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# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Running for Election as a School Board Trustee Information for Candidates

> **Election Day:** Monday, October 24, 2022



## **Change the Future. Become a School Board Trustee.**

A strong publicly funded education system is not only a cornerstone of democracy, it is essential for a healthy, thriving economy and caring society. The innovation, skills, values, and healthy attitudes that are fostered in our schools all across the province have a direct impact on growing our economy and making our diverse and inclusive society among the very best places in the world to live.

Talk to any trustee and you will hear about the joys and the opportunities that come with working on behalf of Ontario's children, their families and their communities. The opportunity to lead change is especially important now, as Ontario and the world look to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, which has been one of the great social and economic disruptors of our time with widespread impact on one of society's most traditional institutions - school. Be part of the important decisions that will allow students to continue their learning in difficult circumstances in the future.

Visit any school and prepare to be amazed by the breadth and depth of the programs and activities that Ontario school boards have developed to guide and shape the next generation of learners. These are designed to transform our world and to promote success for all students and must take into consideration students who may be marginalized (i.e. Black, Indigenous, People of

Colour, those with disabilities, and newcomers to Canada). There are math Olympiads, literacy initiatives, sports programs, art exhibitions, science fairs, robotics competitions, service projects, innovative programs for children with special needs, environmental sustainability initiatives, early learning centres, adult education, choirs and bands, entrepreneurial skateboard academies, coding classes, athletics and wellness-focused schools, outdoor education/forest schools, homework clubs and a strong safety net of support services – all designed to help students succeed to the best of their abilities.

**Trustees provide critical governance** oversight, including of Board budgets that are generally hundreds of millions of dollars per year, collective bargaining with employee groups and through the development of board policy. They are leading important discussions on equity, accountability for student achievement, and virtually all aspects of K-12 education.

Students need the skills, attitudes, values, and knowledge to succeed in today's complex global context. More opportunities continue to be implemented with a focus on experiential

learning programs such as cooperative education, apprenticeships, dual credit programs and Specialist High Skills Majors.

Through their role on local school boards and their involvement with provincial school board associations, trustees have the opportunity to play a broad advocacy role and influence government policy.

#### Key Dates – 2022 School Board Elections

Nomination and Campaign Period Begins Nomination Day (Last Day to be Nominat **Final Day for Withdrawal of Candidacy** Voting Day School Board Term of Office Begins **Campaign Period Ends Financial Filing Deadline School Board Term of Office Ends** 

\*As May 1 is a Sunday, May 2 may be the first date that the clerk's office is open.

\*\*As December 31 falls on the weekend, the deadline moves to the first day that is not a holiday.

More information can be found at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing website: www.ontario.ca/municipalelections.

Ontario's school boards have demonstrated time and again that, through the collective efforts of creative and committed trustees, they are making a difference.

#### Interested in becoming a school trustee?

This overview provides the basic details candidates should know to run for office and outlines the roles and responsibilities of school boards and trustees.

May 2, 2022*
August 19, 2022
August 19, 2022
October 24, 2022
November 15, 2022
January 3, 2023**
March 31, 2023
November 14, 2026



## School Board Trustees -Who are they? Why are they **Important?**

School board trustees are locally elected representatives of the public and they are community advocates for publicly funded education. They come from all walks of life and backgrounds with varying experiences and skills. Trustees are individuals who are interested in strengthening publicly funded education and finding ways to support all students.

Together, they are the members of a board of trustees, which is the governing body that oversees a local district school board in Ontario. Trustees are required to carry out their responsibilities in a manner that assists the board in fulfilling its duties under the Education Act (and its regulations), the primary governing legislation concerning education in Ontario.

A trustee's role is to maintain a focus on student achievement and well-being and to participate in making decisions that benefit the board's entire jurisdiction while representing the interests of their constituents. Trustees must also communicate the views and decisions of the board back to their constituents.

This is not as simple as it sounds. Ontario is incredibly diverse, and so the job of school

board trustee varies widely. A trustee is responsible for identifying the needs and priorities of their community and for ensuring these are considered in the decisions that result in practical educational opportunities for students. In doing so, trustees must manage conflicting interests and values. A trustee must do this in collaboration with the other members of the school board by developing policies that work for all students, and ensuring they are implemented and monitored effectively. It is the local trustee who makes sure that the community has a direct way to express its views on vital education decisions that affect our day-to-day lives. School trustees play an indispensable role in preserving our democratic heritage.

Setting the conditions for excellence in education for every student to reach their full potential in school, and in life, is the first priority of a school board. As a leader in school board governance, trustees help to ensure that Ontario's education system continues to adapt and transform to meet the ever-changing needs and shifting challenges of our rapidly evolving world. This requires collaborative work with key education partners at all levels of the education system.

Trustees help shape the education experience, **Trustees are Accountable to Their** the school environment and the future of our **Electorate** children, communities, and province. Locally As elected officials, trustees must balance the elected school trustees put the "public" in demands of the community with the duties publicly funded education. They are the required by the Ministry of Education. By law, connectors who bring community voices to the they are required to consult with parents, table and make democracy meaningful. They students, supporters and other partners of the influence children's experiences today and board on the board's multi-year strategic plan expand their opportunities for the future. and bring the concerns of these groups to the The School Trustee is a Member of the attention of the board.

## **Collective Board**

Only the board of trustees, not an individual trustee, has the authority to make decisions, while entrusting the day-to-day management of the board to the director of education, who is hired and accountable to the board. A school board must place the best interests of students first when making any decision.

#### **Trustees are Responsible for Establishing Policy Direction**

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

#### School Board Trustees are Community Leaders

School board trustees have a responsibility to all the families in their community - not just their neighbours, and not just families with school-aged children. Trustees build and maintain relationships with the entire community.

> "We all have a role to play in reconciliation, and should all be seeking to educate ourselves about our shared history. We must learn from our past, and strive to repair relationships that have been strained for centuries, while actively seeking to improve the lives and circumstances of Indigenous people."

#### **Trustees hold Themselves** Accountable for Their Conduct

In exercising their role, trustees are required to comply with the board's Code of Conduct. This includes the expectation to act with integrity, adhere to high ethical standards and to conduct themselves in a manner that enhances public confidence in Ontario's publicly funded education system.

Trustees play a key leadership role in setting the strategic direction for their local school board and in making sure there is local accountability for student success and well-being and use of available resources.



## Equity, Diversity, Inclusion in Education – What's my Role as a School Board Trustee?

Ensuring equity is a central goal of Ontario's publicly funded education system, as set out in Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario (2014) and Ontario's Education Equity Action Plan (2017), is a fundamental role for every elected school board trustee.

#### **EDUCATION EQUITY**

- School boards operate with a fundamental principle that every student should have equitable access and opportunity to succeed personally and academically, barrier and bias free, regardless of background, identity or personal circumstances
- While important in and of itself, equity is also necessary to realizing all other elements of our renewed vision, from achieving excellence, to promoting well-being, diverse leadership and enhancing public confidence in our education system
- Equity is a critical component of our shared commitment to the success of every student and child in Ontario.

Within the distinct mission of each of their school systems, school board trustees play a fundamental role in ensuring local Board commitments to <u>Ontario's Education</u> <u>Equity Action Plan</u> and implementing the the Ministry of Education's <u>Equity and</u> <u>Inclusive Education in Ontario Schools: Guidelines for Policy Development and</u> <u>Implementation and Ontario's Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy</u> aligned with <u>The Journey Together: Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous</u> <u>Peoples (2016)</u>.

In particular, trustees must be committed to:

- Ensuring the ministry's <u>Indigenous Education Strategy</u> supports learning and achievement for Indigenous students and promotes awareness about First Nation, Métis and Inuit cultures, histories, perspectives, and contributions in schools
- Working collaboratively with the ministry's programs that support Black youth in the future, such as those outlined in <u>Ontario's 3-Year Anti-Racism Strategic Plan</u>, the <u>Ontario Black Youth Action Plan</u>
- Building on commitments of the <u>Anti-Racism Act (2017)</u> and <u>Data Standards</u> for the Identification and Monitoring of Systemic Racism, also known as Ontario's <u>Anti-Racism Data Standards (Standards)</u> to ensure all 72 school boards have race-based demographic data systems in place by 2023
- Partnering with the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility on developing an education accessibility standard under the <u>Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act</u> and OHRC's <u>Policy On Accessible Education For Students With Disabilities</u> and issues relating to employment for people with disabilities through <u>Ontario's Accessibility</u> <u>Action Plan (2016)</u>.





### What are the Time Commitments for a School Board Trustee?

#### Attending Board Meetings and Committee Meetings

Trustees are expected to prepare for, and participate in, all board meetings and all meetings of board committees of which they are members. A board's meeting schedule is posted on its website and candidates should take some time to visit and view the various meetings to see when and how often they take place.

A trustee must be physically present in the meeting room of the board for at least three regular meetings of the board in each 12-month period beginning November 15. Furthermore, a trustee cannot miss three consecutive meetings unless approval is granted by the board. All boards have policies in place to allow for electronic participation in meetings if a trustee is unable to attend in person and trustees are also permitted to take parental and pregnancy leaves. As a result of the pandemic, the allowance of virtual meetings has been permitted to support public health concerns.

Board meetings are not, however, the only time commitment for trustees. To get a full picture of board-related requirements, candidates should check with their local school board.

#### Other Duties at the School Board

There are other obligations for school board trustees to undertake in their role as a school board member. Some of these are statutory (meaning mandated by the province) and some are not. Statutory duties include the appointment of trustees to various committees such as the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), to board-based guasijudicial committees such as those responsible for conducting proceedings dealing with the suspension or expulsion of students, to the Audit Committee, the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL) and the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC). The board may also establish non-statutory committees or working groups as needed and these will also have trustee membership.

## Attending Community Meetings as a Representative of the School Board

One of a trustee's responsibilities is to facilitate communication between the board and community groups. Trustees may be asked to attend meetings such as school council meetings, community groups, municipal councils and municipal committees, meetings with MPPs and MPs, and other community agencies such as district health councils, library boards, parent groups, and other organizations. Trustees not only have the responsibility to attend these meetings, they must also bring back information from meetings and share it with the board.

Community meetings are often held at night to enable working parents to attend. Attending school events and community functions will give trustee candidates a fuller picture of the role.

#### **Responding to the Concerns of Parents and Others**

A trustee is often the first point of contact for parents and community members who have questions and/or concerns about their local school. While individual trustees do not have the authority to direct board staff to undertake any particular action, they can

help in answering questions, finding solutions or facilitating interaction with the school and board staff. Most boards have a clear protocol for handling questions and concerns.

#### **Communicating with Constituents**

Responding to telephone calls or e-mails, meeting requests and queries from constituents is an important part of the trustee role and requires some time commitment. Time commitments will vary but it is not uncommon for a trustee to spend an average of 15 hours per week on activities associated with the role.

The focus of a trustee's work can vary depending on the board's goals and on internal factors (e.g. number and types of committees) and external factors (e.g. growing and declining student enrolment, geography, travel distances). All prospective trustee candidates should contact their local school board for specific information about commitments.

### Can Anyone be a School **Board Trustee?**

A person who wishes to become a school board trustee and run for election must be a resident of the school board district's jurisdiction and meet the following requirements:

- a supporter\* of the board;
- a Canadian citizen;
- at least 18 years old;
- Roman Catholic (if running for a Catholic school board);
- not legally prohibited from voting; and
- not disgualified by any legislation from holding school board office.
- (\*"Supporter" refers to the individual's support for one of the four publicly funded school systems. A list of supporters for each system is kept by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation.)

Note: A candidate, if nominated, must remain gualified throughout the election and, if elected, throughout the term of office. The term of office is four years. School board candidates should confirm that they have the gualifications described here and in section 219 of the Education Act. It is the responsibility of the candidate to determine whether they are gualified to be elected to and hold office.

Note: An employee of a school board who wishes to run for trustee must take an unpaid leave of absence **prior** to being nominated. If elected, the employee must resign. A person may not be employed by one school board and hold office on a different school board. A clerk, treasurer, deputy clerk, or deputy treasurer of a municipality wishing to run for office on a school board must also take unpaid leave prior to being nominated and resign if elected. An employer is required to grant a leave of absence.

## **Helpful Experience and** Knowledge

Trustee candidates do not need to have a background in education or children currently attending school. However, the following skills and experience would be assets for potential trustee candidates.

#### **Basic Understanding of Official Meeting Procedures**

Candidates should review a copy of their board's bylaws, policies, and procedures. They could also observe board meetings to get an understanding of the meeting process or watch archived meeting recordings or read minutes posted on a board's website.

#### **Basic Understanding of a Trustee's Role as Member of a Board**

Under the *Education Act*, trustee power lies solely in membership on the corporate school board. The corporate board of trustees is legally accountable to the electorate and to the Minister of Education for the collective

Acceptance to serve on a school board assumes an awareness of the legislated expectations and responsibilities conferred through legislation, provincial policy, contractual agreements or any other mechanism. Trustees must act within these parameters, and be aware of the consequences of decisions that do not respect these commitments. Anyone considering candidacy for school board membership should carefully consider these accountability relationships and responsibilities when making the important decisions to serve, or continuing to serve, on a district school board.

#### **Orientation for School Board Trustees**

At the start of the term of office, each school board provides an orientation session for trustees to acquaint them with roles, relationships and responsibilities within the board and to provide an overview of the specific environment of the school board.

decisions of the board and for the delivery and guality of educational services. This means that once the board of trustees has voted, it is a trustee's responsibility to act in a manner that upholds the board's decision.

Trustees should also have some awareness of the administrative, legal, political and legislative parameters in which school boards operate. School board operations are often highly prescribed by legislation or regulation or other forms of provincially driven policy. Candidates need to be aware of this fact, especially when making campaign promises.

#### Willingness to Learn

A newly elected school trustee will likely have a fairly steep learning curve, and must be willing to spend time becoming familiar with existing board policies and relevant legislation. Trustees should also be mindful to enter their new role with an attitude that is fair, open-minded and understanding of the distinctiveness of the school system and the importance of equity and inclusion.

Beyond the initial orientation, trustees are provided with regular professional development opportunities throughout their term of office.

#### Honorarium for School Board Trustees

School board trustees are entitled to be paid a taxable honorarium while in office. The amount "We must continue to ensure that as we move forward, we continue to support the high levels of academic performance that make Ontario students stand out. We have a remarkable record of successful outcomes for all students. On international achievement measures of literacy and science, Ontario's students rank in the top 10 in the world."

varies from board to board and is guided by Ontario Regulation 357/06 (Honoraria for Board Members). The honorarium is made up of an annual base amount, an amount related to the school board's enrolment, an amount payable to the trustee for attendance at meetings, and a distance amount in the case of boards covering large areas. The chair and vice-chair of a board are entitled to additional amounts for the responsibility of their office. The honorarium amount across Ontario ranges from approximately \$7,500 to \$29,500.

### School Boards and School **Board Trustees**

#### What is a School Board?

A district school board is a body that operates the province's publicly funded schools. The school board is governed by its publicly elected board members (the board of trustees). Collectively, boards of trustees set the vision for the school board, develop and monitor policies, allocate resources and set the goals that lay the foundation and drive programs and operations in the school board's jurisdiction.

Trustees can be elected to one of four different school board systems: English public, English Catholic, French public and French Catholic.

A fundamental pillar of a democratic society is free education for its citizens. Ontario's publicly funded school boards provide high standards in programming and ensure there are supports and resources to help all students to reach those standards.

The responsibilities of school boards are set out in Ontario's Education Act which states that every school board shall:

- Promote student achievement and well-being
- Promote the prevention of bullying
- Promote a positive school climate
- Ensure effective stewardship of the board's resources
- Deliver effective and appropriate education programs to its pupils
- Develop and maintain policies and organizational structures that promote the board's goals and encourage pupils to pursue their educational goals
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of policies developed by the board in achieving the board's goals and the efficiency of the implementation of those policies
- Develop a multi-year plan aimed at achieving the board's goals
- Annually review the multi-year plan with the board's director of education or the supervisory officer acting as the board's director of education; and
- Monitor and evaluate the performance of the board's director of education, or the supervisory officer acting as the board's director of education, in meeting their duties under this Act or any policy, guideline or regulation made under this Act, including duties under the multi-year plan, and any other duties assigned by the board.

Beyond these broad areas of accountability, the Education Act also spells out duties for school board trustees that include such obligations as overseeing the effective operation of schools, setting the board's budget, overseeing implementation of the Ministry of Education's curriculum policies, and ensuring that appropriate staff are hired as required by schools.

Boards will also make policy decisions about such matters as pupil transportation, school libraries, continuing education, and childcare facilities on school sites.

A school board is **not**:

- A parliament with party divisions. A school board is a single body made up of members, i.e., trustees. A school board should uphold decisions it has collectively made.
- Interested only in the opinions of families with children. A school board must recognize that all of society has a stake in publicly funded education.
- A sub-committee of the municipality. In face school boards govern budgets substantiall greater than those of most municipalities.
- A closed or private body. All school boards are publicly elected institutions and their meetings are open to the public subject to certain exceptions.

#### **Board Administration**

The chief executive officer of the district school board is the director of education. The director is the only employee who report directly to the board of trustees. One of the most important leadership relationships in the

> "Our priority, which is at the heart of everything we do, is to ensure that our students in the public school system receive a rich educational experience with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values they need to succeed in life."

school system is the one that exists between the board of trustees and the director of education. While their roles are distinct and different, they must also be complementary for the system to operate effectively. Both parties need to be cognizant of their interdependence, and willing to work cooperatively for the successes of the system and the students in the schools.

Organizational structures differ among boards. However, the school board's administration, under the leadership of the director of education, manages the day-to-day functions of operating the school board. Trustees must hold the director accountable for running the school board and for making progress against goals.

#### School Councils

Effective trustees establish regular and consistent communication with the school councils in the area they represent. Through the use of email, e-newsletters, social media, websites, meetings and other public forums, trustees and school councils can remain in
communication. Increasingly, trustees are using online tools to help them communicate with
ts their constituents. Trustees who have open communication with school councils within
he their jurisdiction are better able to speak on their councils' behalf at the board table.

It is important to note that a trustee's responsibility is to advocate for decisions that will better serve the diverse needs of the board's entire jurisdiction. School councils often naturally advocate for students in their own schools. Trustees need to balance this with the needs of all students of the board.

More information about school councils can be found at: http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/ general/elemsec/council/.

### I want to Make a Difference and run for School Board Trustee. What do I have to do?

#### Key Dates – 2022 School Board Elections

Nomination and Campaign Period Begins	May 2, 2022*
Nomination Day (Last Day to be Nominated)	August 19, 2022
Final Day for Withdrawal of Candidacy	August 19, 2022
Voting Day	October 24, 2022
School Board Term of Office Begins	November 15, 2022
Campaign Period Ends	January 3, 2023**
Financial Filing Deadline	March 31, 2023
School Board Term of Office Ends	November 14, 2026

\*As May 1 is a Sunday, May 2 might be the first date that the clerk's office in open.

\*\*As December 31 falls on the weekend, the deadline moves to the first day that is not a holiday.

#### Nomination

Nomination papers may be filed in the office of the municipal clerk from May 2, 2022, until 2 p.m. on nomination day, Friday, August 19, 2022. Visit your municipality's website to find the location of your municipal clerk's office.

For more information, visit the following links:

- 1. Association of Municipalities Ontario www.amo.on.ca
- 2. City of Toronto (if you are in Toronto) www.toronto.ca
- 3. Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario www.amcto.com

#### **Nomination Process**

Candidates should contact their municipal clerk to find out if nominations can be filed electronically or in person, and for any other information about how to file their nomination papers. This could include if an agent can file nomination papers on a candidate's behalf and which signatures are to be included, and any proof of identify and qualifications.

Candidates should also inquire about rules for campaign signage.

The nomination filing fee for the office of school trustee is \$100. This fee must be paid at the time of filing the nomination. Payment to the municipality must be made by cash, certified cheque, money order or an electronic payment method specified by the clerk.

communities and make a difference."

#### Withdrawal of Candidacy

If a candidate decides to withdraw from the election, they must notify the clerk in writing The Ontario Public School Boards' Association no later than 2 p.m. on nomination day (Friday, (OPSBA) represents 31 English public August 19, 2022), otherwise their name will district school boards and 10 public school remain on the ballot. authorities across Ontario, which together serve more than 1.3 million public elementary A candidate who withdraws is still required and secondary students. The Association to submit a completed financial disclosure advocates on behalf of the best interests and covering all financial transactions made up needs of the public school system in Ontario. to the date the nomination was withdrawn. OPSBA is seen as the credible voice of public A candidate who withdraws is entitled to have education in Ontario and is routinely called their nomination fee refunded if they file their upon by the provincial government for input financial statement by the filing deadline. and advice on legislation and the impact of **Election Finances** government policy decisions.

All candidates are responsible for acting in accordance with the financial provisions set out in the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. This includes information about campaign contributions, spending limits, and fundraising. Candidates should become familiar with these provisions.

Detailed information can be found in the 2022 Candidates' Guide for Ontario Municipal and School Board Elections available at www.ontario.ca/municipalelections.



"Leadership in education continues to be as critical as ever. We must always be aware of scrutiny and attention to our role as we continue to lead by example, demonstrating strength in public education governance and inspiring our students, those future leaders, to get involved in their

#### The Ontario Public School Boards' Association

**Our Multi-Year Strategic Priorities** 

- Advocating for the Whole Child and Student Well-Being
- Advancing Reconciliation: First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education
- Supporting Trustees as Leaders in Public Education
- Advocating for Sustainable and Equitable Education Funding
- Strengthening Positive Labour Relations

More information about OPSBA is available at www.opsba.org.

You can also follow OPSBA on Twitter @ OPSBA, on Instagram @OPSBA\_Official and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ **OPSBAOfficial**.

#### The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) is the provincial voice for publicly funded Catholic education representing the interests of Ontario's 29 English Catholic school boards. Collectively, Catholic school boards educate approximately 550,000 elementary and secondary students across Ontario.

An integral part of OCSTA's mission is the management of initiatives that enhance the Catholic dimension of the school system, and they include:

- Regional meetings that provide opportunities for Catholic trustees to participate in faith formation sessions, and examine local and provincial issues in education;
- Support of pre-service and in-service religious education programs for teachers, including the OECTA/OCSTA Religious Education courses:

As a provincial advocacy group, OCSTA monitors government activity, contributes to the decision-making process, liaises with all provincial political parties, and responds to issues affecting Catholic education at the local, provincial and even national level.

More information about OCSTA is available at www.ocsta.on.ca.

You can also follow OCSTA on Twitter @CatholicEdu, on Instagram @CatholicEdu and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ CatholicEducationInOntario.

#### The Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario

The Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO) represents the 4 French-language public school boards of Ontario and their 48 trustees. We are a strong voice for the advancement of French-language public education in Ontario. Our vision is for students across the province to have equitable and inclusive access to a quality French-language public education.

Ontario's 142 French-speaking public schools offer high-quality, inclusive education. With an impressive growth rate of 81% since its creation 20 years ago, the French-language public education system has had, by far, the largest enrollment growth in the province. Last year our student population increased by 4,2 %. Our system perfectly meets the needs of a multicultural population living in a modern and democratic society, as demonstrated by the enviable academic results of our students. The success of French-language public education is all the more remarkable since only four school boards cover the whole of Ontario, with an average size of 55,000 km<sup>2</sup>.

"School board trustees are of the community, by the community, and for the community. They bring the concerns and issues from their local communities to the board table. No other elected official deals exclusively with the education of our children and youth."

ACÉPO's priorities are as follows:

- Recruitment and retention of qualified French-language teachers
- Remote Learning
- Growth of the French-Language Public School Network
- Democracy at the Local Level
- Skilled trade education

More information is available at www.acepo.org

#### **The Association Franco-Ontarienne** des Conseils Scolaires Catholiques

AFOCSC is the voice of Ontario's eight Frenchlanguage Catholic school boards and the Consortium Center Jules-Léger, serving the education needs and well-being of more than 78,200 Franco-Ontarian French-speaking students.

AFOCSC sees to the promotion and development of French-language Catholic education throughout Ontario. We do this through our influence with political and



administrative authorities and through the presence of our trustees in all our communities. Through the analysis of issues, advocating to political leaders, publication of information, and training of our members, we support their role as leaders of the Catholic and Community Education in Ontario.

Our major challenges:

- Implement the solutions identified to reduce the shortage of French-speaking teaching and support staff.
- Re-engage students and our families following the impacts of the pandemic
- Enhancement of the Franco-Ontarian model for Online Learning
- Catch-up on maintenance and receive our fair share of capital investments

More information about AFOCSC is available at www.afocsc.org.

You can also follow AFOCSC on Twitter @afocsc, Instagram @afocsc, Facebook at www.facebook.com/afocscOntario and on our AFOCSC YouTube channel.



#### This resource was developed by



**Ontario Education Services Corporation** La corporation des services en éducation de l'Ontario



**Note:** Ontario Municipal & School Board Elections

#### The Ontario Education Services Corporation represents:



Leading Education's Advocates

Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)



Trustees' Association

Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA)

ACÉPO AFOCSO scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario

Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'Ontario (ACÉPO)



Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)

