

Written Notice of Motion (Trustees Story and Chernos Lin)

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...

September as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Month

Whereas, there is no safe amount, no safe time, or no safe kind of alcohol that an individual can drink during pregnancy; and

Whereas, the term Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) describes the range of disabilities that may affect an individual who was exposed to alcohol in utero/uterus during pregnancy; and

Whereas, prenatal alcohol exposure is the leading preventable cause of birth defects, such as physical and mental disability and behavioural, executive functioning and/or learning challenges; and

Whereas, the exact number of people affected by FASD is unknown, but it is estimated that two to three (four to five) percent of the population are born annually with the effects of prenatal alcohol exposure; and

Whereas, the estimated cost of FASD in Canada is \$4 billion per year covering education, health, mental health, social services and justice costs; and

Whereas, about half of all pregnancies are unplanned meaning developing fetuses are inadvertently exposed to alcohol; and

Whereas, people around the world began observing International FASD Awareness Day on September 9 each year beginning in 1999, in order that on the ninth day of the ninth month of the year, the world will remember that during the nine months of pregnancy it is important to abstain from alcohol; and

Whereas, the Government of Ontario officially recognizes September as FASD Awareness Month; and

Whereas, with Bill 44, *An Act to amend the Education Act in relation to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)*, the Province of Ontario provided for board activities to pro-

mote awareness and understanding of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, including best practices to support pupils who may have FASD; and

Whereas, the Toronto Catholic District School Board decided that it would annually recognize September as FASD Awareness Month and September 9th as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day (FASD); and

Whereas, the health and well-being of students are enhanced by the support of a broad effort to educate about and prevent FASD;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Toronto District School Board annually recognize September as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Month and September 9 as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Awareness Day to:

- (i) increase acceptance;
- (ii) accommodation and support for those individuals so affected;
- (iii) to minimize further effects; and
- (iv) to maximize academic success for FASD affected students and to ensure healthier communities in the future.



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

The Program and School Services Committee's mandate will be to consider and make recommendations to the Board on education matters referred to it for consideration, including matters presented by the Board's Community Advisory Committees.