

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Date:	March 20, 2018	
Time:	7:30 pm	
Location:	Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School 2420 Sixth Line, Oakville, ON	
Members Present:	A. Danko A. Iantomasi H. Karabela P. Marai, Vice-Chair of the Board J. Michael	D. Rabenda, Chair of the Board J.M. Rowe A. Quinn S. Trites
Student Trustees:	C. Atrach A. Barbul	I. Schwecht
Senior Staff:	B. Browne C. Cipriano P. Dawson, Secretary of the Board C. McGillicuddy R. Merrick L. Naar	R. Nego T. Overholt T. Pinelli A. Prkacin
Also Present:	A. Bartucci, Communication Officer, Strategic Communications K. Boyd, President, Halton OECTA Secondary Unit J. Chanthavong, Administrator, Budget & Capital, Business Services L. Collimore, Chief Officer, Research and Development A. Lofts, Senior Administrator, Financial Services J. Lochrie, Parliamentarian A. Swinden, Administrator, Strategic Communications F. Thibeault, Administrator, Planning & Assessment Services Media	
Recording Secretary:	R. Di Pietro	

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### 1. **Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order.

#### 1.1 **Opening Prayer, National Anthem and Oath of Citizenship (C. Atrach)**

The meeting opened at 7:30 p.m. with a prayer led by C. Atrach.

#### 1.2 **Motions Adopted In-Camera**

There were no motions adopted in-camera.

#### 1.3 **Information Received In-Camera**

The following information was received in-camera:

Retirement

Maria Kuchera and Elaine Lypko retiring June 30, 2018.

Curriculum Consultant, OYAP/SHSM/Pathways

Mark Ives appointed as Curriculum Consultant, OYAP/SHSM/Pathways effective September 1, 2018 for a period of up to three (3) years.

Consultant, Multiculturalism, Community Liaison and Newcomer Outreach

Carmen Condo appointed as Consultant, Multiculturalism, Community Liaison and Newcomer Outreach effective September 1, 2018. This is a term position renewable annually and subject to available funding.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

10.8 Notice of Motion - Making the Process of Approving Charities and Non-Profits Transparent and Accountable to the Catholic Ratepayer (A. Danko)

**#86/18**

**Moved by:** A. Quinn

**Seconded by:** S. .Trites

**RESOLVED**, that the agenda be approved as amended.

The Chair called for a vote on **#86/18** and it **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

There were no conflicts on interest declared.

**4. Presentations**

There were no presentations.

**5. Delegations****5.1 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (M.C. Bissonnette)**

Ms. Bissonnette spoke of her support of the resolution.

Ms. Bissonnette confirmed she is not a student of the Halton Catholic District School Board.

**5.2 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (N. Cabral, D. Herrero, D. Sabido)**

The students of Jean Vanier Catholic Secondary School spoke of their opposition to the motion.

As requested, the [link](#) to the online petition was forwarded to Trustees.

**5.3 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (C. Canaria)**

Ms. Canaria spoke of her support of the resolution.

- 5.4 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (K. Dickinson, L. Keating)**  
Ms. Keating spoke of her opposition to the resolution and the lack of transparency and stakeholder consultation.
- 5.5 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (M. DiGiantommaso)**  
Ms. DiGiantommaso spoke of her support of the resolution.
- 5.6 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (R. Espinoza, D. Louzado, S. Reyes)**  
The students of St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Secondary School spoke of their opposition to the motion.
- 5.7 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits (E. Gromley, J. Joseph, B. Sabourin)**  
The students of Christ the King Catholic Secondary School spoke of their opposition to the motion.
- 5.8 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (E. Jasiewicz)**  
Ms. Jasiewicz spoke of her opposition to the motion.
- 5.9 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (J. Jeffs)**  
Ms. Jeffs spoke of her support for the resolution.
- 5.10 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (G. Kantor)**  
Ms. Kantor spoke of her support for the resolution.
- 5.11 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (S. Kusyk)**  
Ms. Kusyk spoke of her support for the resolution.
- 5.12 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (J. Luetke)**  
Ms. Luetke spoke of her support for the resolution.
- 5.13 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (M. Mangan, A. Selvakumaran)**  
The students of Bishop P.F. Reding Catholic Secondary School spoke their opposition to the resolution.
- 5.14 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (J. Monte)**  
Ms. Monte spoke to the lack of consultation with school councils and the parent/student community in the creation and passing of the motion.

**5.15 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life Through Donations to Charities and Non Profits Resolution (T. Pineau)**

Ms. Pineau spoke to her opposition of the resolution.

**5.16 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life Through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (D. Suan)**

This student from Corpus Christi Catholic Secondary School spoke to his opposition of the resolution.

**#87/18**

**Moved by:** P. Marai

**Seconded by:** A. Quinn

**RESOLVED**, that the meeting move past 10:00 p.m.

The Chair called for a vote on **#87/18** and it **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**5.17 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life Through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (P. Swirzon)**

Mr. Swirzon spoke to his support of the resolution.

**5.18 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life Through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (C. Waddick)**

Ms. Waddick spoke to her opposition of the resolution, process and effects the resolution has on fundraising in schools.

**#88/18**

**Moved by:** A. Danko

**Seconded by:** A. Quinn

**RESOLVED**, that the meeting move past 10:30 p.m.

The Chair called for a vote on **#88/18** and it **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**5.19 Response to Upholding the Sanctity of Life Through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits Resolution (L. Walls)**

Ms. Walls spoke to her opposition of the resolution.

**6. Approval of Minutes**

**6.1 Minutes of the March 6, 2018 Regular Board Meeting**

**#89/18**

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the March 6, 2018 Regular Board Meeting be approved.

The Chair called for a vote on **#89/18** and it **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**7. Business Arising from Previous Meetings**

**7.1 Summary of Outstanding Items from Previous Meetings**

The Summary of Outstanding Items from Previous Meetings was received as information.

## 8. Action Items

### 8.1 Response to Delegations (D. Rabenda)

The following motion was put forward by Trustee Danko:

**WHEREAS**, in resolution #61/18 called "Upholding the Sanctity of Life Through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits" that was passed both on January 16, 2018 and again on February 20, 2018, the HCDSB is taking the principled and just stand to firmly support the Catholic Church's moral teaching that the Right to Life is paramount for a just and good society;

*this principled and just stand was absent from previous administrations. There was a failure to properly vet charities and non-profits which may have used donated funds to undermine the respect for human life in the support of activities like abortion, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research;*

*the community has been rightly concerned about the impact this resolution has had in possibly stopping legitimate fundraising for charities and non-profits which do not directly or indirectly undermine the Right to Life through their activities in Canada or overseas;*

*the federal government of Canada through a recent ideological test of conscience rights has begun denying funds to any group which believes in the Right to Life;*

*the approval or disapproval of any charity or non-profit, in its relationship to Resolution #61/18, because it is about promoting and defending the Right to Life, which is the most fundamental of all human rights, must be handled in a transparent and accountable way so Catholic Ratepayers are well informed and can participate in the vetting;*

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that

1. The Director of Education will publish a list of approved charities and non-profits on the HCDSB website as a sign of the school board's commitment to the social good and charitable activities by Easter Sunday, April 1 2018;

2. The Director of Education will publish on the HCDSB website, in a clear and organized fashion, all documents discovered during research by staff which prove the charity's or non-profit's compliance with Resolution #61/18.

3. The Director of Education will publish on the HCDSB website, in a clear and organized fashion, all documents discovered by staff in relation to Resolution #61/18 which may undermine the approval of any approved charities or non-profits;

4. The staff doing the research must not simply rely on written statements of a charity's or non-profit's compliance with Resolution #61/18 mentioned above, but must make an effort to find, review and publish on the HCDSB website all materials associated with the charity or non-profit on their website or any other website which relates to the charity's or non-profit's support for or against the organization's commitment to any funding or public support for abortion, euthanasia, sterilization, contraception or embryonic stem cell research.

5. The Director of Education must have an open, public and transparent process for the public to submit new research which may contradict or support the position of any approved or non-approved charity or non-profit.

6. The Director of Education will immediately encourage and ensure all approved charities are fully supported by the rest of the administration, and in no way shall students or staff be dissuaded from on-going or new fundraising activities for charities or non-profits which have been approved.

7. After April 1, 2018 all additional charities and non-profits will be approved within 60 days of application for approval. Any delay in approval must be due to on-going investigation of documents found during research but must be resolved within 90 days of application for approval. A non-approved organization cannot be fundraised for using the resources of the HCDSB.

8. Any charity or non-profit which continues to directly or indirectly support the activities mentioned in Resolution #61/18 may never, under any circumstances, be entered into a financial relationship with the HCDSB;

9. Any charity or non-profit which in the past has directly or indirectly publicly supported the activities mentioned in Resolution #61/18, but pledges to not do so again, must not have done so for at least 5 years before it is approved; further, it must prove it has not done so for at least 5 years before it is approved.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that

The Director of Education will publish on the HCDSB website:

- A) a list of all charities which the HCDSB has fundraised for in the last 3 years (2015, 2016, 2017), in honour of the Feast of St Joseph the Worker, by May 1, 2018;
- B) the amounts raised for each charity, by year, over the last 3 years by May 1, 2018;
- C) a report on the number of and the amounts for any the Canada Summer Jobs subsidies applied for in 2016, 2017, and 2018 by Easter Sunday, April 1 2018. A further item to be reported is the amount received per application from the federal government for 2016, and 2018.
- D) every year, starting in 2018, a list of all charities and non-profits, and the total amount raised for each organization, on or by June 29.

Trustee lantomasi called a point of order indicating the motion was confusing complicated and did not respond to delegations. The Chair dismissed Trustee Danko's motion.

**#90/18**

**Moved by:** A. Danko

**Seconded by:** A. Quinn

**RESOLVED**, that the Halton Catholic District School Board receive the delegations as information.

The Chair called for a vote on **#90/18**:

IN FAVOUR	OPPOSED
A. Danko	C. Atrach (non-binding)
H. Karabela	A. Barbul (non-binding)
P. Marai	A. Iantomasi
A. Quinn	J. Michael
S. Trites	D. Rabenda
	J.M. Rowe
	I. Schwecht (non-binding)

The motion **CARRIED**.

## 8.2 Consultation and Cooperation of Resolution #61/18 (A. Iantomasi) #91/18

**Moved by:** A. Iantomasi

**Seconded by:** J. Michael

**WHEREAS**, the Education Act, in describing the authority of school boards, sets out their specific authority to exercise power through policy;

**WHEREAS**, decisions or resolutions of the Board of Trustees that require ongoing actions or have continuous impact on system actions should be documented in policy;

**WHEREAS**, the Education Act requires school boards to develop and maintain policies that set clear expectations and standards;

**WHEREAS**, as elected officials, Trustees are expected to develop policy in an open and accountable manner and public consultation on policy development is one important way that trustees serve their communities and ensure accountability to their constituents;

**WHEREAS**, it is important to consider a particular policy's effect on different groups and, where possible, consult with the major partners before making significant changes to a particular policy;

**WHEREAS**, Section 19 of Ontario Regulation 612/00, under the Education Act, requires school boards to consult with school councils with respect to policies and guidelines governing fundraising activities of school councils;

**WHEREAS**, Board Resolution #61/18, imposes specific restrictions on school fundraising activities but no effort was made to consult with school councils, students or staff with respect to these significant changes;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Halton Catholic District School Board charge the Policy Committee with the mandate to incorporate into Policy V-04 - School Fundraising Activities, the requirements stipulated in Resolution #61/18;

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that the Policy Committee submit Policy V-04, as amended, for stakeholder input, in accordance with Operating Policy I - Governance of Policy.

Trustee lantomasi reminded Trustees that they are tasked with the important role of establishing direction through the development and monitoring of policy. Good governance dictates that trustees must work in collaboration with the other members of the school board to develop policies that work for all students and ensure they are implemented effectively.

Policies set out the expectations about what should happen, or how services are to be provided within the school board. A well-written policy describes to parents, the public and the board's staff, what they can expect and demonstrates *transparency*.

From the numerous letters received, along with the many delegations, presenting impassioned views on the topic of the *Sanctity of Life* resolution #61/18, it is clear that stakeholders are very interested and invested in this recent decision and, hence, want to express their opinion to the Board of Trustees – something stakeholders did not have an opportunity to do when the motion was first tabled in January and re-adopted in February. Trustees should not be selective on seeking input.

Halton Catholic students are engaged and committed to helping others by supporting various charitable organizations. Trustee lantomasi shared how she has personally been inspired by students of the HCDSB, their depth of compassion, understanding of Catholic teaching and values, and their dedication to acts of kindness.

As Catholics, the overwhelming commitment is unquestionably to protect all life, but the intent of the motion is that proper protocol is adhered to.

Because the resolution is directly linked to school fundraising, Regulation 612/00 requires the Board to consult with school councils who, in turn, will consult with the parents at their respective schools. Had Regulation 612/00 been followed there would have been better clarity at the outset regarding which charities are affected and which are not, thereby pre-empting undue speculation, stakeholder upset and the subsequent confusion that has ensued.

Due to the ambiguity created by not clarifying the criteria at the outset regarding which charities are eligible and why - for parents and stakeholders - a storm of misunderstanding and emotional upset has prevailed, creating misconceptions at school and community levels, and in medial speculation. Most sadly, it has pitted good intention against good intention, and has given rise to much misinformation.

Trustee lantomasi expressed that the Halton Catholic community is being torn apart for no good reason other than personal agendas.

Due diligence is required by the Trustees by bringing this resolution to the Policy committee, adjust / update the current school fundraising policy, and perform our due



diligence in seeking feedback from school councils on the amended policy. Trustee lantomasi implored fellow Trustees to support the motion and rectify an erred process.

**#91/18 (AMENDMENT)**

**Moved by:** A. Danko

**Seconded by:** H. Karabela

**WHEREAS**, it is important to consider a particular policy's effect on different groups and where possible, consult with the major partners before making significant changes to a particular policy;

**WHEREAS**, Section 19 of Ontario Regulation 612/00, under the Education Act, requires school boards to solicit the views of school councils with respect to policies and guidelines governing fundraising activities of school councils;

**WHEREAS**, Section 22 of Ontario Regulation 612/00, under the Education Act, requires school councils to conduct all fundraising activities in accordance with policies established by the board and the fundraising activities are for purposes approved and authorized by the board;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) incorporate into Policy V-04 – School Fundraising Activities, the requirements stipulated in Resolution #61/18;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the HCDSB staff submit Policy V-04, as amended, for stakeholder input, in accordance with Operating Policy I – Governance of Policy, sending the correspondence to all stakeholders as well as all parents and staff, and that the solicited views be presented in a staff report for discussion at a future board meeting, and;

**Be IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following text be included in the stakeholder correspondence:

- 1) Sections 93 Constitution Act denominational rights and section 1(1.4) of the Education Act of Ontario clearly establish denominational rights, and it is a right of fundamental moral and religious issue that a Catholic school and all its activities do not financially or otherwise support activities which violate the Right to Life of all human beings. It is clearly the teaching of the Catholic Church that any support, directly or indirectly, of abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research, sterilization and contraception violates the sacredness of human life.
- 2) Diane Rabenda, HCDSB Chair, in a CBC Radio Metro Morning interview on March 5, 2018 stated: "This is the motion of the Board, the resolution of the Board, and whether Trustees agree with it or not it was passed, therefore all Trustees have to outwardly support that motion." She further stated: "I think it's trying to follow the tenets of the faith very strictly and we do support our Catholic faith and we do, do our very best, but it has caused division, there's absolutely no question about that," she said.

Consequently, this passed resolution is being implemented and the reference to the community for feedback is to listen to concerns with the implementation but will not

change or alter the substance of the resolution passed in Board meetings on 16 January 2018 and again on 20 February 2018.

(see: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/Canada/Toronto/halton-catholic-School-v-board-charities-1.4562519>)

- 3) The following quotes from key teaching documents of the Catholic Church will also be included in the body of the email:

"It is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life, upon which all the other inalienable rights of individuals are founded and from which they develop. A society lacks solid foundations when, on the one hand, it asserts values such as the dignity of the person, justice and peace, but then, on the other hand, radically acts to the contrary by allowing or tolerating a variety of ways in which human life is devalued and violated, especially where it is weak or marginalized. Only respect for life can be the foundation and guarantee of the most precious and essential goods of society, such as democracy and peace." (Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae* (1995), no. 101)

"No public official, especially one claiming to be a faithful and serious Catholic, can responsibly advocate for or actively support direct attacks on innocent human life. No appeal to policy, procedure, majority will or pluralism ever excuses a public official from defending life to the greatest extent possible. As is true of leaders in all walks of life, no political leader can evade accountability for his or her exercise of power (*Evangelium Vitae*, 73-4). Those who justify their inaction on the grounds that abortion is the law of the land need to recognize that there is a higher law, the law of God. No human law can validly contradict the Commandment: "Thou shalt not kill." (USCCB, *Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics* (1998), no. 32)

"Furthermore, whatever is opposed to life itself, such as any type of murder, genocide, abortion, euthanasia or wilful self-destruction, whatever violates the integrity of the human person, such as mutilation, torments inflicted on body or mind, attempts to coerce the will itself; whatever insults human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children; as well as disgraceful working conditions, where men are treated as mere tools for profit, rather than as free and responsible persons; all these things and others of their like are infamies indeed. They poison human society, but they do more harm to those who practice them than those who suffer from the injury. Moreover, they are supreme dishonor to the Creator." (The Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World, *Gaudium et Spes*, Section 27).

"For God, the Lord of life, has conferred on men the surpassing ministry of safeguarding life in a manner which is worthy of man. Therefore, from the moment of its conception life must be guarded with the greatest care while abortion and infanticide are unspeakable crimes." (The Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World, *Gaudium et Spes*, Section 51).

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

2271 Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable.

*2272 Formal cooperation in an abortion constitutes a grave offense. The Church attaches the canonical penalty of excommunication to this crime against human life. "A person who procures a completed abortion incurs excommunication latae sententiae,"77 "by the very commission of the offense,"78 and subject to the conditions provided by Canon Law.79 The Church does not thereby intend to restrict the scope of mercy. Rather, she makes clear the gravity of the crime committed, the irreparable harm done to the innocent who is put to death, as well as to the parents and the whole of society.*

*2273 The inalienable right to life of every innocent human individual is a constitutive element of a civil society and its legislation...*

*2274 Since it must be treated from conception as a person, the embryo must be defended in its integrity, cared for, and healed, as far as possible, like any other human being."*

*2277 Whatever its motives and means, direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick, or dying persons. It is morally unacceptable.*

*2399 The regulation of births represents one of the aspects of responsible fatherhood and motherhood. Legitimate intentions on the part of the spouses do not justify recourse to morally unacceptable means (for example, direct sterilization or contraception);*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that if challenged, lawyers representing HCDSB will be directed to rely on section 93 Constitution Act, Canada, denominational rights and section 1(1.4) of the Education Act of Ontario.

**#92/18**

**Moved by:** P. Marai

**Seconded by:** A. Quinn

***BE IT RESOLVED***, that the meeting move past 11:00 p.m.

The Chair called for a vote on **#92/18** and it **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

Trustee Michael called a point of order and questioned the amendment stating it was not germane to the motion. Trustee Danko explained that the amendment still respects the motion but also recognizes Section 22 of Ontario Regulation 612/00, under the Education Act.

Student Trustee Schwecht noted that a hard copy of the amendment was provided to all Trustees but not the Student Trustees making them continue to feel marginalized.

Superintendent Overholt confirmed that the Policy V-04 – School Fundraising Activities was not currently scheduled for review but the schedule could be adjusted.

Trustee Iantomasi voiced that she would not be in favour of the lengthy and confusing amendment.

The Director of Education explained that the Board of Trustees do have the duty and power to set standards and expectations through its governance authority by developing, implementing and monitoring policy.

The expectations expressed in Resolution #61/18 known as the 'Sanctity of Life', outline the requirements that schools within the Halton Catholic District School Board must adhere to if they are considering raising funds for any charities or non-profits. Under section 22 of Regulation 612/00, schools must conduct all fundraising activities in accordance with the policies established by the board and for the purposes approved and authorized by the Board.

However, Regulation 612/00 section 19 also requires the board to consult the views of schools councils with respect to policies and guidelines governing fundraising activities of school councils. At this point, the Board is not in compliance with this regulation as we have not sought the feedback from our school councils. The Director shared concern about not following process.

The Director of Education has a dual responsibility. She reports to the Board of Trustees as their employee. She also has a responsibility to ensure that what is done in our district is compliant with the Education Act, Regulations and statutory requirements set out by the Ministry of Education.

The Director advised the Board of Trustees to incorporate the language of resolution #61/18 into existing policy governing school fundraising and send the amended policy out for stakeholder consultation including all school councils, review the feedback and if necessary, make any adjustments to the policy. Should the Board of Trustees choose not to take this advice – which is to seek feedback from school councils, the Director advise that she will need to report this omission to the Deputy Minister because the Board would be in contravention of the requirements in Regulation 612/00.

The Chair expressed that she would like the amended policy go out for stakeholder feedback without it being couched with extra language.

Trustee Danko was in agreement with Trustee Quinn's suggestion to strike out the following from the amendment:

- 2) *Diane Rabenda, HCDSB Chair, in a CBC Radio Metro Morning interview on March 5, 2018 stated: "This is the motion of the Board, the resolution of the Board, and whether Trustees agree with it or not it was passed, therefore all Trustees have to outwardly support that motion." She further stated: "I think it's trying to follow the tenets of the faith very strictly and we do support our Catholic faith and we do, do our very best, but it has caused division, there's absolutely no question about that," she said.*

*Consequently, this passed resolution is being implemented and the reference to the community for feedback is to listen to concerns with the implementation but will not change or alter the substance of the resolution passed in Board meetings on 16 January 2018 and again on 20 February 2018.*

*(see: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/Canada/Toronto/halton-catholic-School- v-board-charities-1.4562519>)*

The Chair called for a vote on **#91/18 (AMENDMENTS)**:

IN FAVOUR	OPPOSED
A. Danko	C. Atrach (non-binding)
H. Karabela	A. Barbul (non-binding)
P. Marai	A. Iantomasi
A. Quinn	J. Michael
S. Trites	D. Rabenda
	J.M. Rowe
	I. Schwecht (non-binding)

The motion **CARRIED**.

**#91/18 (AS AMENDED)**

**Moved by:** A. Iantomasi

**Seconded by:** J. Michael

**WHEREAS**, it is important to consider a particular policy's effect on different groups and where possible, consult with the major partners before making significant changes to a particular policy;

**WHEREAS**, Section 19 of Ontario Regulation 612/00, under the Education Act, requires school boards to solicit the views of school councils with respect to policies and guidelines governing fundraising activities of school councils;

**WHEREAS**, Section 22 of Ontario Regulation 612/00, under the Education Act, requires school councils to conduct all fundraising activities in accordance with policies established by the board and the fundraising activities are for purposes approved and authorized by the board;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) incorporate into Policy V-04 – School Fundraising Activities, the requirements stipulated in Resolution #61/18;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the HCDSB staff submit Policy V-04, as amended, for stakeholder input, in accordance with Operating Policy I – Governance of Policy, sending the correspondence to all stakeholders as well as all parents and staff, and that the solicited views be presented in a staff report for discussion at a future board meeting, and;

**Be IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following text be included in the stakeholder correspondence:

- 1) Sections 93 Constitution Act denominational rights and section 1(1.4) of the Education Act of Ontario clearly establish denominational rights, and it is a right of fundamental moral and religious issue that a Catholic school and all its activities do not financially or otherwise support activities which violate the Right to Life of all human beings.

It is clearly the teaching of the Catholic Church that any support, directly or indirectly, of abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research, sterilization and contraception violates the sacredness of human life.

- 2) The following quotes from key teaching documents of the Catholic Church will also be included in the body of the email:

"It is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life, upon which all the other inalienable rights of individuals are founded and from which they develop. A society lacks solid foundations when, on the one hand, it asserts values such as the dignity of the person, justice and peace, but then, on the other hand, radically acts to the contrary by allowing or tolerating a variety of ways in which human life is devalued and violated, especially where it is weak or marginalized. Only respect for life can be the foundation and guarantee of the most precious and essential goods of society, such as democracy and peace." (Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae* (1995), no. 101)

"No public official, especially one claiming to be a faithful and serious Catholic, can responsibly advocate for or actively support direct attacks on innocent human life. No appeal to policy, procedure, majority will or pluralism ever excuses a public official from defending life to the greatest extent possible. As is true of leaders in all walks of life, no political leader can evade accountability for his or her exercise of power (*Evangelium Vitae*, 73-4). Those who justify their inaction on the grounds that abortion is the law of the land need to recognize that there is a higher law, the law of God. No human law can validly contradict the Commandment: "Thou shalt not kill." (USCCB, *Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics* (1998), no. 32)

"Furthermore, whatever is opposed to life itself, such as any type of murder, genocide, abortion, euthanasia or wilful self-destruction, whatever violates the integrity of the human person, such as mutilation, torments inflicted on body or mind, attempts to coerce the will itself; whatever insults human dignity, such as subhuman living conditions, arbitrary imprisonment, deportation, slavery, prostitution, the selling of women and children; as well as disgraceful working conditions, where men are treated as mere tools for profit, rather than as free and responsible persons; all these things and others of their like are infamies indeed. They poison human society, but they do more harm to those who practice them than to those who suffer from the injury. Moreover, they are supreme dishonor to the Creator." (*The Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World, Gaudium et Spes*, Section 27).

"For God, the Lord of life, has conferred on men the surpassing ministry of safeguarding life in a manner which is worthy of man. Therefore, from the moment of its conception life must be guarded with the greatest care while abortion and infanticide are unspeakable crimes." (*The Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World, Gaudium et Spes*, Section 51).

*From the Catechism of the Catholic Church:*

*2271 Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable.*

*2272 Formal cooperation in an abortion constitutes a grave offense. The Church attaches the canonical penalty of excommunication to this crime against human life. "A person who procures a completed abortion incurs excommunication latae sententiae,"<sup>77</sup> "by the very commission of the offense,"<sup>78</sup> and subject to the conditions provided by Canon Law.<sup>79</sup> The Church does not thereby intend to restrict the scope of mercy. Rather, she makes clear the gravity of the crime committed, the irreparable harm done to the innocent who is put to death, as well as to the parents and the whole of society.*

*2273 The inalienable right to life of every innocent human individual is a constitutive element of a civil society and its legislation...*

*2274 Since it must be treated from conception as a person, the embryo must be defended in its integrity, cared for, and healed, as far as possible, like any other human being."*

*2277 Whatever its motives and means, direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick, or dying persons. It is morally unacceptable.*

*2399 The regulation of births represents one of the aspects of responsible fatherhood and motherhood. Legitimate intentions on the part of the spouses do not justify recourse to morally unacceptable means (for example, direct sterilization or contraception).*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that if challenged, lawyers representing HCDSB will be directed to rely on section 93 Constitution Act, Canada, denominational rights and section 1(1.4) of the Education Act of Ontario.

Trustee Quinn made a request that when amended policy sent out, references be highlighted and documents included.

Student Trustee Atrach expressed her gratitude to the student delegates. Students are the true Catholic leaders who have been taught to be positive. Trustees were urged to listen to the students and take their views into serious consideration.

Student Trustee Schwecht explained her duty to advocate and be the voice of the students. A certain viewpoint is being pushed and Trustees are not listening to the feedback.

Trustee Karabela requested to make a statement, which the Chair responded requesting it to be brief.

Trustee Karabela addressed all the delegates in their effort in expressing views and teachings of the Church. Pope Francis was quoted a lot and she shared another quote from him from when he spoke to the Italian Catholic Physician's Association in 2014

saying, “The predominant school of thought sometimes leads to false compassion which holds a benefit to women to promote abortion an act of dignity to perform euthanasia a scientific breakthrough to produce a child considered as a right rather than a gift to be welcomed or to use human lives as laboratory animals allegedly in order to save lives” In this quote Pope Francis specifically signals out that not just abortion and euthanasia is being wrong. The Chair voiced that Trustee Karabela could not do another presentation. Trustee Karabela stated that according to Halton Alive there are 1700 abortions in Halton.

The Chair ruled Trustee Karabela out of order as she was doing another presentation.

The Chair thanked all the delegates and expressed how proud she was of the students.

The Chair called for a vote on **#91/18 (AS AMENDED):**

IN FAVOUR	OPPOSED
C. Atrach (non-binding)	A. Barbul (non-binding)
A. Danko	A. Iantomasi
H. Karabela	J. Michael
P. Marai	D. Rabenda
A. Quinn	J.M. Rowe
I. Schwecht (non-binding)	
S. Trites	

The motion **CARRIED.**

**8.3 Recommended Names for Milton No. 8 FORD Catholic Elementary School (C. Cipriano)**

Meeting was adjourned. Action item to appear on April 3, 2018 agenda.

**8.4 St. Peter CES Child Care Addition Approval to Proceed with School Capital**

Meeting was adjourned. Action item to appear on April 3, 2018 agenda.

**8.5 Bishop P.F. Reding CSS Addition Approval to Proceed with School Capital Planning (R. Merrick)**

Meeting was adjourned. Action item to appear on April 3, 2018 agenda.

**9. Staff Reports**

There were no staff reports.

**10. Information Items**

**10.1 Student Trustees Update (C. Atrach)**

Meeting was adjourned.

**10.2 School Educational Field Trips (L. Naar)**

Report provided as information.

**10.3 Construction Report - Milton No. 8 CES (R. Merrick)**



Report provided as information.

**10.4 Budget Report for September 1, 2017 to February 28, 2018 (R. Negoï)**

Report provided as information.

**10.5 Capital Projects Report as at February 28, 2018 (R. Negoï)**

Report provided as information.

**10.6 Capital Priorities Grant Ministry Funding Announcement (R. Negoï)**

Report provided as information.

**10.7 International Student Program CAPS-I Trade Mission: Prague, Czech Republic and Kyiv, Ukraine (T. Pinelli)**

Report provided as information.

**10.8 Notice of Motion - Making the Process of Approving Charities and Non-Profits Transparent and Accountable to the Catholic Ratepayer (A. Danko)**

**WHEREAS**, in resolution #61/18 called "Upholding the Sanctity of Life Through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits" that was passed both on January 16, 2018 and again on February 20, 2018, the HCDSB is taking the principled and just stand to firmly support the Catholic Church's moral teaching that the Right to Life is paramount for a just and good society;

*this principled and just stand was absent from previous administrations. There was a failure to properly vet charities and non-profits which may have used donated funds to undermine the respect for human life in the support of activities like abortion, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research;*

*the community has been rightly concerned about the impact this resolution has had in possibly stopping legitimate fundraising for charities and non-profits which do not directly or indirectly undermine the Right to Life through their activities in Canada or overseas;*

*the federal government of Canada through a recent ideological test of conscience rights has begun denying funds to any group which believes in the Right to Life;*

*the approval or disapproval of any charity or non-profit, in its relationship to Resolution #61/18, because it is about promoting and defending the Right to Life, which is the most fundamental of all human rights, must be handled in a transparent and accountable way so Catholic Ratepayers are well informed and can participate in the vetting;*

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that

1. The Director of Education will publish a list of approved charities and non-profits on the HCDSB website as a sign of the school board's commitment to the social good and charitable activities by Easter Sunday, April 1 2018;

2. The Director of Education will publish on the HCDSB website, in a clear and organized fashion, all documents discovered during research by staff which prove the charity's or non-profit's compliance with Resolution #61/18.

3. The Director of Education will publish on the HCDSB website, in a clear and organized fashion, all documents discovered by staff in relation to Resolution #61/18 which may undermine the approval of any approved charities or non-profits;
4. The staff doing the research must not simply rely on written statements of a charity's or non-profit's compliance with Resolution #61/18 mentioned above, but must make an effort to find, review and publish on the HCDSB website all materials associated with the charity or non-profit on their website or any other website which relates to the charity's or non-profit's support for or against the organization's commitment to any funding or public support for abortion, euthanasia, sterilization, contraception or embryonic stem cell research.
5. The Director of Education must have an open, public and transparent process for the public to submit new research which may contradict or support the position of any approved or non-approved charity or non-profit.
6. The Director of Education will immediately encourage and ensure all approved charities are fully supported by the rest of the administration, and in no way shall students or staff be dissuaded from on-going or new fundraising activities for charities or non-profits which have been approved.
7. After April 1, 2018 all additional charities and non-profits will be approved within 60 days of application for approval. Any delay in approval must be due to on-going investigation of documents found during research but must be resolved within 90 days of application for approval. A non-approved organization cannot be fundraised for using the resources of the HCDSB.
8. Any charity or non-profit which continues to directly or indirectly support the activities mentioned in Resolution #61/18 may never, under any circumstances, be entered into a financial relationship with the HCDSB;
9. Any charity or non-profit which in the past has directly or indirectly publicly supported the activities mentioned in Resolution #61/18, but pledges to not do so again, must not have done so for at least 5 years before it is approved; further, it must prove it has not done so for at least 5 years before it is approved.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that**

The Director of Education will publish on the HCDSB website:

- E) a list of all charities which the HCDSB has fundraised for in the last 3 years (2015, 2016, 2017), in honour of the Feast of St Joseph the Worker, by May 1, 2018;
- F) the amounts raised for each charity, by year, over the last 3 years by May 1, 2018;
- G) a report on the number of and the amounts for any the Canada Summer Jobs subsidies applied for in 2016, 2017, and 2018 by Easter Sunday, April 1 2018. A

*further item to be reported is the amount received per application from the federal government for 2016, and 2018.*

*H) every year, starting in 2018, a list of all charities and non-profits, and the total amount raised for each organization, on or by June 29.*

**11. Miscellaneous Information**

**11.1 Minutes of the January 22, 2018 CPIC Meeting**

Minutes of the January 22, 2018 CPIC meeting were provided as information.

**11.2 Minutes of the February 12, 2018 SEAC Meeting**

Minutes of the February 12, 2018 SEAC meeting were provided as information.

**12. Correspondence**

**12.1 G. Cauchi**

**12.2 D. Harvey**

**12.3 L. Walls**

Correspondence was shared.

**13. Open Question Period**

The following questions were submitted:

1. If individuals within the schools are employed by the board are allowed to use the schools as a platform to fund companies that violate Catholic mores & principles, what then is the point of maintaining the facade of catholicity and what then is the point of a Separate Catholic School System?
2. If student/schools are allowed to support charities that directly or indirectly support abortion or euthanasia, are we truly forming our students with a true Catholic conscience? Or are we watering down the teachings of the Catholic Church?
3. Why after the initial list was made public of acceptable charities was it amended to include previously unacceptable charities? What criteria changed and what exactly is the criteria?

*POST-NOTE:*

*In a February 20, 2018 Staff Report, a list was provided of all charities and non-profits, which currently benefit from financial donations from schools within the Halton Catholic District School Board. The Office of the Director subsequently reached out to each charitable organization on the list and requested certification of their compliance with Resolution #61/18. This exercise is ongoing.*

**14. In Camera**

There was no follow-up In-Camera session.

**15. Resolution re: Absentees**

There were no absentees.

**16. Adjournment and Closing Prayer (P. Marai)**

**#93/18**

**Moved by:** A. Danko

**Seconded by:** S. Trites

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the meeting adjourn.

*The meeting adjourned at 11:26 p.m. with a prayer led by Vice Chair Marai.*

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Secretary of the Board

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Chair