

Written Notice of Motion as Emergency Business (Trustees Chernos Lin and Li)

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.

Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Strategy

Trustees Chernos Lin and Li 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, public education is the cornerstone and foundation of a healthy, vital and progressive society; and

Whereas, keeping schools open has been deemed a priority for children's learning, mental health and well-being; and

Whereas, data shows that being fully vaccinated significantly reduces the risks of the most serious outcomes of COVID-19, including the variants of concern to date; and

Whereas, vaccines are readily available throughout the City of Toronto through pop-up clinics across the city and in schools, mobile units, pharmacies, and city-run vaccination centres; and

Whereas, it is incumbent upon society to protect children under 12 who are ineligible to be vaccinated at this time and vulnerable populations who are at highest risk of developing complications from COVID-19; and

Whereas, Ontario has a precedent for requiring vaccinations to protect children and ensure schools remain as safe as possible;

Therefore, be it resolved:

- (a) That the Director work collaboratively with Toronto Public Health, local health partners, and TDSB employee groups to develop a strategy and protocol to require COVID-19 vaccination or testing for staff, which can include a multi-pronged approach involving education and incentivization, to ensure TDSB workplaces remain as safe as possible for students and staff alike;
- (b) That, should part (a) be adopted:
 - i. the finalized protocol and strategy be implemented prior to school re-opening on September 9 if feasible, or as soon as practicable thereafter;
 - ii. OPSBA, all Ontario Public School Boards, and all TDSB employee groups be notified of this resolution.