning opportunities for all students, the creation of a culture of student and staff well-being, and the strategic allocation of human & financial resources through differentiated supports to ensure we meet the diverse needs of our students and stakeholders; and

Whereas, based on feedback from student, parent, staff and community consultation, no single virtual learning model has met the educational goals in our MYSP that include commitments to reducing disproportionate outcomes, increasing student engagement and belonging, improving well-being, achievement, and equity of access as central components to this plan; and

Whereas, feedback to date from student, staff and community has indicated that the vast majority of students learn best in person and a significant number feel disengaged through virtual learning;² and

¹ <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/leadership/boardroom/multi-year-strategic-plan>

² Of the 36,000 TDSB students surveyed, 84% of Grade 6 to 12 students felt that they learn more in person than virtually (TDSB, 2021). Moreover, the proportion of students indicating active participation in classrooms has gone down for this population of students by 37 percentage points. (TDSB, 2021)

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/research/docs/School%20During%20the%20Pandemic/PreliminaryFindingsImpactLearningPandemic.pdf>

Whereas, the TDSB has repeatedly advocated to the Ministry of Education for critical resource support, inclusive of all pandemic related requirements, to help ensure system flexibility so that we can deliver a strategic pandemic-recovery plan, including funding for virtual learning, if required, that is designed in way to that is informed by pandemic experiences so that we can ensure our ability to uphold our commitment to the MYSP.^{3,4}

Therefore, be it resolved:

- (a) That the Chair write a letter to the Minister of Education to request:
- i. That the Ministry provide the Toronto District School Board with resource supports that will enable the financial flexibility to meet changing and dynamic student needs, including but not limited to:
 - the resources required to properly support the equity, wellbeing, and achievement goals of the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan and Pandemic Recovery Plan³;
 - best practices for effective local, required remote learning;
 - mental health
 - ii. That the resource supports provided in part (i) include the opportunity for appropriate planning and consultation with lessons from the pandemic;
 - iii. That the Minister provide a decision on resources to the TDSB by February 2022 to ensure that there is adequate time to review and interpret system data and engage in consultations with students, communities, and stakeholders and effectively plan for the next school year in a timely fashion;
- (b) That the Ontario Public School Boards' Association be copied on the correspondence in part (a).

³ Motion - Pandemic Recovery Plan Apr 21, 2021- <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Agenda-Minutes/Type/M/Year/2021?Filename=210421.pdf>

⁴ TDSB Pandemic Recovery Plan - <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/School-Year-2021-22/Pandemic-Recovery-Plan>