

DATE: March 5, 2024

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Sawyer, Caucus Committee Chair

SUBJECT: Report #07 of the Caucus Committee (From the meeting held on February 6, 2024)

ORIGINATOR: Karen Mills, Director Board and Superintendent Relations

REFERENCE: [Trustees' Handbook](#) – Caucus Committee - Section 5.4

ISSUE

The Board approved the following recommendation at the March 3, 2015, Board meeting: That Section 5.4 of the Trustees' Handbook be revised to give the Caucus Committee final decision-making power on certain types of matters, and yet constrain that power so it is used only when absolutely necessary.

The following recommendations were approved at the February 6, 2024, Caucus Committee meeting:

1. Legal Matter #020624-01

That the Board proceed on Legal Matter #020624-01 as recommended.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 52 of the *Education Act*, the Board delegates to the Caucus Committee the following powers:

- a. discussing, making decisions, giving direction to the Administration, and/or developing recommendations to Board on matters pertaining to:
 - the personal or proprietary information of an identifiable individual or group, including staff, students and parents
 - labour relations and employee negotiations
 - a proposed or pending acquisition or disposition of property
 - law enforcement matters, litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals affecting the Division
 - the security of the property of the Division
 - the terms and conditions of a contract with the Superintendent of Schools in accordance with Section 222 of the *Education Act*,

The delegation of decision-making authority to the Caucus Committee is subject to the following limitation: decisions made by the Caucus Committee will be reported to the Board in a public meeting.

2. Response to Province Announcement Regarding Gender Identity and Pronouns

That the Board authorize the Board Chair to draft a letter to the Premier detailing the Board's concerns with the Provincial direction concerning gender diverse individuals.

BACKGROUND

On January 31, 2024, Premier Smith released a video outlining the proposal of new guidelines and policies related to gender diverse minors that would be introduced by the government. On February 1, 2024, the Premier held a news conference at which she reviewed the initiatives relayed in the video and signaled that the package of policies to support them would be ready for the fall.

KM:ca