



SPECIAL BOARD

3 October 2023

Report No. 23-072

Provisions for Calling Extraordinary Meetings of the Board and Appointing Trustees to a Strike Management Committee

Key Contact: Richard Sinclair, General Counsel, 613-596-8211 extension 8207

PURPOSE:

1. To recommend adopting a resolution authorizing the calling of extraordinary meetings of the Board and to appoint two trustees to the Strike Management Committee to deal with collective bargaining issues, as required.

STRATEGIC LINKS:

2. Creating a culture of social responsibility through ethical leadership, equitable practice and responsible stewardship is one of the priorities of the Board. Adhering to the Board's By-laws and Standing Rules and ensuring trustee participation on a Strike Management Committee to provide advice to the Board demonstrates the Board's commitment to improving governance practices.

CONTEXT:

3. In accordance with Section 8.6 of the Board's By-laws, attached as Appendix A, the Board may adopt a resolution authorizing extraordinary meetings to be called by the Chair without the normal 48 hours' written notice, but with no less than six hours' notice by telephone, facsimile transmission or electronic mail to all Board members. The enabling resolution must state the nature of the business to be transacted at such extraordinary meetings.

A Strike Management Committee is established during the collective bargaining process to provide advice to the Board, if required. Meetings are held during the day and are usually scheduled weekly, if required. The current Strike Management Committee structure allows for one Trustee Member and one Alternate member. In addition, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board are ex-officio members.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

4. The Board's collective agreements with its bargaining units expired as of 31 August 2022, and collective bargaining is currently underway. The Elementary

Teachers' Federation of Ontario has been holding strike votes, although strike action is not inevitable or imminent.

To ensure the Board's capacity to be responsive to local and provincial collective bargaining, it is the practice of the Board to invoke the provisions of the Board By-laws with respect to the calling of extraordinary meetings of the Board and to appoint trustees to a Strike Management Committee.

Staff is proposing that the provisions of Section 8.6 of the By-laws be invoked for the period of 26 September 2023 to 31 December 2023.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

5. There are no financial implications associated with the invoking of the extraordinary meetings provision or appointing trustees to a committee of the Board.

COMMUNICATION/CONSULTATION ISSUES:

6. There is no consultation required.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. **THAT the Board invoke the provisions of Section 8.6 of the Board's By-laws and Standing Rules regarding the calling of extraordinary meetings of the Board, for the purpose of dealing with issues related to collective bargaining, for the period from 26 September 2023 to 31 December 2023.**
- B. **THAT the Board appoint Trustee _____ as a member of the Strike Management Committee, and Trustee _____ as an alternate member of the Strike Management Committee.**

Pino Buffone
Director of Education and
Secretary of the Board

Richard Sinclair
General Counsel

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Board By-laws and Standing Rules (excerpt re Extraordinary Meetings)