

Written Notice of Motion (Trustees Aarts and Donaldson)

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

In accordance with Board Bylaw 5.15.2, the following motion is submitted as notice at this time and for consideration at a subsequent committee meeting.

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

Information on Immunization

Whereas, the World Health Organization has declared vaccine hesitancy as one of the top ten global health threats in 2019¹ and that measles, a vaccine preventable, serious disease, has recently seen a global increase of 30 percent, and

Whereas, in September 2019 the Toronto Medical Officer of Health and the Toronto Board of Health reported on the growing risk of vaccine hesitancy in the City^{2,3}; and

Whereas, vaccine hesitancy stems, in part, from communication gaps about vaccine safety and efficacy and misinformation that is spread via the internet and social media; and

Whereas, low vaccination rates can also stem from limited access to information and resources and insufficient access to medical services; and

Whereas, vaccine hesitancy reduces herd immunity (the critical immunization level required to prevent disease outbreaks) and therefore increases the risk of serious disease outbreak in TDSB schools, posing a risk to students, staff and their families; and

Whereas, every school board in the province works with a local public health unit to administer those school-related requirements of the *Immunization of School Pupils Act*⁴ that:

- (i) allow students to register for school only once they have disclosed their immunization record, and
- (ii) issue suspension notices each year for non-compliance with the legislation;

and

Whereas, the TDSB issues approximately 4000 non-compliance suspensions each year representing an unnecessary administrative burden; and

Whereas, absenteeism due to suspensions can negatively impact student success; and

Whereas, the TDSB is a strong partner of Toronto Public Health and is committed to communicating critical information to families on topics that impact student health, well-being, and achievement; and

Whereas, the World Health Organization and the Toronto Board of Health report that health workers, especially those in communities, remain the most trusted advisors of vaccination decisions, and can be supported to provide trusted, credible information on vaccines;

Therefore, be it resolved:

- (a) That the Chair write to Ontario's Minister of Health, the Minister of Education, and Health Canada to request:
 - (i) that the Provincial and Federal governments provide resources and funding to enhance digital record-keeping that will reduce the administrative burden on schools and streamline notification to families;
 - (ii) that the Provincial and Federal governments provide resources and funding for enhanced education for parents and school communities about immunizations, including but not limited to, resources targeted specifically at the most vulnerable communities;
- (b) That the Director strengthen the Board's communications to support the provision of information about immunizations, such as:
 - (i) updating the Board's website and resources for Kindergarten and General Registration to include links to the Toronto Public Health online vaccination reporting website⁵,
 - (ii) working with Toronto Public Health to facilitate greater access to public health community resources, including existing educational resources and school-based supports for parents, teachers and schools.

Note:

1. World Health Organization - "Ten Threats to Global Health in 2019" (<https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/ten-threats-to-global-health-in-2019>)
2. (September 9, 2019) Report from the Medical Officer of Health on Moving to Acceptance: Toronto Public Health's Strategy to Address Vaccine Hesitancy (<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2019/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-137355.pdf>)
3. (September 23, 2019) Presentation from the Associate Medical Officer of Health on Moving to Acceptance: Toronto Public Health's Strategy to Address Vaccine Hesitancy (<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2019/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-138045.pdf>)
4. Immunization of School Pupils Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. I.1: (Immunization of School Pupils Act, RSO 1990, c. I.1)
5. Toronto Public Health - Report Student Immunization (<https://www.toronto.ca/community-people/health-wellness-care/health-programs-advice/immunization/get-immunized-children-youth/report-student-immunization/>)



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.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands

We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe (A NISH 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 peoples.

Reconnaissance des terres traditionnelles

Nous reconnaissons que nous sommes accueillis sur les terres des Mississaugas des Anichinabés (A NISH NA BAY), de la Confédération Haudenosaunee (HOE DENA SHOW NEE) et du Wendat. Nous voulons également reconnaître la pérennité de la présence des Premières Nations, des Métis et des Inuit."

Committee Mandate

Committee of the Whole's mandate will be to make recommendations to the Board on:

- a) The development and annual review of the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan for the Board, in consultation with the Director or designate;
- b) The Board's inter-governmental relations;
- c) The development and management of plans for senior leadership succession;
- d) Professional development for members of the Board;
- e) Facility and property matters, including property disposition, major capital projects, boundary changes;
- f) Matters related to Trustees and Trustee Services; and
- g) Other issues referred to it from time to time by the Board or the Chair of the Board.