

# Trustee Code of Conduct Investigation Report

**CONFIDENTIAL  
RELEASED**

*B. Agnew, Burlington Trustee*

**X**

*H. Karabela, Oakville Trustee*

**Completed By:**

**Marvin Duarte,**

*Chair HCDSB Board of Trustees*

**27<sup>th</sup> July, 2022**

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**Re:** Code of Conduct Complaint **Agnew x Karabela**

**Completed by:** Marvin Duarte, *Chair HCDSB Board of Trustees*

**Dated:** July 27, 2022

On 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022, Trustee Agnew brought forward to the Chair of the Board, an intent to file a Code of Conduct violation complaint against Trustee Karabela as per the HCDSB Trustee Code of Conduct, which is found in our Procedural bylaws 4.3.7, Breach of Code of Conduct and/or Fiduciary Obligations and HCDSB Policy No. I-36 – Trustee Code of Conduct.

The email was acknowledged on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 with a request to provide supporting documents to the above complaint as per Policy I-36.

Trustee Agnew provided the supporting documents to her complaint on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022. A meeting was held with Trustee Agnew on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to clarify some of the items in the supporting document received.

Trustee Karabela was provided with the complaint by email on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 with a request to participate and respond to the allegation by July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022. It was indicated in the email that in the event of Trustee Karabela's refusal to participate in the formal inquiry process that it would continue in her absence.

All Trustees were provided with the complaint by email on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Trustee Karabela responded to the allegations on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 saying *"I have reviewed the report. The allegations of breach are unfounded. I refute and contest them"*

As part of the investigation process, I reviewed each of the 39 listed items in the original complaint, a copy of which Trustees were provided with. In my report below, each item investigated contains the email reference (if applicable), reference to the section of Policy I-36 (as provided in the complaint) and my findings.

The item #'s highlighted in red are the same items highlighted in orange in the original summary allegation table provided to Trustees. The original complaint (distributed to Trustees on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022) is included as part of this report, however due to file size limitation, the footer of some emails are deleted keeping the content intact.

Following are the sections of Policy I-36 which are quoted multiple times and are provided below for easy reference:

**Policy I-36, Section 3, bullet 2:** *Trustees will act, and be seen to act in the best interest of the public they serve. Trustees are elected to represent all stakeholders in the Halton Catholic District School Board by articulating and supporting a shared commitment to excellence in Catholic education that promote student achievement and well-being through the delivery of effective and appropriate education programs and effective stewardship of the Board's resources.*

**Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5:** *Subject to the duty of a Trustee under section 218.1 (e) of the Education Act to uphold the implementation of any Board resolution after it is passed by the Board, a Trustee may comment on or disagree with, a decision taken by the Board. A Trustee may not make disparaging remarks about another*

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

## CONFIDENTIAL

*Trustee or a group of Trustees in expressing such comment or disagreement or speculate on the motives of a Trustee or a group of Trustees, or Staff*

**Policy I-36, Section 5, bullet 2:** *All Trustees shall comply with the letter and spirit of all laws of Canada in the Province of Ontario and any contractual obligations of the Board in conducting the business of the Board.*

- *Trustees shall ensure that all information they communicate in the course of their duties is accurate and complete*

**Policy I-36, Section 6, point b:** *Upholding Decisions – Trustees must: (b) uphold the implementation of any Board resolution after it is passed by the Board.*

**Policy I-36, Section 7, bullet 6:** *No trustee shall use his or her position, authority, or influence for personal, financial, or material gain or personal business purposes or for the personal, financial or material gain or business purposes of a relative, friend, and/or business association.*

Following are the **Motions / Notices of Motions** which are quoted multiple times in the allegations and are provided below for easy reference (only the action part of the motion is reproduced below):

### **Motion M1:**

#### **Motion #198/20, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Special Board Meeting**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** *that all students (JK-12) be required to wear non-medical masks / face coverings with the exception of students with exemptions.*

The motion ***CARRIED***

### **Motion M2:**

#### **Motion #137/18, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, Regular Board Meeting**

#### **Amendment to Resolution #61/18 - Upholding the Sanctity of Life Through Donations to Charities and Non-Profits**

***BE IT RESOLVED***, *that the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB), because it is a Catholic Institution, will not provide or facilitate any financial donations to any charities or non-profits that publicly support, either directly or indirectly, abortion, contraception, sterilization, euthanasia, or embryonic stem cell research. For the purposes of this motion, “public support” for the issues listed above ( i.e. abortion, contraception etc....) is not support when privately expressed but is support when publicly expressed on a website, in press material or found in some other public area.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, *the Director of Education will provide a list of all charities and non-profits, which benefit from financial donations from the Board by the board meeting of February 20, 2018.*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, *that this resolution’s third paragraph be implemented only after:*

*(1) the completion of community consultations,*

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

(2) the adoption of an amended fundraising policy by the Board in response to this resolution; and in any event not earlier than the commencement of the 2018/2019 school year.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Director advise schools and school councils that they may continue their fundraising activities in the same manner as they did prior to resolution #61/18 until an amended fundraising policy is approved by the Board in response to this resolution.

**CARRIED**

## Motion M3:

**Motion #151/22, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Regular Board Meeting**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Halton Catholic District School Board because it is a Catholic institution, will not provide or facilitate any fundraising services through any of its schools and board office, to registered charities and non-profits (including their subsidiaries, affiliates and associates) that in any way are involved in or support abortion and embryonic stem cell research through advocacy, programs, finance, or material support.

The motion was **DEFEATED**.

## Motion M4:

**February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Regular Board Meeting**

**Policy V-04 School Fundraising Activities**

**#78/22 (AS AMENDED)**

**RESOLVED**, that the Halton Catholic District School Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee that Policy V-04 School Fundraising Activities, be approved with an additional bullet under Principles (to be placed first) that reads: The Halton Catholic District School Board recognizes that our school community exists to foster and exemplify Catholic values centered on the person of Jesus Christ.

**CARRIED**

**#78/22 (AMENDMENT 2)**

**RESOLVED**, that the Halton Catholic District School Board accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee that Policy V-04 School Fundraising Activities, be approved with an additional bullet under Principles (to be placed fourth) that reads: In keeping with the teachings of the Catholic faith on the sacredness of life, school and/or board fundraising efforts may not be directed to any registered charity or non-profit ( including subsidiaries, affiliates, and associates) where the donation will support advocacy, programs, financing or material support for abortion, euthanasia or human embryonic stem cell research.

**DEFEATED**

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

## Notice of Motion NM1:

June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Regular Board Meeting

**Upholding the Sanctity of Life in Fundraising Services at the Halton Catholic District School Board - Contraception**

***BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Halton Catholic District School Board because it is a Catholic institution, will not provide or facilitate any fundraising services through any of its schools and board office, to registered charities and non-profits (including their subsidiaries, affiliates and associates) that in any way are involved in or support abortifacient birth control through advocacy, programs, finance or material support.*

On a point of order, the Chair ruled the motion **out of order** as it does not comply with the regulation 612 of the Education Act.

## Notice of Motion NM2:

June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 Regular Board Meeting (Note - these minutes are not yet approved by Board)

**Upholding the Sanctity of Life in Fundraising Services at the Halton Catholic District School Board Sterilization**

***BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) because it is a Catholic institution, will not provide or facilitate any fundraising services through any of its schools and board office, to registered charities and nonprofits (including their subsidiaries, affiliates and associates) that in any way are involved in or support “direct sterilization” through advocacy, programs, finance or material support, and will solicit the views of school councils as per Reg 162/00 section 19 (1) iv.*

The Chair ruled the **motion and the amendment out of order**.

## Investigation Conducted

### **Item #1:**

The emails provided as evidence were correspondence between [REDACTED] and Trustee Karabela and Trustee Karabela’s newsletters.

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Section 3 bullet 1; Section 9 all; Section 10 bullet 1; Section 10 bullet 3

**Findings:** [REDACTED] has agreed to receive Trustee Karabela’s mailings on Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. There is no evidence provided in the complaint that the email addresses in Trustee Karabela’s email listing were acquired through HCDSB emails and were being used for personal gain. This was confirmed in my conversation with Mark Grysiuk, Manager Privacy on 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2022.

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

## **Item #2: “Fwd: Pride flag update at HCDSB”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-02-18

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5

**Findings:** The email provided information to the mailing list about Trustees who voted for and against the motion.

## **Item #3: “EXTRA DETAILS - Student privacy concerns through data collection at HCDSB”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-02-19

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5

**Findings:** The letter alleges Trustee Duarte and Trustee Guzzo “*tried to take*” Trustee Karabela’s “*motion off the table so that it would not be addressed in the meeting!*” which is speculation about Trustee motives.

The newsletter further says “*However, the actions of these Trustees, like the Ministry, would indicate that they believe otherwise. Is this what we want for our children?*”. Disparaging remarks are made about Trustees.

As per Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5, Trustees shall not speculate on the motives of a Trustee or a group of Trustees or make disparaging remarks.

## **Item #4: “With St. Joseph, Pray for the Senators, Pray for Canada”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-02-22

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

## **Item #5: “St. Joseph Keeping Canadians Free”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-02-24

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

## **Item #6: “Giving Parents the Power to Unmask Their Children”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-03-03

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

## **Item #7: “Giving Parents the Power to Unmask Their Children”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-03-05

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** *Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5; Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b*

**Findings:** Section 6 (b) and Section 4, bullet 5 – says that Trustees must uphold Board decisions once passed. The newsletter is critical of the decision of the Board of Trustees to impose a greater standard than the Ministry’s minimum and proposes to reverse the August 2020 resolution M1 (above) requiring masks for kindergarten students, which was passed by the Board. Refer to **motion M1** above.

## **Item #8: “Take Action Today to Remove Student Mask Mandates!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-03-08

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

## **Item # 9: “Take Action Today to Remove Student Mask Mandates!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-03-10

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

## **Item #10: “The Fight Isn't Over!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-03-15

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

## **Item #11: “Remember: They Said Two Weeks to Flatten the Curve”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-03-17

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** *Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5; Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b*

**Findings:** Section 6 (b) and Section 4, bullet 5 – says that Trustees must uphold Board decisions once passed. The newsletter proposes that the August 2020 motion to mask students from JK be reversed. Refer **motion M1** above.

It further criticizes the HCDSB for going above minimum requirements when a decision was made by the Board of Trustees - “As you may know, I currently have two motions which will be voted on by the Halton Catholic District School Board on March 22nd. The first is to immediately end mask mandates for JK and SK Halton Catholic students because they were never mandated in the first place”

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

## **Item #12: "School Boards are not Medical Experts"**

**Email Reference:** 2022-03-22

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5

**Findings:** As per the allegation "Mask mandates were already lifted; email then tries to get support for amended motions saying parents would have say in any future mandates".

I do not see how the contents of this newsletter contradicts the applicable sections of the policy referenced.

## **Item #13: "Parents Make Medical Decisions"**

**Email Reference:** 2022-03-26

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

## **Item #14: "Be Not Afraid - Christ's Message to us at Easter"**

**Email Reference:** 2022-04-12

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

## **Item #15: "Be Not Afraid - Christ's Message to us at Easter"**

**Email Reference:** 2022-04-16

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5; Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b

**Findings:** As per Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5 and Section 6, Point b, Trustees must uphold the implementation of any Board resolution after it is passed by the Board. The newsletter talks about the reversal of 2018 Sanctity of Life motion (which was defeated). See **motion M2** above.

Also, the newsletter refers to the motion as a "law" which is misleading to the email recipients and contrary to the Code of Conduct, which requires that all Trustees shall ensure that all information they communicate in the course of their duties is accurate and complete.

## **Item #16: "Parents outraged that kids have to learn Catholic beliefs in Catholic schools"**

**Email Reference:** 2022-04-26

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**Item #17: “Parents outraged that kids have to learn Catholic beliefs in Catholic schools”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-04-28

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 3, bullet 2; Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5; Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b

**Findings:** The Sanctity of Life Motion had gone through a phase of prolonged discussion and a very heated public debate in the past and the motion failed in 2018. See **motion M2**. The allegation states that the motion “failed in February 2022” and this was an amendment to the amendment of Policy V-04 School Fundraising Activities which failed. See **motion M4** above.

In this newsletter, Trustee Karabela says “*This is why I will be working on bringing back the Sanctity of Life motion*” even after it had already failed multiple times.

Policy I-36, Section 3, bullet 2 says that Trustees should act to make effective use of Board resources which includes Board meetings and bringing back a motion that has gone through such a controversial, divisive and expensive process could constitute an ineffective use of Board resources.

**Item #18: “On Mother’s Day, let’s thank them for living out the Sanctity of Life”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-05-03

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

**Item #19: “On Mother’s Day, Let’s Thank Mothers for Living Out the Sanctity of Life”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-05-05

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

**Item #20: “New Sanctity of Life Motion On The Table!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-05-10

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

**Item #21: “New Sanctity of Life Motion On The Table!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-05-12

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 3, bullet 2; Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b; Policy I-36, Section 7, bullet 6.

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

## CONFIDENTIAL

**Findings:** The Sanctity of Life motion (stem cell version – See **motion M3** above) was tabled again after a similar version failed in 2018 (See **motion M2** above). Policy I-36, Section 3, bullet 2 says that Trustees should act to make effective use of Board resources which includes Board meetings.

In this email, Trustee Karabela uses her personal email to send out HCDSB related emails with her personal opinion and signs the letters in her position as “Oakville Trustee, Halton Catholic District School Board”. The email also asks for readers to forward the newsletter to their friends to get them to sign up for the mailing list. The emails thus received would be received legitimately.

The allegation specifies “*using her position as a Trustee for personal gain*” as per Policy I-36, Section 7, bullet 6. I am unsure and unable to identify specifically what resources Trustee Karabela would use for “*personal gain*”.

### **Item #22: “New Sanctity of Life Motion On The Table!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-05-17

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

### **Item #23: “Embryonic Stem Cell Research Motion Vote Results and New Motion on the Table!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-05-19

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 3, bullet 2; Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5; Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b

**Findings:** The newsletter points out trustees who voted for and against **motion M3** above. It further goes on to state that Trustee Karabela is tabling a similar motions because “*it's the right thing*” even though the will of the board was very clear on multiple occasions.

Trustees must uphold decisions by the Board as per Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b and make effective use of Board resources (including Board meetings) as per Policy I-36, Section 3, bullet 2. Tabled motions that clearly do not have Trustee support on multiple occasions seem to be a waste of time and limited Board resources.

### **Item #24: “Your Support is Needed!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-05-24

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

### **Item #25: “Your Support is Needed!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-05-26

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5; Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

## CONFIDENTIAL

**Findings:** Trustees must uphold decisions made by the Board as per Policy I-36. The newsletter shows that Trustee Karabela is not supportive of the will of the board as the Sanctity of Life motion “*failed twice in 3 months*” as the allegation says. See **motion M4, notices of motion NM1 and NM2**. Trustees should make effective use of Board resources (including Board meetings) as per Policy I-36, Section 3, bullet 2.

The email also implies that HCDSB is providing funding to “*pro-death*” organizations which is incorrect information being provided to the mailing list.

### **Item #26: “The Vote is Coming Up!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-05-31

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

### **Item #27: “The Real, Big Lie!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-06-02

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5

**Findings:** In the newsletter, Trustee Murphy is quoted and criticized, the newsletter then states “*To say that this is not an emergency is the real, big lie. Trustee Murphy went on to say that there was no evidence that the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) is fundraising to “intentionally support abortion or euthanasia or a culture of death. He’s missing the point.”*”

Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5 says that Trustees shall uphold the implementation of any Board resolution after it is passed by the board. See **motion M3** and **notice of motion NM1**.

Also, a Trustee may not make disparaging remarks about another Trustee which is intentional and quite evident here.

### **Item #28: “The Vote Against Abortifacient Contraception is Tonight!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-06-07

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

### **Item #29: “Outrageous Incident On Tuesday Night’s Board Meeting!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-06-09

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5

**Findings:** In the newsletter, Trustee Karabela says “*In a move to kill my motion, Burlington Trustee Brenda Agnew made a point of order which caused my motion to be steamrolled over a concocted technicality. As a*”

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

## CONFIDENTIAL

result, the motion was not voted on, and my attempt to appeal this decision was overruled. This whole incident is outrageous.

*The truth of the matter is that the majority of the “Catholic” trustees on the HCDSB don’t want and don’t support pro-life issues”.*

Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5 says that Trustees shall uphold the implementation of any Board resolution after it is passed by the board, a Trustee may not make disparaging remarks about another Trustee or a group of Trustees. See **notice of motion NM1** and the Chair’s ruling which was appealed and failed.

In this section, Trustee Agnew’s point of order is belittled and ridiculed. I deem that the language used reaches the threshold for being derogatory.

Furthermore, it goes on to say that *“the majority of the “Catholic” Trustees on the HCDSB don’t want and don’t support pro-life issues”* which is a baseless accusation and speculation.

### **Item #30: “Your Help Is Needed To Make A Difference!”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-06-11

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 3, bullet 2; Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5; Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b:

**Findings:** The newsletter refers to the *“outrageous incident”* as described in Item #29 above although it does not point to any specific Trustee. It also refers to the 2018 Sanctity of Life motion which failed. See **motion M2** and **motion M3**. Trustees must uphold decisions after they are passed by the Board as per Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b.

### **Item #31: “To Be Continued...”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-06-14

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

### **Item #32: “You Don’t Want To Miss This”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-06-16

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 3, bullet 2; Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5; Policy I-36, Section 6, Point b

**Findings:** The newsletter is critical of a Trustee (because *“he couldn't handle the enormous pressure”*) when it came to the 2018 Sanctity of Life motion vote. See **Motion M2**. Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5 says that a Trustee may not make disparaging remarks about another Trustee or a group of Trustees which is evident.

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

## CONFIDENTIAL

The newsletter goes on to question the legal rights of Trustee Duarte (as Chair) for not voting on May 17, 2022, and then voting against the appeal on June 7, 2022 resulting in the motion being “*thrown out*” and that Trustee Duarte is “*setting a precedent against pro-life efforts*”. The language used here reaches the threshold for being disparaging.

Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5 says that a Trustee may not make disparaging remarks about another Trustee or speculate on the motives of a Trustee.

### **Item #33: “Fathers, Our Superheroes**

**Email Reference:** 2022-06-19

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

### **Item #34: “Be Not Afraid”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-06-22

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

### **Item #35: “Hope Abounds - Roe V. Wade Is No More!**

**Email Reference:** 2022-06-25

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

### **Item #36: “Defending Democracy and Freedom of Speech**

**Email Reference:** 2022-06-28

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

### **Item #37: “Democracy Is Under Attack In the Halton Catholic District School Board”**

**Email Reference:** 2022-07-02

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5; Policy I-36, Section 5, bullet 2

**Findings:** As per Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5, Trustees shall uphold the implementation of any Board resolution after it is passed by the Board.

This newsletter criticizes the ruling of the Chair (“*for not voting and allowing motions to be thrown out*”) and the will of the Board. It calls the ruling “*unjust*” which “*is yet another symptom of what is a larger problem*”

# INVESTIGATION REPORT

## CONFIDENTIAL

*within the HCDSB*". Trustees have the opportunity to appeal rulings at Board meetings (which was done, and the appeal failed) and the outcome of the appeal needs to be upheld by all Trustees.

The newsletter questions Trustee motives in voting *"Every authentic pro-life person would be happy to vote for my pro-life motions, yet the pattern of voting by the trustees has shown that not only are they anti-life, but that they are anti-democracy"*.

Furthermore, the newsletter incorrectly references/explains regulations under the education act, contrary to Policy I-36, Section 5, bullet 2.

It goes on to questions Trustees participation in a *"cancel culture"* and accuses them of *"destroying democracy"*. Trustees at HCDSB are accused of promoting a *"culture of death"*.

My finding is that the language used in this newsletter crosses the threshold and is derogatory towards Trustees.

### **Item #38: "The Smoke And Mirrors Are Coming Down"**

**Email Reference:** 2022-07-05

**Findings:** No Code of Conduct violation is provided for this item for investigation

### **Item #39: "What Is The Truth?"**

**Email Reference:** 2022-07-09

**Code of Conduct Applicable Sections:** Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5

**Findings:** The letter references specific quotes by Trustees Agnew and Trustee Murphy and calls them *"pro-abortion despite their self-professed Catholic values."* I deem that the language used in this letter reaches the threshold for being derogatory.

As per Policy I-36, Section 4, bullet 5, Trustee may not make disparaging remarks about another Trustee or speculate on the motives which can be seen to be the case in this newsletter.

**Notice Sent to  
Trustee Karabela  
&  
Response to the  
Allegations**

## Duarte, Marvin

---

**From:** Karabela, Helena  
**Sent:** July 24, 2022 5:19 PM  
**To:** Duarte, Marvin  
**Subject:** Code of Conduct allegations

Chair Duarte,

I have reviewed the report. The allegations of breach are unfounded. I refute and contest them.

Helena

---

### Helena Karabela

Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

802 Drury Lane, Burlington, ON L7R 2Y2  
(289) 230-1423 | [karabelah@hcdsb.org](mailto:karabelah@hcdsb.org)

Achieving Believing Belonging [www.hcgsb.org](http://www.hcgsb.org)

## Duarte, Marvin

---

**From:** Duarte, Marvin  
**Sent:** July 14, 2022 11:20 AM  
**To:** Karabela, Helena  
**Subject:** Code of Conduct Alleged Complaint  
**Attachments:** Code of Conduct Complaint\_BA-HK.pdf

*...from the office of the Chair of the Board*

**SENT VIA EMAIL:** [karabelah@hcdsb.org](mailto:karabelah@hcdsb.org); Helena Karabela, Oakville Trustee  
**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Good Morning Trustee Karabela,

I am in receipt of an allegation of a breach of the Trustee Code of Conduct Policy I-36 brought against you.

Please see the attached document for the complaint, summary of alleged breach and supporting evidence as received. The summary table in the document shows the "Subject" column which is referenced to an email further down in the document where the email "Subject" is highlighted. The Code of Conduct (COC) section alleged to have been violated and notes on the issue are presented in the same row of each item.

As per Policy I-36, it is the duty of the Chair to conduct an investigation and make inquiries into the alleged breach and for this, steps outlined in the policy shall be followed. Once a written complaint is received, it must be investigated unless the complainant withdraws it.

As part of the inquiry process, I would like to request your participation in the process and provide you with an opportunity to respond to the allegations in writing **within ten days (by July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022)** of receiving this email and attachment. Should you refuse to participate in the formal inquiry, or I do not hear back, the inquiry/investigation will continue in your absence. I am available to discuss if you have any concerns about the process or if you need any clarification regarding this complaint.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this correspondence.

Sincerely,

---

**Marvin Duarte**

Milton Trustee | Chair - Board of Trustees  
Halton Catholic District School Board

802 Drury Lane, Burlington, ON L7R 2Y2  
(416) 559-9327 | [DuarteM@hcdsb.org](mailto:DuarteM@hcdsb.org)

Achieving Believing Belonging [www.hcdsb.org](http://www.hcdsb.org)

**Code of Conduct  
Complaint Received &  
Distributed to all Trustees**

## Duarte, Marvin

---

**From:** Agnew, Brenda  
**Sent:** July 2, 2022 8:42 AM  
**To:** Duarte, Marvin  
**Subject:** Fw: [<EXTERNAL>] Fwd: Democracy Is Under Attack In the Halton Catholic District School Board

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Marvin

I would like to bring forward a formal Code of Conduct complaint against Trustee Karabela  
Please advise on next steps and acknowledgement of this complaint

Brenda

Burlington Trustee | Vice-Chair - Board of Trustees  
Halton Catholic District School Board

802 Drury Lane, Burlington, ON L7R 2Y2  
[\(905\) 632-6300](tel:9056326300) | [Agnewb@hcdsb.org](mailto:Agnewb@hcdsb.org)

Achieving Believing Belonging [www.hcdsb.org](http://www.hcdsb.org)

“I think we all have a little voice inside us that will guide us. It may be God, I don't know. But I think that if we shut out all the noise and clutter from our lives and listen to that voice, it will tell us the right thing to do.”  
-- Christopher Reeve

---

**From:** Brenda Agnew <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 2, 2022 5:35 AM  
**To:** Agnew, Brenda <AgnewB@hcdsb.org>  
**Subject:** [<EXTERNAL>] Fwd: Democracy Is Under Attack In the Halton Catholic District School Board

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:**  
**Date:** July 2, 2022 at 6:12:42 AM EDT  
**Subject:** Fwd: Democracy Is Under Attack In the Halton Catholic District School Board

## Duarte, Marvin

---

**From:** Agnew, Brenda  
**Sent:** July 13, 2022 12:00 PM  
**To:** Duarte, Marvin  
**Subject:** Information for Code of Conduct Complaint v Helena Karabela  
**Attachments:** Helena Newsletters Stats.xlsx; drive-download-20220713T151645Z-001.zip

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

	Date	Subject	Topic / high level overview	COC Section	Notes
1	All			Sec 3 Bullet 1; Sec 9 all; Sec 10 Bullet 1; Sec 10 Bullet 3	At least some emails acquired through HCDSB email, which is personal information; removing personal information from HCDSB and using it for personal gain: Violates Section 31 of MFIPPA which trustees are bound by under Sec 3, Bullet 1 of CoC
2	2022-Feb-18	Fwd: Pride flag update at HCDSB	Recap of Pride flag vote	Sec 4 Bullet 5	Calls out trustees who voted against and goes on to say she voted against in order to maintain teachings of Catholic faith
3	2022-Feb-19	EXTRA DETAILS - Student privacy concerns through data collection at HCDSB	Recap of student census opt-in vote	Sec 4 Bullet 5	Calls out trustees who voted against; calls out Duarte and Guzzo for trying to get the motion thrown out; speculates on their motives and beliefs
4	2022-Feb-22	With St. Joseph, Pray for the Senators, Pray for Canada			
5	2022-Feb-24	St. Joseph Keeping Canadians Free			
6	2022-Mar-03	Giving Parents the Power to Unmask Their Children			
7	2022-Mar-05	Giving Parents the Power to Unmask Their Children	Motions to remove mandatory masking	Sec 4 Bullet 5; Sec 6 Point b	Seeks to reverse the Aug2020 motion to mask from JK, calls out HCDSB for going above minimum requirements and says it should be parent choice
8	2022-Mar-08	Take Action Today to Remove Student Mask Mandates!			
9	2022-Mar-10	Take Action Today to Remove Student Mask Mandates!			
10	2022-Mar-15	The Fight Isn't Over!			
11	2022-Mar-17	Remember: They Said Two Weeks to Flatten the Curve	Motions to remove mandatory masking	Sec 4 Bullet 5; Sec 6 Point b	Seeks to reverse the Aug2020 motion to mask from JK, calls out HCDSB for going above minimum requirements and says it should be parent choice
12	2022-Mar-22	School Boards are not Medical Experts	Highlighting Dr Moore saying school boards shouldn't make these decisions	Sec 4 Bullet 5	Mask mandates were already lifted; email then tries to get support for amended motions saying parents would have say in any future mandates - less bad than the others but just pandering
13	2022-Mar-26	Parents Make Medical Decisions	Reminder that parents make decisions for their kids	-	Doesn't specifically call out the board, but implies that the board knows better than parents
14	2022-Apr-12	Be Not Afraid - Christ's Message to us at Easter			
15	2022-Apr-16	Be Not Afraid - Christ's Message to us at Easter	Sanctity of Life	Sec 4 Bullet 5; Sec 6 Point b	Calls out the reversal of 2018 SOL; refers to the motion as a "law" (misleading - it isn't)

16	2022-Apr-26	Parents outraged that kids have to learn Catholic beliefs in Catholic schools			
17	2022-Apr-28	Parents outraged that kids have to learn Catholic beliefs in Catholic schools	Woodstock school making anti-abortion signs	Sec 3 Bullet 2; Sec 4 Bullet 5; Sec 6 Point b	Declares to be bringing back SOL motion after it had already failed in February - waste of resources and actively working against both the Feb 2022 and 2018 board decisions
18	2022-May-03	On Mother's Day, let's thank them for living out the Sanctity of Life			
19	2022-May-05	On Mother's Day, Let's Thank Mothers for Living Out the Sanctity of Life			
20	2022-May-10	New Sanctity of Life Motion On The Table!			
21	2022-May-12	New Sanctity of Life Motion On The Table!	New SOL motion tabled	Sec 3 Bullet 2; Sec 6 Point b; Sec 7 Bullet 6	stem cell research version tabled; again waste of resources but nothing outright wrong in this one; also asks for readers to forward the email to friends to get them to sign up for mailing list - using position as a trustee for personal gain
22	2022-May-17	The Vote on My Motion Against ESCR is Tonight!			
23	2022-May-19	Embryonic Stem Cell Research Motion Vote Results and New Motion on the Table!	stem cell vote result and new version	Sec 3 Bullet 2; Sec 6 Point b; Sec 4 Bullet 5	calls out trustees who voted against motion; addresses she is tabling similar motions because "it's the right thing", outright ignoring will of the board and willfull waste of time and resources
24	2022-May-24	Your Support is Needed!			
25	2022-May-26	Your Support is Needed!	asking for petition signatures for SOL	Sec 4 Bullet 5; Sec 6 Point b	Actively working against the will of the board as SOL failed twice in 3 months
26	2022-May-31	The Vote is Coming Up!			
27	2022-Jun-02	The Real, Big Lie!	more review of May 17 board meeting, calling out Murphy	Sec 4 Bullet 5	Murphy quoted and then explaining why Murphy's comments were out of line (this is the most blatant COC violation)
28	2022-Jun-07	The Vote Against Abortifacient Contraception is Tonight!			
29	2022-Jun-09	Outrageous Incident On Tuesday Night's Board Meeting!	review of June 7 board meeting, calling out Agnew	Sec 4 Bullet 5	Agnew called out for getting motion thrown out, calling it "steamrolled over a concocted technicality" and "outrageous" (another blatant COC violation)

30	2022-Jun-11	Your Help Is Needed To Make A Difference!	further June 7 review, calling out Agnew	Sec 3 Bullet 2; Sec 6 Point b; Sec 4 Bullet 5	Refers again to the "outrageous incident" but does not reference Agnew specifically; again refers to 2018 and says that motions are winnable despite failing twice and being thrown out once
31	2022-Jun-14	To Be Continued...			
32	2022-Jun-16	You Don't Want To Miss This	review of 2018 and calling out Duarte	Sec 3 Bullet 2; Sec 6 Point b; Sec 4 Bullet 5	Calls out Duarte for not voting on May 17, and then voting against the appeal on June 7 resulting in the motion being thrown out (another blatant COC Violation); further calls out Marai (not by name) because he "couldn't handle the enormous pressure" when it came to the 2018 motion
33	2022-Jun-19	Fathers, Our Superheroes			
34	2022-Jun-22	Be Not Afraid			
35	2022-Jun-25	Hope Abounds - Roe V. Wade Is No More!			
36	2022-Jun-28	Defending Democracy and Freedom of Speech			
37	2022-Jul-02	Democracy Is Under Attack In the Halton Catholic District School Board	Review of SoL motions and outcomes	Sec 4 Bullet 5, Sec 5 Bullet 2	Questions trustee motives in voting against pro-life motions, incorrectly references/explains regulations under the education act, questions trustees participation in cancel culture and destroying democracy, calls out Duarte for not voting and allowing motions to be thrown out
38	2022-Jul-05	The Smoke And Mirrors Are Coming Down			
39	2022-Jul-09	What Is The Truth?	Calling out trustees and charities for being pro-abortion	Sec 4 Bullet 5	References to specific quotes by Trustees Agnew and Murphy, calls them pro-abortion

<https://www.hcdsb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/I-36-Trustee-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Pride Flag Opposition

**Date:** February 17, 2022 at 6:03 PM America/Toronto

**To:** karabelah@hcdsb.org

---

Trustee Karabela,

I wanted to thank you for your courageous opposition to the pride flag which will be displayed at HCDSB schools. We need more trustees to stand up for their beliefs.

As an Oakville resident, I wish our trustees better represented the community.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fw: [] Pride Flag Opposition  
**Date:** February 18, 2022 at 12:00 PM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

---

Hello [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email!! I really appreciate it.

I will send you my private message about this vote in the next email.

I will add you to my mailing list if that is OK with you.

I have a new message getting ready for tomorrow and I'd like you to be included!

Once again, Thank you so much for supporting me and I am very honoured to represent you.

Sincerely,

Helena

---

**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** February 17, 2022 6:03 PM  
**To:** Karabela, Helena <[KarabelaH@hcdsb.org](mailto:KarabelaH@hcdsb.org)>  
**Subject:** [<EXTERNAL>] Pride Flag Opposition

Trustee Karabela,

I wanted to thank you for your courageous opposition to the pride flag which will be displayed at HCDSB schools. We need more trustees to stand up for their beliefs.

As an Oakville resident, I wish our trustees better represented the community.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

---

This email (including any attachments) is property of the Halton Catholic District School Board and is private and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. It may contain confidential or personal information and be protected under the Education Act, Municipal Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act and/or Personal Health Information Protection Act. Unauthorized review, distribution, copying or disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by telephone, fax or e-mail and permanently delete the message and attachments. Your cooperation is valued.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Fw: [REDACTED] Pride Flag Opposition  
**Date:** February 18, 2022 at 12:03 PM America/Toronto  
**To:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]

---

Yes, please include me on any future mailings.

Thanks again!

On Fri., Feb. 18, 2022, 12:00 p.m. Helena Karabela, <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hello [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email!! I really appreciate it.

I will send you my private message about this vote in the next email.

I will add you to my mailing list if that is OK with you.

I have a new message getting ready for tomorrow and I'd like you to be included!

Once again, Thank you so much for supporting me and I am very honoured to represent you.

Sincerely,

Helena

---

**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** February 17, 2022 6:03 PM  
**To:** Karabela, Helena <[KarabelaH@hcdsb.org](mailto:KarabelaH@hcdsb.org)>  
**Subject:** [<EXTERNAL>] Pride Flag Opposition

Trustee Karabela,

I wanted to thank you for your courageous opposition to the pride flag which will be displayed at HCDSB schools. We need more trustees to stand up for their beliefs.

As an Oakville resident, I wish our trustees better represented the community.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

---

This email (including any attachments) is property of the Halton Catholic District School Board and is private and intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. It may contain confidential or personal information and be protected under the Education Act, Municipal Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act and/or Personal Health Information Protection Act. Unauthorized review, distribution, copying or disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by telephone, fax or e-mail and permanently delete the message and attachments. Your cooperation is valued.

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Pride flag update at HCDSB  
**Date:** February 18, 2022 at 12:02 PM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED] m

---

Hello [REDACTED], This is what I sent out to acknowledge and thank all those who wrote to me.  
Helena

On Saturday, February 12, 2022, 06:00:25 a.m. EST, Helena Karabela <[REDACTED]> wrote:

## I voted against flying the Pride flag at HCDSB schools



Dear [REDACTED],

I'm writing to you to provide an update on the Pride flag motion that was voted on Tuesday January 18th at Halton Catholic School Board (HCDSB).

Thank you to those of you who wrote to me expressing your concerns about raising the Pride flag at the HCDSB. I share your concerns and I voted against flying the Pride flag.

I wanted my vote to be a clear NO.

I chose to speak in the strongest way possible: by vote.

We were defeated as the vote was 5-3 in favour of flying the flag.

The Trustees that voted against flying the Pride flag were:

Helena Karabela, Oakville Trustee,  
Tim O'Brien, Burlington Trustee  
Vince Iantomasi, Burlington Trustee

The Trustees that voted in favour of flying the Pride flag were:

Patrick Murphy, Milton Trustee  
Janet O'Hearn- Czarnota, Halton Hills Trustee  
Nancy Guzzo, Oakville Trustee  
Peter DeRosa, Oakville Trustee  
Brenda Agnew, Burlington Trustee

As a Catholic school board Trustee, my responsibility is to advocate for and uphold Catholic teaching on faith and morals. I strive to ensure these teachings are prioritized.

The vast number of messages that I received from parents were compassionate, against discrimination of any kind while firm in keeping to the teachings of our Catholic faith, and asked me to vote against flying the Pride flag. It is encouraging to

know that there are many supporters out there who share the same views. We are not alone.

**It would be a benefit to me to know which city you are from. If you wouldn't mind replying and letting me know, I'd appreciate it.**

I keep all the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Let us keep praying and fighting the good fight!

Warmest regards, and again, thank you for your support,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee, HCDSB

P.S. Please write me a note to tell me which city you live in.

P.P.S. Stay tuned for my next update on your child's privacy concerns in HCDSB schools.



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Fwd: Pride flag update at HCDSB  
Date: June 30, 2022 at 11:45 AM America/Toronto  
To: [REDACTED]

---

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Helena Karabela** <[REDACTED]>  
Date: Fri., Feb. 18, 2022, 12:02 p.m.  
Subject: Fwd: Pride flag update at HCDSB  
To: <[REDACTED]>

Hello [REDACTED], This is what I sent out to acknowledge and thank all those who wrote to me.  
Helena

On Saturday, February 12, 2022, 06:00:25 a.m. EST, Helena Karabela <[REDACTED]> wrote:

## I voted against flying the Pride flag at HCDSB schools



Dear [REDACTED],

I'm writing to you to provide an update on the Pride flag motion that was voted on Tuesday January 18th at Halton Catholic School Board (HCDSB).

Thank you to those of you who wrote to me expressing your concerns about raising the Pride flag at the HCDSB. I share your concerns and I voted against flying the Pride flag.

I wanted my vote to be a clear NO.

I chose to speak in the strongest way possible: by vote.

We were defeated as the vote was 5-3 in favour of flying the flag.

The Trustees that voted against flying the Pride flag were:

Helena Karabela, Oakville Trustee,  
Tim O'Brien, Burlington Trustee  
Vince Iantomasi, Burlington Trustee

The Trustees that voted in favour of flying the Pride flag were:

Patrick Murphy, Milton Trustee  
Janet O'Hearn- Czarnota, Halton Hills Trustee  
Nancy Guzzo, Oakville Trustee  
Peter DeRosa, Oakville Trustee  
Brenda Agnew, Burlington Trustee

As a Catholic school board Trustee, my responsibility is to advocate for and uphold Catholic teaching on faith and morals. I strive to ensure these teachings are prioritized.

The vast number of messages that I received from parents were compassionate, against discrimination of any kind while firm in keeping to the teachings of our Catholic faith, and asked me to vote against flying the Pride flag. It is encouraging to know that there are many supporters out there who share the same views. We are not alone.

**It would be a benefit to me to know which city you are from. If you wouldn't mind replying and letting me know, I'd appreciate it.**

I keep all the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Let us keep praying and fighting the good fight!

Warmest regards, and again, thank you for your support,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee, HCDSB

P.S. Please write me a note to tell me which city you live in.

P.P.S. Stay tuned for my next update on your child's privacy concerns in HCDSB schools.



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** EXTRA DETAILS - Student privacy concerns through data collection at HCDSB  
**Date:** February 19, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## School identity-based census starting Feb 28 at HCDSB



Dear [REDACTED],

I believe you and your child's privacy are at risk due to data collection through a HCDSB survey. Here is what you should know.

From February 28 – April 4th, the HCDSB is doing a voluntary board-wide identity-based student census. The purpose of this survey is to gather identity-based data on our students as required by the Anti-Racism Act of 2017. More specifically, data will be collected in the areas of race, ethnicity, religion, indigenous identity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic status, status in Canada and first language.

The Ministry of Education requires that the census surveys for students in JK-grade 8 be sent directly to parents/guardians to complete on their child's behalf or with their child. HCDSB is doing this. This correctly gives parents the express consent to fill out the survey or not.

For secondary schools the survey is being rolled out by implied consent.

**This means that, even though your child is still a minor, data is being collected from your child without your express parental consent.**

I put forward a motion to require express parental consent for the survey for secondary school students that was voted on at the February 1st board meeting. The motion failed in a 5-4 vote. Read the motion [here](#).

The Trustees who voted in favour of express parental consent and to not do the student census during class time were:

Helena Karabela , Oakville Trustee  
Vince Iantomassi, Burlington Trustee  
Tim O'Brien, Burlington Trustee  
Peter DeRosa, Oakville Trustee

The Trustees who voted against express parental consent and wanted the students to do the census during class time were:

Marvin Duarte, Chair, Milton Trustee  
Patrick Murphy, Milton Trustee  
Brenda Agnew, Vice Chair, Burlington Trustee  
Nancy Guzzo, Oakville Trustee  
Janet O'Hearn-Czarnota, Halton Hills Trustee

Not only did the motion fail to pass, but I also had to fight for my democratic right as a Trustee to put forward the motion. The Chair, Trustee Marvin Duarte, and Oakville Trustee Nancy Guzzo, tried to take my motion off the table so that it would not be addressed in the meeting! (See [here](#) to watch the meeting, or [here](#) to read a good article summarizing the event.)

Parental consent is important as it underlines that parents are the primary educators of their children. However, the actions of these Trustees, like the Ministry, would indicate that they believe otherwise. Is this what we want for our children?

I believe that express parental consent should be required for all students partaking in this survey. Parents should be aware of some of the questions that ask about their socio-economic status, among the data being collected.

The census survey questions are available on the HCDSB website when you scroll down [here](#).

**I believe that you, the parents, should be giving express consent access to your children with regards to this government required identity data collection.**

**Parents should be determining their child's privacy, not institutions.**

Since the motion failed, your children in secondary school will receive the email directly. You do have an option to "opt out". You will have received an email dated January 31st asking for this.

You can view the HCDSB info about the student census and Q and A [here](#).

The census is confidential however, not anonymous.

Thank you for staying informed on student privacy concerns and data collection with regards to this survey in the HCDSB.

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

From: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Fwd: EXTRA DETAILS - Student privacy concerns through data collection at HCDSB  
Date: February 19, 2022 at 6:30 AM America/Toronto  
To:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Helena Karabela** <[REDACTED]>  
Date: Sat., Feb. 19, 2022, 6:00 a.m.  
Subject: EXTRA DETAILS - Student privacy concerns through data collection at HCDSB  
To: <[REDACTED]>

## School identity-based census starting Feb 28 at HCDSB



Dear [REDACTED],

I believe you and your child's privacy are at risk due to data collection through a HCDSB survey. Here is what you should know.

From February 28 – April 4th, the HCDSB is doing a voluntary board-wide identity-based student census. The purpose of this survey is to gather identity-based data on our students as required by the Anti-Racism Act of 2017. More specifically, data will be collected in the areas of race, ethnicity, religion, indigenous identity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic status, status in Canada and first language.

The Ministry of Education requires that the census surveys for students in JK-grade 8 be sent directly to parents/guardians to complete on their child's behalf or with their child. HCDSB is doing this. This correctly gives parents the express consent to fill out the survey or not.

For secondary schools the survey is being rolled out by implied consent.

**This means that, even though your child is still a minor, data is being collected from your child without your express parental consent.**

I put forward a motion to require express parental consent for the survey for secondary school students that was voted on at the February 1st board meeting. The motion failed in a 5-4 vote. Read the motion [here](#).

The Trustees who voted in favour of express parental consent and to not do the student census during class time were:

Helena Karabela , Oakville Trustee

Vince Iantomassi, Burlington Trustee  
Tim O'Brien, Burlington Trustee  
Peter DeRosa, Oakville Trustee

The Trustees who voted against express parental consent and wanted the students to do the census during class time were:

Marvin Duarte, Chair, Milton Trustee  
Patrick Murphy, Milton Trustee  
Brenda Agnew, Vice Chair, Burlington Trustee  
Nancy Guzzo, Oakville Trustee  
Janet O'Hearn-Czarnota, Halton Hills Trustee

Not only did the motion fail to pass, but I also had to fight for my democratic right as a Trustee to put forward the motion. The Chair, Trustee Marvin Duarte, and Oakville Trustee Nancy Guzzo, tried to take my motion off the table so that it would not be addressed in the meeting! (See [here](#) to watch the meeting, or [here](#) to read a good article summarizing the event.)

Parental consent is important as it underlines that parents are the primary educators of their children. However, the actions of these Trustees, like the Ministry, would indicate that they believe otherwise. Is this what we want for our children?

I believe that express parental consent should be required for all students partaking in this survey. Parents should be aware of some of the questions that ask about their socio-economic status, among the data being collected.

The census survey questions are available on the HCDSB website when you scroll down [here](#).

**I believe that you, the parents, should be giving express consent access to your children with regards to this government required identity data collection.**

**Parents should be determining their child's privacy, not institutions.**

Since the motion failed, your children in secondary school will receive the email directly. You do have an option to "opt out". You will have received an email dated January 31st asking for this.

You can view the HCDSB info about the student census and Q and A [here](#).

The census is confidential however, not anonymous.

Thank you for staying informed on student privacy concerns and data collection with regards to this survey in the HCDSB.

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

# Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Stay tuned for my next update on potential pantheism in our Catholic schools.



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

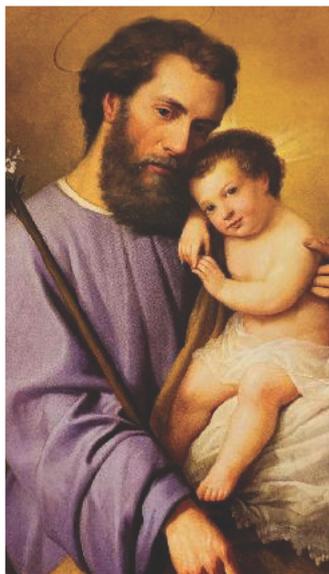
[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** With St. Joseph, Pray for the Senators, Pray for Canada  
**Date:** February 22, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## **St. Joseph is the Patron Saint of Canada and the Universal Church**



Dear [REDACTED],

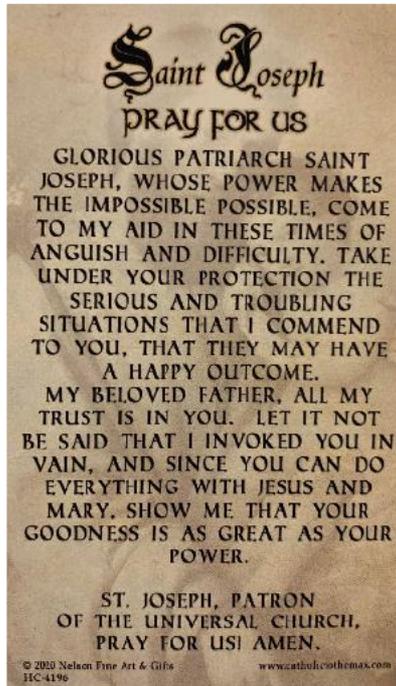
With the passing of the motion to ratify the Emergencies Act in the House of Commons last night, there is still hope for it's failure in the Senate.

A slim hope but worthy of prayer.

This above picture of St. Joseph is from a prayer card on my desk.

Tonight after the vote, I was praying the rosary with friends intentionally asking for the intercession of St. Joseph in the hearts of the Senators, for courage and wisdom, to protect Canadians from the invocation of the Emergencies Act.

The words of the prayer on the back of this card are wriitten for Canada now!



I invite you to pray it as well.

Prayerfully,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

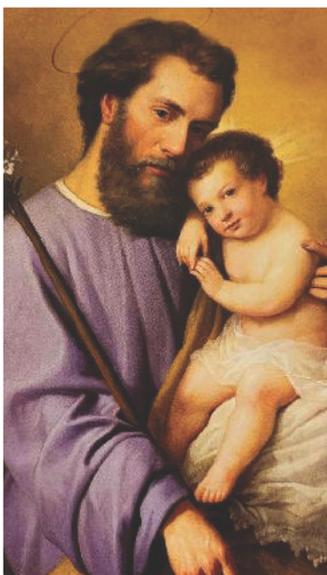
[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

From:  
Subject:  
Date:  
To:

Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
St. Joseph Keeping Canadians Free  
February 24, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
[REDACTED]

## St. Joseph turned the impossible, possible!



Dear [REDACTED],

Good news!

The Emergencies Act died while in the Senate, as was asked in countless petitions to St. Joseph! And this happened on a Wednesday, the day of the week traditionally devoted to St. Joseph.

Thank you for praying for this intention with me.

Please join me in this new intention:

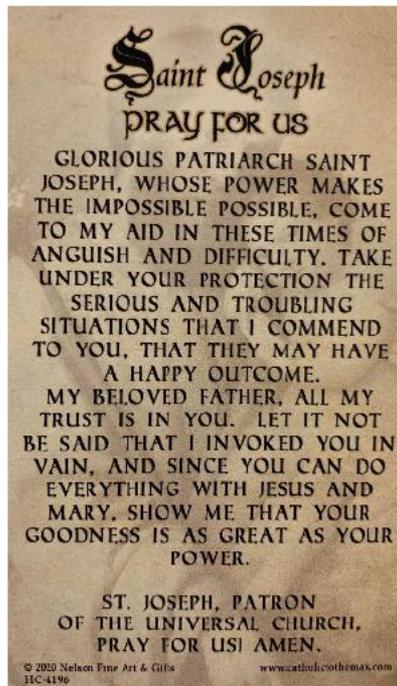
*Thank you, St. Joseph, for your patronage over Canada.*

*Please now turn your goodness and power to removing the corruption in our political parties, courts, police and banks.*

*St. Joseph, as you protected Jesus and Mary in Bethlehem, please ask God to keep our land glorious and free.*

Thanks again for standing on guard with me in prayer.

Thanks be to God and thank you St. Joseph!



United in prayer,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Please share this with your friends and invite them to join us in praying for the next miracle.



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

From:  
Subject:  
Date:  
To:

Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Giving Parents the Power to Unmask Their Children  
March 03, 2022 at 6:01 AM America/Toronto

## Let parents make health decisions for their children



Dear [REDACTED],

On this past Tuesday Mar 1st, I introduced two motions at the Board meeting that you should know about.

The first motion is to remove mask mandates for Junior and Senior Kindergarten students and allow parents to decide if their child wears a mask. This is because the Halton Catholic District School Board has been exceeding the Ministry mandate that only requires students in grades 1-12 to wear masks.

The second motion is to send a letter to The Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, asking for all student mask mandates to be ended and again, allow parents to decide if their child wears a mask or not.

**These motions are about giving parents the power to make health-related decisions for their children.**

**I believe that you, the parent, should be able to decide whether or not your child wears a mask.**

These motions will be voted on at the next Board meeting, on Tuesday March 22nd.

Stay tuned for my next message to find out more about these motions.

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,

Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. See this [video](#) to watch me read out the masking motions.

P.P.S. If you haven't let me know which city you're from, please write me a note letting me know.



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Giving Parents the Power to Unmask Their Children  
**Date:** March 05, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## Giving parents the power to unmask their children



Dear [REDACTED],

We are at a point in time where people want to move on to ordinary life.

U.S. President Joe Biden said at the State of the Union speech on Tuesday evening:

*“Americans can remove their masks, return to work, stay in the classroom and move forward safely.”*

Likewise, the mask mandate was removed for the State of the Union speech, which saw the Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court, Congress and their guests sit without masks. The average age of the US Senate is 63 years old; the Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, is 81 years old. Here were elderly and senior members of the government, unmasked. They were following the advice on masking from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

This week, I introduced two motions at a Halton Catholic District School Board meeting that you should know about.

The first motion is to remove mask mandates for Junior and Senior Kindergarten students and allow parents to decide if their child wears a mask. The Halton Catholic District School Board has been exceeding the Ministry mandate that only requires students in grades 1-12 to wear masks. This was never a government requirement.

The second motion is to send a letter to the Minister of Education asking for all student mask mandates to be ended and again, allow parents to decide if their child wears a mask or not.

The point of these motions is not primarily to take a scientific stand on whether or not the masks work.

**My motions are about giving parents the power to make health-related decisions for their children.**

**I believe that parents should be able to decide whether or not their child wears a mask.**

Here's what you can do to help:

The Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) was excited to hear about these motions, and created a petition to support them.

**Please join me in fighting to remove mask mandates in Halton Catholic schools by [signing this petition](#).**

**After signing, please share this petition with your friends or family who wish to see mask mandates removed in Halton Catholic schools so that they can sign the petition too.**

These motions will be voted on at the next Board meeting, on Tuesday March 22nd. Help me get as many petition signers as possible, so that I can help you in the fight to remove mask mandates imposed on your children. Your child, your choice.

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. [Sign this petition](#) to support my efforts!

P.P.S. Please ask your friends to sign this petition too.

[Sign the petition here](#)

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Take Action Today to Remove Student Mask Mandates!  
**Date:** March 08, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## Take Action Today to Remove Student Mask Mandates!



Dear [REDACTED],

Yesterday, Queen Elizabeth held an in-person audience with Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and guess what? They weren't wearing masks! The Queen is 95 years old.

If foreign heads of state and leaders can meet together without masking, your child should be able to go to school without being forced to wear a mask.

As you may already know, last week I introduced two motions at the Halton Catholic District School Board meeting. The first is to remove mask mandates for Junior and Senior Kindergarten students and allow parents to decide if their child wears a mask, because children in these grades are not required to wear one by the Ministry of Education.

The second motion is to send a letter to the Minister of Education asking for all student mask mandates to be ended and again, leave mask-wearing up to the discretion of parents.

**It's time we ended these mandates and let parents make health-related choices for their children.**

Here's what you can do to help:

The Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) was excited to hear about these motions, and created a petition to support them.

**I need you, today, to [sign this petition](#).**

**After signing, please share this petition with your friends or family who wish to see mask mandates removed in Halton Catholic schools and the**

rest of schools in Ontario, so that [they can sign the petition too](#).

Keep an eye out for my next update on this issue.

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. [Sign this petition](#) to support my efforts!

P.P.S. Please ask your friends to sign this petition too.

[Sign the petition here](#)



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Take Action Today to Remove Student Mask Mandates!  
**Date:** March 10, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## Take Action Today to Remove Student Mask Mandates!



Dear [REDACTED],

I'm aware of yesterday's proviso that the mask mandates will end on March 21. I have concerns. Please sign the petition - I don't believe this is over.

Three weeks ago, Premiere of Ontario Doug Ford said of Covid restrictions:

*"We are done with it. Let's just start moving on, cautiously. The world's done with it, let's just move forward."*

He also said:

*"I bet if I asked every single person in this room, 'Do you want these damn masks or do you want them off?' They want them off. They want to get back to normal."*

After two years of this, it's time that children have the freedom to go to school without being forced to wear a mask. It's time they have a normal life where they can see their peers' faces.

As you may already know, last week I introduced two motions at the Halton Catholic District School Board meeting. The first is to remove mask mandates for Junior and Senior Kindergarten students and allow parents to decide if their child wears a mask.

Children in these grades are not required to wear one by the Ministry of Education. Our board went beyond the rules. It's time for parents to decide.

The second motion is to send a letter to the Minister of Education asking for all student mask mandates to be ended, while leaving mask-wearing up to the discretion of parents.

**These motions are not about taking a scientific stand on masking, but about giving parents the power to make health-related decisions for their children.**

**I believe that you, the parent, should be able to decide whether or not your child wears a mask.**

If you would like to see these mandates ended, here's what you can do to help:

The Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) was excited to hear about these motions, and created a petition to support them.

Thank you to those of you who have already signed this petition!

**If you haven't signed yet, I need you to [sign this petition today](#).**

**After signing, please share this petition with your friends or family who wish to see mask mandates removed in Halton Catholic schools and schools in the rest of Ontario, so that [they can sign the petition too](#).**

These motions will be voted on at the next Board meeting, on Tuesday March 22nd. To support my motions, please get as many petition signers as possible, so that I can help you in the fight to remove mask mandates imposed on your children. Your child, your choice.

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. [Sign this petition](#) to support my efforts!

P.P.S. The petition has reached 288 signatures so far. Help them get to 1,000 signatures! Please ask your friends to sign this petition too.

[Sign the petition here](#)

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** The Fight Isn't Over!  
**Date:** March 15, 2022 at 6:01 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## The fight isn't over!



Dear [REDACTED],

Last Wednesday Dr. Kieran Moore, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, announced that mask mandates would end on March 21st. Mask-wearing will no longer be enforced in schools, sports games, and other indoor settings.

However, this good news is only temporary - pushback against the end of mask mandates shows that this issue isn't over.

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board voted to keep masks on their students and staff until April 15th.

The Toronto Catholic District School Board voted to ask the Ministry to extend mask wearing for their students and staff.

The Toronto District School Board formally requested that the lifting of mask mandates be put on hold.

The above shows many influential people, just in the educational system, are not willing to return medical decisions to parents.

We need to build together to fight for these rights back. This fight is just beginning.

Since the fight isn't over, please [sign and share](#) the Halton Family + Life Association's (HF+LA) petition supporting my motions to remove mask

mandates in the Halton Catholic District School Board and the rest of schools in Ontario. In both motions, masking is returned to the discretion of parents.

We can't take unmasking for granted just because our government has said it is no longer necessary. Taking our freedoms for granted is how we ended up having to fight these mandates in the first place.

**Just because the government is saying mask mandates are over doesn't mean mask mandates are ending everywhere.**

**[Signing this petition](#) is the next best step you can take towards seeing these unjust mask mandates ended and parents' freedom to choose for their children restored.**

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. The petition has reached 338 signatures so far. Help HF+LA get to 1,000 signatures by [signing and sharing](#) this petition!

P.P.S. Stay tuned for my next update on why we need to persevere in the fight to end mask mandates.

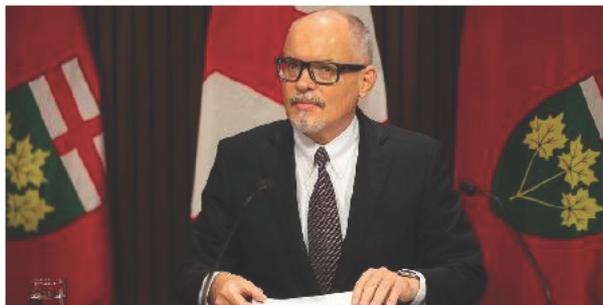
[Sign the petition here](#)



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Remember: They Said Two Weeks to Flatten the Curve  
**Date:** March 17, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## Remember: They Said Two Weeks to Flatten the Curve



Dear [REDACTED],

On Wednesday March 9th, Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Kieran Moore said:

*"You have to recognize that you can't mandate masking forever, it has to become a choice."*

On the same day, Dr. Moore also said:

*"We should all be prepared that we may need to resume mask wearing."*

At the start of the pandemic, our government told us that it would take "two weeks" of following their rules to flatten the curve".

Here we are, two years later...

Can we believe government statements to their word? Usually not. Dr. Moore's words above prove that we can't take the government at its word.

First he says: "we can't keep this up indefinitely."

Then he says:

*"We should all be prepared that we may need to resume mask wearing."*

**Until the government rescinds the legislation to remove parents' rights to decide medical choices like this for their children, the fight to restore these rights is not over.**

Unless we fight to end these mask mandates now, band together now, build a community to work together now, government officials can re-implement their medical decisions on you and your children at any time they decide.

Dr. Kieran Moore, M.D., has pledged this:

*"We should all be prepared that we may need to resume mask wearing."*

Is this pattern of removing parents' rights something we want our children to keep living through?

As you may know, I currently have two motions which will be voted on by the Halton Catholic District School Board on March 22nd. The first is to immediately end mask mandates for JK and SK Halton Catholic students because they were never mandated in the first place. The second is for the HCDSB to send a letter to the Minister of Education asking that mask mandates be ended in all schools in Ontario. In both motions, masking is left up to the discretion of parents.

I am looking into what needs to be done to make sure these motions remain most effective.

The Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) has a petition to support my motions. In two weeks, the petition has reached 386 signatures and is growing!

**Please support my efforts to end the mask mandates and give parents back the freedom to choose by [signing this petition](#).**

[Signing this petition](#) is the best thing you can do to help the cause.

Thank you to those of you who have already signed. [Sharing this petition](#) with others so that they may sign too is the next best thing you can do to help the cause.

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. The petition has reached 386 signatures so far. Help HF+LA get to 1,000 signatures by [signing and sharing](#) this petition!

P.P.S. Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Sign the petition here



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Fwd: Remember: They Said Two Weeks to Flatten the Curve  
Date: March 17, 2022 at 8:34 AM America/Toronto  
To: [REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: **Helena Karabela** <[REDACTED]>  
Date: Thu., Mar. 17, 2022, 6:00 a.m.  
Subject: Remember: They Said Two Weeks to Flatten the Curve  
To: <[REDACTED]>

## Remember: They Said Two Weeks to Flatten the Curve



Dear [REDACTED],

On Wednesday March 9th, Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Kieran Moore said:

*"You have to recognize that you can't mandate masking forever, it has to become a choice."*

On the same day, Dr. Moore also said:

*"We should all be prepared that we may need to resume mask wearing."*

At the start of the pandemic, our government told us that it would take "two weeks" of following their rules to flatten the curve".

Here we are, two years later...

Can we believe government statements to their word? Usually not. Dr. Moore's words above prove that we can't take the government at its word.

First he says: "we can't keep this up indefinitely."

Then he says:

*"We should all be prepared that we may need to resume mask wearing."*

**Until the government rescinds the legislation to remove parents' rights to decide medical choices like this for their children, the fight to restore these rights is not over.**

Unless we fight to end these mask mandates now, band together now, build a community to work together now, government officials can re-implement their medical decisions on you and your children at any time they decide.

Dr. Kieran Moore, M.D., has pledged this:

*"We should all be prepared that we may need to resume mask wearing."*

Is this pattern of removing parents' rights something we want our children to keep living through?

As you may know, I currently have two motions which will be voted on by the Halton Catholic District School Board on March 22nd. The first is to immediately end mask mandates for JK and SK Halton Catholic students because they were never mandated in the first place. The second is for the HCDSB to send a letter to the Minister of Education asking that mask mandates be ended in all schools in Ontario. In both motions, masking is left up to the discretion of parents.

I am looking into what needs to be done to make sure these motions remain most effective.

The Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) has a petition to support my motions. In two weeks, the petition has reached 386 signatures and is growing!

**Please support my efforts to end the mask mandates and give parents back the freedom to choose by [signing this petition](#).**

[Signing this petition](#) is the best thing you can do to help the cause.

Thank you to those of you who have already signed. [Sharing this petition](#) with others so that they may sign too is the next best thing you can do to help the cause.

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. The petition has reached 386 signatures so far. Help HF+LA get to 1,000 signatures by [signing and sharing](#) this petition!

P.P.S. Happy St. Patrick's Day!

[Sign the petition here](#)



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

From:  
Subject:  
Date:  
To:

Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
School Boards are not Medical Experts  
March 22, 2022 at 6:01 AM America/Toronto  
[REDACTED]

## School Boards Are Not Medical Experts



Dear [REDACTED],

In a previous email, I mentioned how the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board voted to extend mask mandates for their students until April 1st, in spite of the March 21st rollback on mask mandates in Ontario.

In response, the Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education wrote a letter to that board reiterating the government's expectation that the mask mandate for students and staff be lifted.

Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Kieran Moore also wrote a letter to several boards last Thursday saying that he expected them to follow the government's guidance on masking.

Premier of Ontario Doug Ford has stated that he expects school boards to follow the government's guideline to lift student mask mandates, saying:

*"Let me be very clear to the school boards, they aren't medical experts."*

It's true what Doug Ford is saying, but it's not the whole truth. School boards are not medical experts, but they are expected to represent their voters – taxpayers in general, but especially parents.

In Halton, I want parents to make decisions of what is medically best for their children.

I want this right acknowledged right away, and, I want this right to never be taken away again.

If the Halton Catholic District School Board allows amendment to my original motions which the government has invalidated, then the board will be voting on my motions to install parental consent for student masking tonight.

These motions are about giving parents the power to decide if their child continues to wear a mask.

Until we ensure that medical-related decisions like this remain at the discretion of parents, this fight isn't over.

We'd all like Covid and its consequences to be over. We'd all like to look at this as something in the rearview mirror.

But the officials, both staff and trustees, at many large school boards want to keep medical decisions out of the authority of parents.

The fight to restore parents' rights is just beginning.

And, I need your help.

The Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) has a petition to support my motions and so far has garnered 405 signatures!

**Please support my efforts to end the mask mandates and give parents back the freedom to choose by [signing this petition](#).**

**Thank you to those of you who have already signed. [Sharing this petition with others so that they may sign too is the next best thing you can do to help the cause.](#)**

School boards aren't medical experts and therefore should not be imposing health-related decisions on students.

**History is happening now. Will you stand with me to make sure the freedom to make medical choices is restored to parents?**

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Please [sign and share](#) HF+LA's petition supporting my motions!

P.P.S. Stay tuned for my next update following tonight's vote at the board meeting.

Sign the petition here



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

From:  
Subject:  
Date:  
To:

Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Parents Make Medical Decisions  
March 26, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
[REDACTED]

## Parents Make Medical Decisions



Dear [REDACTED],

On Tuesday night, I had no choice but to pull my motions regarding mask mandates at the board meeting. While the Ontario government's recent actions made some points of the motions no longer necessary, we do need to revisit parental rights in the province, and this will need to be addressed in future motions.

While it is good that PARENTS! are no longer being forced by the government to mask all children regardless of their personal needs, we must not overlook the real issue - namely that medical-related decisions were being imposed on all children without parental consent.

The Church teaches that the role of parents trumps the state when it comes to making decisions for children. And parental authority covers all choices being made for children, not just educational ones.

*"Parents' respect and affection are expressed by the care and attention they devote to bringing up their young children and **providing for their physical and spiritual needs**. As the children grow up, the same respect and devotion lead parents to educate them in the right use of their reason and freedom."*

- Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2228

Parents are primarily responsible for the well-being of their children. Parents are responsible for disciplining their children. Parents are responsible for transmitting the Catholic faith to their children. Not the state. Not agencies of the state. Not even the Church bears this responsibility or authority. Parents do.

It is crucial to restore these God-given rights to parents as soon as possible and to protect them.

Why?

**Because when the rights of one person are violated, the rights of all other people are under threat too.**

We need to remind people about their rights. All rights come from God. When rights are separated from God, this leaves an opening for others to impose tyrannical policies on everyone else.

**Parents are the primary authority over their children. Let's not forget that.**

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Thanks for staying tuned. Please keep an eye out for my next email - I'll be asking you for your thoughts on these updates!



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

From:  
Subject:  
Date:  
To:

Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Be Not Afraid - Christ's Message to us at Easter  
April 12, 2022 at 6:01 AM America/Toronto  
[REDACTED]

## Be Not Afraid



Dear [REDACTED],

I'd like to wish you and your family a blessed Holy Week and Happy Easter for 2022.

I'd also like to share with you a message on how Easter encourages us to stand strong in our Pro-life convictions. More on this soon - stay tuned for my Thursday message!

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee,  
Halton Catholic District School Board

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Be Not Afraid - Christ's Message to us at Easter  
**Date:** April 16, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## Be Not Afraid



Dear [REDACTED],

May you and your family have a Blessed Easter.

As part of my Easter wishes, I'd like to share with you an Editorial by the [Catholic Register](#) from March, 2018 that praised the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) passing the "Sanctity of Life" motion.

The Editorial, titled "Be Not Afraid", emphasizes that while Christians in Canada don't have to die for their beliefs as in other countries, Canadians still suffer negative consequences for standing up for the Catholic Faith in public.

The Editorial illustrated a persecution of the faith when the HCDSB passed the "Sanctity of Life" motion, which mandated that charitable donations by Halton Catholic schools did not go to organizations that directly or indirectly supported abortion, contraception, sterilization, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research.

The Editorial's message of hope remains relevant today. Here is a key excerpt:

*"The call for Christians to be brave remains a central Easter message. Do not be afraid. Personify the courage of Easter. Proclaim the Good News. Exemplify*

*Christian values in words and actions even when it is daunting in a culture often dismissive or even hostile to those beliefs.*

*In many countries, living a faithful Christian life still carries a risk of martyrdom. Canadians are not asked to die for their beliefs, but public displays of Christian morality can bring shaming, ridicule, denunciation. It takes courage to stay strong in a secular world that can be scornful of public witness....*

*Being a Christian today often means refusing to be silent or submissive. It means proclaiming Catholic beliefs and values even when proclaiming them is uncomfortable.*

*It means drawing courage from the joy and hope of Easter and then going forth as Christians to believe, defend and proclaim, trusting in the words: do not be afraid.”*

I encourage you to read the full article by clicking [here](#).

While the Sanctity of Life motion passed in 2018, it was later removed from board policy and is no longer in effect.

However, the fact that this policy was able to pass shows that together, we are capable of making a difference through the defunding of Pro-abortion organizations. This motion raised awareness for organizations with Pro-abortion agendas and not long after, nine Canadian bishops froze donations to Development and Peace for the similar reasons that the HCDSB stopped funding organisations like Me to We and the Canadian Cancer Society.

In response, the Canadian Cancer Society came out with a letter stating that while they weren't currently doing embryonic stem cell research, they reserved the right to experiment on unborn human beings.

Similarly, Me to We wrote a letter stating that they would reject Halton Catholic's donations instead of following the Sanctity of Life policy. This is the same Me to We that in 2020 almost brought down the Canadian government — a G7 nation — but did lead to the resignation of a Canadian finance minister.

It's further worth noting that the founders of Me to We, brothers Craig and Marc Kielburger, received a Catholic education. Here's what the [Catholic Register](#) editorial had to say:

*“There was also dissent from parents and students who saw some of their favourite charities deemed ineligible. This anger was disappointing but not totally surprising. It showed how much work is required still, even in Catholic schools and parishes, to communicate the mission of Catholic education.”*

As the Editorial pointed out, much work is still required to educate and form Catholics who adhere to Catholic teaching. It's often the case that moral corruption leads to financial corruption, as we saw with the Me to We scandal that threatened the Trudeau government.

Let us be encouraged by Christ this Easter to live out and proclaim our Pro-Life beliefs. The Church expects followers of Christ to keep saving lives, especially those of the weakest members of society, the unborn.

I sponsored the Sanctity of Life motion. I have been told it is one of the few Pro-Life “laws” passed by any level of government in Canada.

I could not have been inspired and weather the battles in passing the “Sanctity of Life” motion without the encouragement and support of people like you.

Please don't give up on the Pro-Life causes and prayers that Canada needs today. I hope you will join me in more Pro-Life activities in Halton in the future.

Again, I wish you and your family a joy-filled Easter!

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

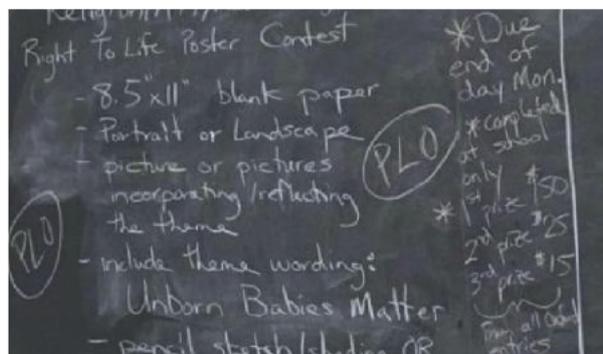
P.S. Please click [here](#) to read the full editorial on the Sanctity of Life motion and drawing courage from Easter in the Catholic Register!



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Parents outraged that kids have to learn Catholic beliefs in Catholic schools  
**Date:** April 26, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## Parents Outraged that Kids Have to Learn Catholic Beliefs in Catholic Schools



Dear [REDACTED],

Many thanks to those of you who sent me Easter wishes. I hope you all enjoyed celebrating Easter with your loved ones.

Here's a news story that you should know about. You can read it by clicking [here](#). I will talk more about this on Thursday - be on the lookout for my next message.

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

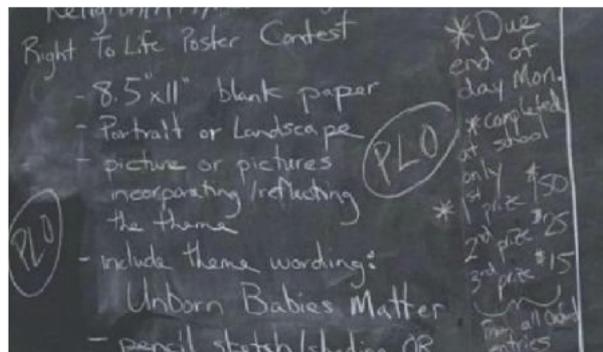
## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. To read this story - click [here](#).

From: Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Subject: Parents outraged that kids have to learn Catholic beliefs in Catholic schools  
Date: April 28, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
To: [REDACTED]

## Parents Outraged that Kids Have to Learn Catholic Beliefs in Catholic Schools



Dear [REDACTED],

Many thanks to those of you who sent me Easter wishes. I hope you enjoyed celebrating Easter with your loved ones.

In my Easter message, I wrote on how much work is still required to educate and form young Catholics with Catholic teaching, especially when it comes to Pro-Life issues. Here's an excerpt of the [Catholic Register Editorial](#):

*"There was also dissent from parents and students who saw some of their favourite charities deemed ineligible. This anger was disappointing but not totally surprising. It showed how much work is required still, even in Catholic schools and parishes, to communicate the mission of Catholic education."*

The [Catholic Register](#) Editorial was written in 2018. **Yet this is still the case today.**

The [CBC](#) recently published an [article](#) highlighting this issue, titled "Mom furious Grade 8 students at Woodstock, Ont., school must make posters for anti-abortion group's contest". Here is an excerpt:

*"The parents weren't told about it, and they're not allowing the kids to learn about the opposite side of this issue," said Rachelle Lynn Dixon, whose daughter Kaydence, 13, alerted her mom to the assignment. "It's a Catholic school, but it's also funded by the public. It's an elementary school that is asking kids to Google images about abortion."*

*"I want her [Kaydence] to form her own opinion," added her mom. "I understand it's a Catholic school and it teaches Catholic beliefs, but we're living in a day and age where women's rights matter. With everything going on in the world, I don't think these kids need to have this added on top of it."*

Teaching on the Sanctity of Life is not something to be "added on".

Students should *expect* to learn the Church's view on the Sanctity of Life if they go to a Catholic school!

What more do we need to realize that we have to do more to promote and reinforce meaningful Pro-Life education in Catholic schools?

We need to work on building up the culture of life in society, and that starts with educating the future of society - the youth.

This is why I will be working on bringing back the Sanctity of Life motion. Please stay tuned for my upcoming messages on what that means and the next best steps to building up the culture of life.

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. If you haven't already, please take the time to read the [Catholic Register](#) Editorial on the Sanctity of Life motion [here](#).



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** On Mother's Day, let's thank them for living out the Sanctity of Life  
**Date:** May 03, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

**On Mother's Day, Let's Thank Them for Living Out the Sanctity of Life**



Dear [REDACTED],

Mother's Day is coming up. I look forward to having a Mother's Day message for you on Thursday related to my time as a Trustee. See you Thursday!

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Happy belated feast of St. Joseph the Worker, which was this past Sunday May 1st.

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** On Mother's Day, Let's Thank Mothers for Living Out the Sanctity of Life  
**Date:** May 05, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## On Mother's Day, Let's Thank Mothers for Living Out the Sanctity of Life



Dear [REDACTED],

In honour of Mother's Day this Sunday and with May being the month of the Virgin Mary, I wanted to share with you an excerpt from a [Live Action](#) article which highlights the importance of a mother's role in defending the Sanctity of Life. The article is about former Colombian model Amada Rosa Pérez's pain and healing post-abortion.

Here is an excerpt:

*"In her experience, abortion wasn't something she wanted. "I was never in favor of abortion," she said. "I had an abortion out of fear, because I was pressured by my partner and I believed in what they told me, that the most important thing was my dreams and my professional success."*

*Eventually, Pérez gave herself to God, and allowed herself to heal from the pain. But she wants to save other women from experiencing what she went through, especially after the pro-life country's shocking decision to make abortion legal. Even the way it is phrased, as a "voluntary interruption of pregnancy," Perez calls a manipulation meant to ensnare women.*

*"It's not something as simple as interruption. What if I want to resume my pregnancy? Who gives me back my children?" she said. "We're living in a culture of*

*death that wants to take away the value of motherhood and is damaging the minds and hearts of girls and women who think that if they end the life of their children they will be free. On the contrary, that makes them slaves!"*

*"Behind abortion is a big business run by men who make women believe that they're fighting for their rights, when what they're doing is harming their physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health," she explained."*

To read the full article, click [here](#).

Pérez's testimony struck me because it highlighted the mother's role in defending the Sanctity of Life.

**Mothers ultimately uphold the Sanctity of Life by choosing to keep their babies.**

This story shows how much work we need to do to protect, promote and reinforce the Sanctity of Life.

During my time as a trustee, I sponsored the Sanctity of Life motion in 2018 which mandated that charitable donations by Halton Catholic schools did not go to organizations that directly or indirectly supported abortion, contraception, sterilization, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research. The HCDSB trustees at that time passed the Sanctity of Life motion, but it was later removed from board policy and is no longer in effect. That's another story!

However, the fact that this policy was able to pass shows that together, we are capable of making a difference through the defunding of Pro-abortion organizations. I am currently working on bringing the Sanctity of Life motion back.

As Catholics we are called to live out our Pro-Life values. Mothers say "yes" to Life in their everyday lives by choosing to keep their babies. Similarly, the Sanctity of Life motion is an opportunity for the HCDSB to say "yes" to Life by implementing a Pro-Life fundraising policy that defunds the evil abortion business.

I'd like to thank all the mothers out there for saying "yes" to Life this Mother's Day. In doing so, you imitate the example of the Virgin Mary whose "yes" made the birth and mission of Jesus Christ possible! In a world inundated by the culture of death, saying "yes" to Life builds up the culture of life, families and motherhood. And finally, to the mothers who have had abortions, I leave you with the comforting words of St. Pope John Paul II:

*"I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To the same Father and his mercy you can with sure hope entrust your child." (Evangelium Vitae)*

As always, I keep the students and families of the HCDSB in my prayers, for all their needs and spiritual wellbeing.

Warmest regards,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Stay tuned for upcoming news on my Sanctity of Life motion.

P.P.S. If you know anyone needing post abortion help, please refer them to [Project Rachel](#) or [Silent No More Awareness](#).



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** New Sanctity of Life Motion On The Table!  
**Date:** May 10, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## New Sanctity of Life Motion On The Table



Dear [REDACTED],

Last Tuesday, I introduced the "Sanctity of Life" motion at the board meeting.

You can view my notice of motion [here](#).

More on this in an email on Thursday!

For faith and education,

# Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. The annual March for Life in Ottawa is happening this Thursday, and this year is the 25th anniversary of the March!

Let us pray and offer things up for Canada and the unborn, even if we can't attend the March for Life in person!

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** New Sanctity of Life Motion On The Table!  
**Date:** May 12, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

### New Sanctity of Life Motion On The Table



Dear [REDACTED],

At the Tuesday May 3rd board meeting, I introduced the motion "Upholding the Sanctity of Life in Fundraising Services at Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB)".

This motion would ban any HCDSB fundraising to registered charities and nonprofits that are in any way involved in attacking human dignity through embryonic stem cell research (ESCR).

The Church's teaching on this topic is clear - embryonic stem cell research (ESCR) is immoral because it inevitably involves the killing of embryos, thus taking lives.

This point has been reiterated in several Church documents. The Catechism puts it simply:

*"It is immoral to produce human embryos intended for exploitation as disposable biological material."* (CCC 2275, 84)

All abortions constitute the killing of the unborn, therefore ECSR is a form of abortion. And abortion is never justifiable.

It is important to address ESCR because it is not often talked about, even amongst well-informed Catholics and pro-lifers. Furthermore, the timing of the

leaked Supreme Court of the United States draft opinion on a vote to overturn abortion laws via Roe v. Wade emphasizes the relevance of ESCR.

What is happening in the U.S. is so controversial that the leadership of the Conservative Party of Canada has reportedly ordered Conservative MPs — and senators — to not discuss the topic!

As pro-lifers, we have even more reason to speak out against ESCR and be a voice for the defenseless. At a time when entire sections of our government are being gagged by their leadership from voicing any opinions about abortion, we have a responsibility to speak up and say “no more”. Abortion in any and all forms is wrong.

This is why my motion to ban any HCDSB fundraising to charities and nonprofits that are in any way involved in or support abortion through ESCR matters.

It is always the right time to do the right thing.

For faith and education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Would you know anyone who would be interested in receiving updates like these?

Please forward this email to them as ask them to subscribe [here](#).



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

From: Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Subject: The Vote on My Motion Against ESCR is Tonight!  
Date: May 17, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
To: [REDACTED]

### The Vote on My Motion Against ESCR is Tonight!



Dear [REDACTED],

My motion to prevent fundraising from going to organizations that support embryonic stem cell research (ESCR) is being voted on at the board meeting tonight.

I will have more to say in a Thursday email.

Let us pray that fundraising services in the Halton Catholic District School Board will no longer be provided to any such organizations that support ESCR.

For faith and education,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. You can watch tonight's board meeting [here](#).

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Embryonic Stem Cell Research Motion Vote Results and New Motion on the Table!  
**Date:** May 19, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

**Embryonic Stem Cell Research Motion Vote Results  
and  
New Motion on the Table!**



Dear [REDACTED],

On Tuesday, my motion to prevent fundraising from going to organizations that support embryonic stem cell research (ESCR) was voted on at the board meeting.

The motion failed to pass in a 5-2 vote.

The trustees who voted in favour of the motion were:

Helena Karabela, Oakville Trustee  
Tim O'Brien, Burlington Trustee

The trustees who voted against the motion were:

Brenda Agnew, Burlington Trustee  
Nancy Guzzo, Oakville Trustee  
Peter DeRosa, Oakville Trustee  
Patrick Murphy, Milton Trustee  
Janet O'Hearn-Czarnota, Halton Hills Trustee

Chair of the Board Marvin Duarte (Milton Trustee) abstained from voting, and

Vince Iantomasi (Burlington Trustee) was absent.

This motion shed light on how abortions are caused through embryonic stem cell research (ESCR), an issue that is barely talked about and may be news to some people.

Although the motion failed to pass, anytime abortion is talked about, I believe a life can be saved!

Thank you to those of you who prayed for this vote and have sent me encouraging messages. I am grateful to all of you for your support.

Good News: I have introduced a new pro-life motion at Tuesday's board meeting to prohibit fundraising from going to charities and nonprofits that support "abortifacient contraception".

Some people are asking why keep introducing another pro-life motion...

Because it is always the right time to do the right thing.

For faith and education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Keep an eye out for my future message on my new motion against abortifacient contraception.



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

From: Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Subject: Your Support is Needed!  
Date: May 24, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
To: [REDACTED]

## Your Support is Needed!



Dear [REDACTED],

Last Tuesday, I introduced a new pro-life motion at the HCDSB board meeting to prohibit fundraising from going to charities and nonprofits that support “abortifacient contraception”.

I’ll send more information in an email on Thursday!

The Halton Family + Life Association has a petition supporting my pro-life motions which you can find [here](#).

For faith and education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Signing [this petition](#) is the next best step you can take to stop fundraising from going to pro-death organizations.

From: Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Subject: Your Support is Needed!  
Date: May 26, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
To: [REDACTED]

## Your Support is Needed!



Dear [REDACTED],

Last week, I introduced a new pro-life motion at Tuesday's board meeting to prohibit fundraising from going to charities and nonprofits that support "abortifacient contraception".

In the same week, San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone barred United States Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi from receiving Holy Communion in his archdiocese because of her efforts to codify federal protection for abortions.

In a statement, Archbishop Cordileone said:

*"I must make a public declaration that Pelosi is not to be admitted to Holy Communion unless and until she publicly repudiate her support for abortion 'rights' and confess and receive absolution for her cooperation in this evil in the sacrament of Penance."*

In a rare demonstration of public, moral correction, Archbishop Cordileone has made it clear to Catholics that the Church, and all Catholics by extension, must not support abortion.

In the neighboring diocese of Santa Rosa, Bishop Robert Vasa instructed priests to observe the decision of Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone when Pelosi attends Mass at the parish nearby her Napa Valley vacation home and vineyard.

This is why my motion to prohibit fundraising from going to charities and nonprofits that support “abortifacient contraception” is providential and timely.

As a Catholic institution, the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) has a responsibility to set a good example of what it means to live the tenets of the faith.

Consequently, fundraising from the HCDSB must not go to organizations that don't uphold the Sanctity of Life, from conception to natural death.

If you would like to see fundraising from the HCDSB to pro-death organizations ended, here's what you can do to help:

The Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) was excited to hear about my Sanctity of Life motions, and created a petition to support them.

Thank you to those of you who have already signed this petition!

If you haven't signed yet, I need you to [sign this petition today.](#)

After signing, please share this petition with your friends or family who wish to see fundraising from the HCDSB to pro-death organizations ended, so that [they can sign the petition too.](#)

My motion to prohibit fundraising from going to charities and nonprofits that support “abortifacient contraception” will be voted on at the Tuesday June 7 board meeting.

In the meantime, please help HF+LA get as many petition signatures as possible in support of my pro-life motions!

For faith and education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** The Vote is Coming Up!  
**Date:** May 31, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## The Vote is Coming Up!



Dear [REDACTED],

My motion to prohibit fundraising from going to charities and nonprofits that support “abortifacient contraception” is going to be voted on at the June 7th meeting, a week from today.

I will have more to share in a Thursday email. Stay tuned!

For faith and education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Please [sign and share this petition](#) in support of my pro-life motions!

P.P.S. Happy Feast of the Visitation!

From: Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Subject: The Real, Big Lie!  
Date: June 02, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
To: [REDACTED]

## The Real, Big Lie!



Dear [REDACTED],

At the May 17th board meeting, Milton Trustee Patrick Murphy said:

*“Quite simply, the Sanctity of Life motion is the new big lie. It’s a dog whistle. Continuing to bring this motion forward perpetuates the big lie of which the purpose is to build fear and division.”*

However, every day, an average of five babies are killed through procured abortion in Halton alone. That adds up to 1,825 babies killed every year! And these are just the lives lost through abortion that we know of, not including babies killed through embryonic stem cell research, abortifacient contraception, etc. The list goes on...

**To say that *this* is not an emergency is the real, big lie.**

Trustee Murphy went on to say that there was no evidence that the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) is fundraising to “intentionally support abortion or euthanasia or a culture of death.” He’s missing the point.

The HCDSB has a moral duty to uphold pro-life values as a Catholic institution. As I said in my speech at the May 17th board meeting, the HCDSB should not give any money, not even a dollar, to any charity or non-profit that supports the culture of death. Such charities will use those dollars towards abortions.

It’s not enough to avoid “intentionally” fundraising for pro-abortion organizations. There are other organizations the HCDSB can fundraise for that don’t promote the culture of death.

This is why my motion to prohibit fundraising from going to charities and nonprofits that support “abortifacient contraception” should be supported.

The Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) has a petition supporting my Sanctity of Life motions. Thanks to those of you who have already signed the petition!

If you haven't signed yet, [signing this petition](#) is the best way you can support my pro-life efforts.

If you've already signed, [please share this petition](#) with anyone who wants to see funding to pro-death charities in the HCDSB ended, so that they can sign the petition too.

All life matters, in every instance. Will you join me in this fight?

For faith and education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Stay tuned for the results of the upcoming vote on my motion against abortifacient contraception!

P.P.S. Please [sign and share HF+LA's petition!](#)



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** The Vote Against Abortifacient Contraception is Tonight!  
**Date:** June 07, 2022 at 6:01 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## The Vote Against Abortifacient Contraception is Tonight!



Dear [REDACTED],

My motion to ban fundraising from going to charities and nonprofits that support “abortifacient contraception” will be voted on tonight!

You can view a copy of the motion [here](#) on page 71.

I will share more about this meeting in a Thursday email. Stay tuned!

For faith & education,

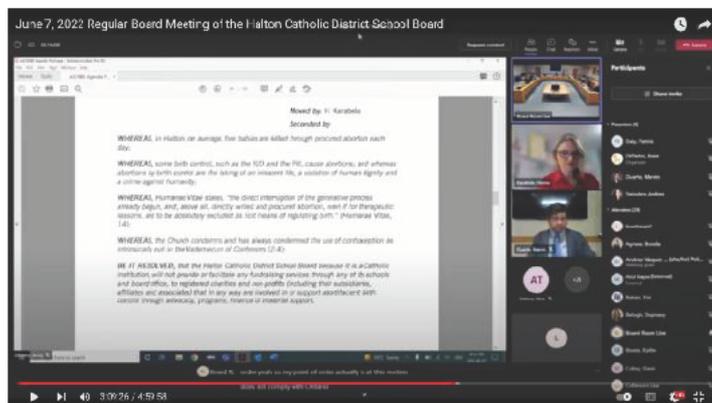
# Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Please [sign and share HF+LA's petition](#) in support of my motion. It has 334 signatures already, but needs many more!

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Outrageous Incident On Tuesday Night's Board Meeting!  
**Date:** June 09, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## Outrageous Incident at Tuesday Night's Board Meeting!



Dear [REDACTED],

At the board meeting on Tuesday June 7th, my motion to ban fundraising to organizations that support “abortifacient birth control” was squashed by the other trustees.

In a move to kill my motion, Burlington Trustee Brenda Agnew made a point of order which caused my motion to be steamrolled over a concocted technicality. As a result, the motion was not voted on, and my attempt to appeal this decision was overruled.

**This whole incident is outrageous.**

**The truth of the matter is that the majority of the “Catholic” trustees on the HCDSB don’t want and don’t support pro-life issues.**

It’s discouraging and frustrating, but that doesn’t mean our efforts are in vain.

I will have more encouraging news to share with you in my next email on what you can do to make a difference on pro-life issues in the HCDSB.

Good news: I submitted a new notice of motion at the June 7th board meeting, which would ban fundraising in the HCDSB from going to any organizations that support sterilization.

I'd like to thank those of you who wrote to the board and to me in support of my motion against abortifacient birth control. Your support means a lot to me. It also shows the other trustees that stakeholders care deeply about pro-life issues.

The Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) has a petition supporting my Sanctity of Life motions. Thanks to those of you who have already signed the petition!

**If you haven't signed yet, [signing the petition](#) is the best way you can support my pro-life efforts.**

**If you've already signed, please share this petition with anyone who wants to see funding to pro-death charities in the HCDSB ended, so that [they can sign the petition too](#).**

Let us keep fighting the good fight.

For faith & education,

## Helena

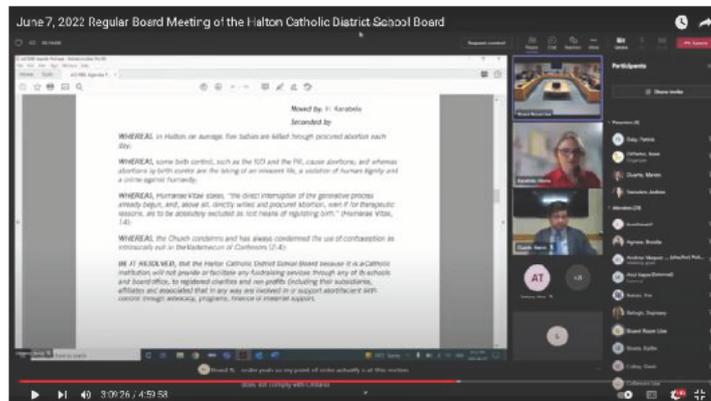
Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Our efforts are not in vain.

**P.P.S. The petition only has 353 signatures. I really need you to please [sign and share this petition](#). If everyone who signed and shared the petition got another person to sign, the amount of signatures on the petition will be doubled!**

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Your Help Is Needed To Make A Difference!  
**Date:** June 11, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]

## Your Help is Needed to Make a Difference!



Dear [REDACTED],

In my Thursday message this past week, I detailed the outrageous incident that occurred at the June 7th board meeting which prevented my motion against “abortifacient birth control” from being voted on.

This event was extremely frustrating, but I refuse to be demoralized. Here’s why you shouldn’t be either:

I have been doing pro-life work in Halton since 2006 and continued doing it in the HCDSB since my election as Oakville Trustee in 2014.

At the same June 7th board meeting where my motion against “abortifacient birth control” was squashed, I submitted a new notice of motion which would ban fundraising in the HCDSB from going to any organizations that support sterilization.

**Losses will not stop me from doing pro-life work, because it is always the right time to do the right thing.**

**More importantly, my pro-life motions are winnable.**

During my time as a trustee, I sponsored the Sanctity of Life motion in 2018 which mandated that charitable donations by Halton Catholic schools did not go to organizations that directly or indirectly supported abortion, contraception, sterilization, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research. The HCDSB

trustees at that time passed the Sanctity of Life motion, but it was later removed from board policy and is no longer in effect. There is more to the story which I will share in future messages, but here's the takeaway:

1. **This is not the first time I am doing this, and,**
2. **We have won this before!**

But I can't do this alone.

**I need your help to make a difference with these pro-life motions.**

**The Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) has a petition supporting my Sanctity of Life motions. Thanks to those of you who have already signed the petition!**

**Signing this petition is the best way you can support my pro-life efforts. Right now, the petition only has 387 signatures. I really need you to please [sign and share this petition!](#)**

If everyone who signed the petition got just one friend or family member to sign it too, the amount of signatures on the petition would be double!

Banning fundraising in the HCDSB from going to pro-abortion organizations in 2018 was only possible because we rallied the support of others to make a collective effort. Herein lies our hope.

Will you join me again in this fight?

For faith & education,

## Helena

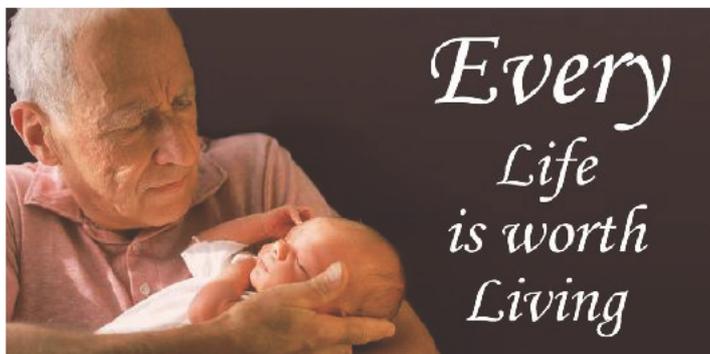
Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

**P.S. [Signing and sharing this petition](#) so others can sign too is how you (and others!) can make a difference TODAY on pro-life issues.**

From:  
Subject:  
Date:  
To:

Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
To Be Continued...  
June 14, 2022 at 6:01 AM America/Toronto

## To be continued...



Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you to those of you who wrote positive messages to me following my last email, and thanks to those who signed and shared the petition in support of my pro-life motions.

When I emailed you on Saturday, the amount of petition signatures was 387. That amount has since increased by about 15% to 457 signatures!

At the last board meeting, my motion to ban fundraising to organizations that support "abortifacient birth control" was stopped by opposing trustees. They will win unless we band together.

**I need all your help to push forward pro-life rules which stop funding abortion and the culture of death in the HCDSB.**

Helping me get more petition signatures is the best way that you can support my pro-life efforts.

If everyone finds one person to sign, we can double the amount of petition signatures this week!

For faith & education,

# Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

**P.S. [Signing and sharing this petition](#) so others can sign too is how you (and others!) can make a difference TODAY on pro-life issues.**



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

Helena Karabela | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

From:  
Subject:  
Date:  
To:

Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
You Don't Want To Miss This  
June 16, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
[REDACTED]

**THE CATHOLIC REGISTER** SINCE 1893

NEWS	OPINION	FAITH	YOUTH	FEATURES	ARCHIVE	SUBSCRIBE	BOOKS	ABOUT
------	---------	-------	-------	----------	---------	-----------	-------	-------

Home » / Opinion » / Editorial » / Editorial: Be not afraid



Fra Angelico, The Women at the Tomb (1401-1402), Florence, Museo di San Marco

Public domain

Editorial: Be not afraid

Dear [REDACTED],

As you know, I have been tabling pro-life motions to ban fundraising towards charities and nonprofits that support abortion and the culture of death.

The fight to defend the unborn is an ongoing battle, which is why I'd like to share an encouraging quote from the 2018 *Catholic Register* Easter editorial, "Be not afraid":

*"So we commend trustees of the Halton Catholic District School Board for acting amid a torrent of criticism to pass a motion to ensure school fund-raising always aligns with Catholic teaching on life and family. Charitable donations by Halton Catholic schools will no longer go to organizations that "directly or indirectly" support abortion, contraception, sterilization, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research."*

**This editorial is proof that these pro-life motions are winnable.**

**In 2018, my motion to ban fundraising towards charities and nonprofits that support the culture of death passed and became the only pro-life law**

**to be passed in any level of government in Canada!**

**The policy was in place for three months.**

However, months later that year the Board defeated the policy on review. The policy eventually failed because one trustee who couldn't handle the enormous pressure from the media, and a few student activists, changed his support. Then when another trustee made a motion to effectively cancel this pro-life by-law of our board, and it passed.

Unfortunately, current Chair of the Board Marvin Duarte (Milton Trustee) is part of the problem now. Here's why:

At the May 17th board meeting where my motion to ban fundraising towards charities and nonprofits that support embryonic stem cell research (ESCR) was voted on, Trustee Duarte abstained from voting even though he had the right to vote.

At the June 7th board meeting where my motion to ban fundraising towards charities and nonprofits that support "abortifacient birth control" was squashed, Trustee Duarte voted against my appeal for my motion to be voted on.

By abstaining from the first vote, Trustee Duarte didn't declare himself pro-life or pro-abortion, but the fact that he voted against my appeal for my last pro-life motion to be voted on shows that he is part of the problem.

**As the Chair of the Board, Trustee Duarte is setting a precedent against pro-life efforts made within the HCDSB by voting to silence pro-life issues.**

This is why we need to band together. I need all your help to push forward pro-life laws which stop funding abortion and the culture of death in the our Catholic school board. Obviously, every Catholic institution should not permit and actively stop any funds from going to any organization which publicly supports abortion, euthanasia and any other instrument of the culture of death.

**Here's what you can do today:**

As you know, the Halton Family + Life Association (HF+LA) has a petition supporting my Sanctity of Life motions. Many of you have already signed the petition - thank you!

Since I've asked you to sign and circulate this petition, the amount of signatures has grown from 387 to 486 signatures - about a 20% increase. This is good, and I think we can do even better.

I really need those of you who've signed this petition to [share it](#) with friends, family, and colleagues who want to see fundraising towards pro-abortion and pro-death organizations ended. You can circulate the petition by [sharing this link](#) with family, phoning a friend to tell them about it, etc...

**If everyone who signed got one other person to sign, the amount of petition signatures would be doubled.**

The vote for my motion to ban fundraising towards organizations that support sterilization is next Tuesday. Stay tuned!

For faith & education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

**P.S. Help me help YOU and your friends + family make a difference by [signing and sharing this petition with them.](#)**



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

From: Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Subject: Fathers, Our Superheroes  
Date: June 19, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
To: [REDACTED]



Dear [REDACTED],

In honour of Father's Day today, I'd like to share this quote on St. Joseph from St. Josemaria Escriva:

*"The greatest male Saint who ever lived was not a deacon, not a priest, not a bishop, not a pope, not a hermit, not a monk. He was a husband, father, and a worker."*

**The greatest male saint of all time is a father!**

In a time where celebrities, fictional characters, and various other people are celebrated as superheroes, St. Joseph's role and greatness draws attention to the fact that many of us are surrounded by real-life superheroes - fathers!

Today is also the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, which celebrates the Eucharist, the most precious Body of Christ which we receive in Holy Communion.

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)*

God the Father loved us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and furthermore remain with us on earth in the Blessed Sacrament, the Eucharist.

Let us thank Our Heavenly Father for His divine love, and be inspired by St. Joseph’s good example of earthly fatherhood.

May St. Joseph, protector of the universal Church, patron saint of Canada, head of the Holy Family, Foster Father of Jesus and our spiritual father continue to be a source of encouragement for fathers everywhere!

I wish all fathers a Happy Father’s Day!

For faith & education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Father’s Day is a family’s day. To protect vulnerable women from having abortion marketed to them by organizations that receive Catholic funding, **please [sign this petition](#) in support of my pro-life motions!** After signing, **please [share this petition](#) - help us reach 1,000 signatures!**



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.

From: Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Subject: Be Not Afraid  
Date: June 22, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
To: [REDACTED]



Dear [REDACTED],

Today is the feast of St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher, two great English martyrs of the Catholic Church.

Although St. Thomas More was from the laity and St. John Fisher was a cardinal, both men were united in cause, fighting for the indissolubility of marriage and the Pope's role as head of the Church. Both men **were not afraid** to defend their consciences to the point of death, and in serving God over man became great saints!

St. Thomas More once said:

*"I do not very much care what men say of me, provided that God approves of me."*

The following is a quote from the 2018 *Catholic Register* Easter editorial, "Do not be afraid", which pertains to the saintly examples of St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher:

*"The call for Christians to be brave remains a central Easter message. **Do not be afraid.** Personify the courage of Easter. Proclaim the Good News. Exemplify Christian values in words and actions even when it is daunting in a culture often dismissive or even hostile to those beliefs.*

*In many countries, living a faithful Christian life still carries a risk of martyrdom. Canadians are not asked to die for their beliefs, but public displays of Christian morality can bring shaming, ridicule, denunciation. It takes courage to stay strong in a secular world that can be scornful of public witness.*

*So we commend trustees of the Halton Catholic District School Board for acting amid a torrent of criticism to pass a motion to ensure school fund-raising always aligns with Catholic teaching on life and family. Charitable donations by Halton Catholic schools will no longer go to organizations that "directly or indirectly" support abortion, contraception, sterilization, euthanasia and embryonic stem cell research."*

To read the full article, click [here](#).

Often we may feel pressure that what the world defines as "right" or "successful" is at odds with Christianity, because that's almost always the case. But if St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher had cared more about following popular opinion and their positions of power in society instead of standing up for the Catholic Faith, they would not be recognized as the martyrs and saints they are today.

I am personally inspired and encouraged to persevere in my pro-life work in the Halton Catholic District School Board by the good example of St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher and by the quote above from the *Catholic Register*, which shows that while it is not always easy to live out a Christian life, the narrow road is ultimately more rewarding and bears much fruit.

Let us be emboldened to persevere in building up the culture of life, working to build up God's Kingdom. May we continue persevere in the Faith, defending the rights of the unborn (and in doing so, our consciences), taking to heart Jesus's words:

*"...whoever desires to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."* (Matthew 10:39 and Matthew 16:25)

**Do not be afraid!**

For faith & education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. What can you do to continue staying on the narrow road? **Please [sign this petition](#) in support of my pro-life motions!** After signing, help others on to or stay on the narrow road by **[sharing this petition](#) and getting them to sign too - help us reach 1,000 signatures!**

P.P.S. Stay tuned for my next message on my pro-life motions at the HCDSB!



**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Hope Abounds - Roe V. Wade Is No More!  
**Date:** June 25, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]



Dear [REDACTED],

At 10:00 am yesterday morning, the Supreme Court of the United States overturned *Roe v. Wade*, the monumental case that legalized abortion in America.

**THIS. IS. BIG!**

Yesterday was the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. June 24th is usually the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, whose role in the Visitation is the most pro-life event in history! At the Visitation, unborn St. John the Baptist leapt in his mother's womb while in the presence of the Virgin Mary because she was pregnant with Baby Jesus.

Provisionally, the five SCOTUS justices who ruled to overturn *Roe* are Catholic:

Justice Samuel Alito

Justice Amy Coney Barrett

Justice Brett Kavanaugh

Justice Clarence Thomas

And Justice Neil Gorsuch, who was baptized a Catholic.

Let us pray in thanksgiving for their bravery in the face of extreme, even violent, opposition in passing this ruling. Prior to the ruling, a man was arrested and charged for attempting to murder Justice Brett Kavanaugh. Pro-abortion groups such as Ruth Sent Us and Jane's Revenge have promised retaliation for a pro-life ruling.

Let us also pray for peaceful proceedings as states roll out their plans for protecting the unborn. Missouri has banned all abortions, and Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, South Dakota, Kentucky, Texas and Oklahoma have banned many abortions. Some are saying up to 23 states will be legislating bans on abortions soon.

May Canadians be inspired by this momentous event in history to do what they can, where they are, to support the pro-life movement. This history has been almost 50 years in the making - it did not happen by chance overnight.

We owe it to our children and future generations to continue the good work of the pro-life giants, to protect the unborn in Canada. Right now, there are no laws banning abortion in our country.

No doubt you have been following this case, since the SCOTUS draft opinion on overruling *Roe v. Wade* was leaked in May. The Church dedicates the month of May to Our Lady.

Today, we celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Let's thank Our Blessed Mother for interceding on behalf of all her children - I am sure she obtained many graces for *Roe v. Wade* to be overturned.

For faith & education,

# Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. I tabled a new pro-life motion at the June 21 Board meeting. Stay tuned for more information about it and what you can do to support this cause!



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

Helena Karabela Campaign | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [REDACTED]

From:  
Subject:  
Date:  
To:

Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Defending Democracy and Freedom of Speech  
June 28, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
[REDACTED]



Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you to everyone for the uplifting responses to my last message. I'm still rejoicing over the good news that abortions are being stopped in various parts of the United States, and I'm sure you are too.

As you know, I have been tabling pro-life motions to ban fundraising towards charities and nonprofits that support abortion and the culture of death for the last couple weeks. As these motions have been addressed in the meetings, a pattern has emerged attacking not only my pro-life motions, but democracy and freedom of speech within the Halton Catholic District School Board.

Look out for my upcoming message on the results of my motions and what you should know.

For faith & education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Want to support the pro-life cause? **Please sign and more importantly, get your friends and family to [sign this petition](#) in support of my motions.** Since Saturday, the petition signatures have increased by almost 10% - let's keep it up!

P.P.S. Happy feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, whose feast day is on June 29th. May these leaders, teachers and martyrs for the Faith help us to be better apostles for Christ and His Church!



You are receiving this email because you have written to me in the past.  
The views expressed here are my own and I do not speak on behalf of the HCDSB.

Helena Karabela Campaign | [REDACTED]

[Unsubscribe](#) [REDACTED]

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Democracy Is Under Attack In the Halton Catholic District School Board  
**Date:** July 02, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]



Dear [REDACTED],

Once again, a pro-life motion I tabled at the Halton Catholic District School Board (HCDSB) was squashed, before even allowing debate! Here's what you should know:

At the Tuesday June 21st Board meeting, my motion to ban fundraising towards organizations that support "direct sterilization" was ruled out of order. This was uncalled for as the reasoning used to squash my motion was biased and faulty.

However, this unjust ruling is yet another symptom of what is a larger problem within the HCDSB.

As you know, I am trying to stop Catholic money from going towards abortion.

**Every authentic pro-life person would be happy to vote for my pro-life motions, yet the pattern of voting by the trustees has shown that not only are they anti-life, but that they are anti-democracy.**

At the May 17th Board meeting, my motion to ban fundraising towards organizations that support embryonic stem cell research (ESCR) failed in a 5-2 vote, with Brenda Agnew (Burlington Trustee), Nancy Guzzo (Oakville Trustee), Peter DeRosa (Oakville Trustee), Patrick Murphy (Milton Trustee), and Janet O'Hearn-Czarnota (Halton Hills Trustee) voting against the pro-life motion.

At the June 7th Board meeting, my motion to ban fundraising towards organizations that support “abortifacient birth control” was ruled out of order before it could be voted on. The reasoning for this was that my motion did not include a regulation, which says that any changes to fundraising policies need to “solicit the views of school councils” (Reg 162/00 section 19 (1) iv).

At the June 21st Board meeting, my motion to ban fundraising towards organizations that support “direct sterilization” was ruled out of order yet again before it could be voted on!

This time around, I had included the regulation and tried to accommodate their faulty reading of my motion, but the Chair of the Board, Marvin Duarte (Milton Trustee), supported by the majority of trustees, ruled it out of order on the grounds that to “solicit the views of school councils” increased the scope of the motion.

What does “solicit” mean? To “solicit the views of school councils” means to ask them for their *advice*. The majority of the trustees were trying to make out “solicit” as meaning a direction that must be followed, which is false as “solicit” - *advice* - is merely a suggestion.

**The reality is that those trustees were already set to squash the motion because it makes them uncomfortable to deal with pro-life motions.**

As you can see, one of my pro-life motions was voted down and the other two were killed before they got the chance to be voted on, because some trustees clearly do not want to support any pro-life causes.

The trustees who voted to kill my motions against “abortifacient birth control” and “direct sterilization” are:

Marvin Duarte, Chair, Milton Trustee  
Patrick Murphy, Milton Trustee  
Brenda Agnew, Vice Chair, Burlington Trustee  
Nancy Guzzo, Oakville Trustee  
Janet O’Hearn-Czarnota, Halton Hills Trustee

By preventing my pro-life motions from being voted on, the trustees who are against pro-life initiatives are effectively promoting a cancel culture within the HCDSB. The trustees are promoting cancel culture when they censor certain ideas and motions that they don’t like.

**This pattern of bad behaviour is alarming because it isn’t just an attack on pro-life initiatives - it is an attack on the freedom of speech and**

**democracy.**

**The culture of death is being promoted in the HCDSB by anti-life trustees through cancel culture.**

Chair of the Board Marvin Duarte (Milton Trustee) is enabling this bad behaviour as he abstained from voting on my motion against embryonic stem cell research, and voted to squash my motions against “abortifacient birth control” and “direct sterilization”. Is this the kind of leadership you want in the HCDSB?

Here’s what you can do to help:

**[Signing this petition](#) in support of my pro-life motions is the best way you can help fight this problem, today!**

**For those of you that have already signed, sharing this petition and [getting others to sign](#) is the best thing you can do to support the cause.**

The petition has been steadily increasing by about 100 signatures a week!

**The more people we gather in support of this cause, the better our odds are of making our voices heard in the fight for the unborn.**

Any attack on democracy is an attack on our freedoms, and when the rights of one are threatened, the rights of the many are under threat too.

Help me in the fight to protect the unborn and democracy!

For faith & education,

**Helena**

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Happy Canada Day, which was yesterday. May God keep our land glorious and free!

**From:** Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** The Smoke And Mirrors Are Coming Down  
**Date:** July 05, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
**To:** [REDACTED]



Dear [REDACTED],

We live in a time where it's sometimes hard to know what's true out there. So how can you tell the difference between what's fake and what's fact? By looking at ACTIONS.

Stay tuned for my next message on how the other trustees' behaviour tells you what you need to know on pro-life issues in the Halton Catholic District School Board.

For faith & education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. Thanks to those of you who signed and got your friends to [sign the petition](#) in support of my motions. Keep it up please - the amount of signatures is more than halfway to 1,000 signatures!

From: Helena Karabela [REDACTED]  
Subject: What Is The Truth?  
Date: July 09, 2022 at 6:00 AM America/Toronto  
To: [REDACTED]



Dear [REDACTED],

In my message to you last week, I detailed the voting pattern of the other trustees on my pro-life motions and the actions some of them took to prevent votes on my motions from happening.

Unfortunately, the behaviour of some of the trustees on the Halton Catholic District School Board has shown that they are pro-abortion, despite their self-professed Catholic values.

Here are some examples of other trustees' opposition to my motions:

*"I refuse to believe that these collective acts of charity, love and kindness which are happening in our schools and across the HCDSB system are evil. Again and hopefully for the last time, I will not be supporting this motion."*  
(Burlington Trustee Brenda Agnew at the May 17th Board meeting)

*"The truth is that Catholic values are alive and well at the Halton Catholic District School Board....If this motion was the big truth, I would be the first one to vote for it. Maybe not first, maybe a second or third. However it's obvious to me that this is just the big lie."* (Milton Trustee Patrick Murphy at the May 17th Board meeting)

In contrast to what some of the trustees may think, here's examples that prove we need to continue to fight for the unborn in the HCDSB:

On March 24th, 2018, the We Charity withdrew from the HCDSB fundraising services after the passing of the Sanctity of Life motion and stated that

although they were not engaged in support of activities against the culture of life, that “*educators, parents and students*” should be able to choose “*the causes and charities they support*”, consequently demonstrating their support for pro-abortion causes and showing that the We Charity did not have a problem with members of a Catholic school board wanting to fundraise to promote abortion (March 24\_WE Charity statement\_Halton CDSB, [www.we.org](http://www.we.org)).

The We Charity eventually went from being morally corrupt to financially corrupt. That's not unusual in the history of humanity! After bringing down the former Finance Minister of Canada, a G7 nation, and almost bringing down the Trudeau government, the We Charity shut down all operations in Canada.

In March 2018, the Canadian Cancer Society wrote to the HCDSB stating:

*“...our policies do permit funding research using embryonic stem cells in the future...”* (Canadian Cancer Society email to the HCDSB on March 6, 2018, Tanya Henry, Canadian Cancer Society).

Embryonic stem cell research is medical experimentation on unborn children. Obviously, the unborn children also die, on purpose. This form of research is contrary to human dignity, and clearly not pro-life.

**The Sanctity of Life motion, when law in 2018, exposed the Canadian Cancer Society and the We Charity as being morally corrupt, pro-abortion and unworthy of Catholic support.**

At least these charities were honest when they protested our pro-life fundraising policies, and pulled out of receiving funding from our Catholic school board.

We've seen families, friends, churches, and Christians be divided over *Roe v. Wade*, so it's no surprise that my pro-life motions are dividing trustees on the HCDSB.

It took a long time for *Roe* to be overturned, but the truth will win in the end, and I believe it will in the HCDSB.

**We all know we need to do something for this to happen, but the reality is that no one is asking anyone to do anything!**

**That's why signing and getting other people to [sign this petition](#) in support of my motions is crucial.**

It's one little thing that *everyone* can do to help further pro-life work not just for the HCDSB, but for Canadians everywhere, and it is *essential* to moving lots of things forward.

If we don't gather enough people to support this cause, we will lose. And that would be a real shame because this pro-life initiative is something that can be won!

**While it was law, the Sanctity of Life motion prevented Catholic money from going to pro-abortion and pro-death charities. It effectively exposed charities such as the Canadian Cancer Society and the We Charity as being pro-abortion.**

**Let's work together and make this a reality again. It starts by gathering enough people to support this cause so we will win!**

**Won't you help?**

For faith & education,

## Helena

Helena Karabela  
Oakville Trustee  
Halton Catholic District School Board

P.S. The petition is 326 signatures away from 1,000. Help me help you make this pro-life motion into a reality that protects the unborn in Canada by [sharing the petition with others and getting them to sign it!](#)