From: volpej@corriere.com
Sent: 10/31/26 8:22 PM
To: "Mark Brosens" <mark.brosens@ycdsb.ca>,jennifer.sarna@ycdsb.ca,carrie.kormos@ycdsb.ca,Paul.calandra@pc.ca,emma.testani@pc.ca
Subject: Star article on ycdsb friday

Hello Mark:

You - and the YCDSB - are in the news … again. (Toronto Star headline yesterday, **Chair disciplined for "disparaging" comments**). The cutline explanation is I*ntegrity Commissioner finds official engaged in 'operational interference,' breached conduct rules*. You figure prominently in the article, as do two trustees (former Chair Crowe and trustee Mc Nichol, who were intimately involved in the "Court case" regarding Mc Nicol vs YCDSB. Check your records; I was there in person.

Please **help me understand the substance behind the accusations,** the **specifics of the operational interference**, "f**lagrant violations of the Education Act** and the **"overstepped [her] governance"** substance. I looked for all of them in the Report. I will list the ones that **cause our readers concern,** but please answer these questions first: We are preparing an article on the subject and intend to populate our social media platforms with the below, by way of preparation for noon tomorrow.

(a) Dir. De Faveri left the YCDSB in January/February of 2026 at about the time Chair Iafrate apparently initiated her code of conduct complaint.

What was the substance of her complaint? Then, "the investigation was launched in January; which one, whose?

(b) What was the nature of the leave or [temporary] withdrawal of services by Mr. De Faveri? With or without pay?

(c) The report was completed before the candidacies for office in the election were closed. Chair Iafrate and trustee Di Meo were acclaimed to office when their positions were uncontested by August 21. Mr. De Faveri was not a candidate. Neither was the Supervisor, the de facto CEO/Director of the Board. Yet the timing for the release of the Report was timed for October 29, a full two months later. How does that further the reputation of the YCDSB?

(d) At the end of June, you announced the resignation of Mr. De Faveri from the Board, but you announced contemporaneously that he was, and remained as Advisor to

Ms Carrie Kormos and interim Director Jennifer Sarna. There is no indication that either of them recused themselves from the discussions related to Mr. De Faveri's complaint. Did they?

(e) The Report affirms that Chair Iafrate called Mr. De Faveri a *fornicating clump of excrement*. There is no evidence or proof other than Mr .De Faveri himself and two "witnesses" whose names were redacted (one of which was, in error, identified as female) that this undermining authority might have been done in public. So who documented the event(s)? In whose office were the allegations recorded? Did anyone ask what Mr. De Faveri may have done to attract such a title? Does something said behind closed doors constitute "public"?

(f) The Report states that Chair Iafrate was not "culpable" on six of the nine allegations and the Integrity Commissioner recommended action on only two of the three. From my reading of the rationale behind placing the YCDSB under Supervision, neither of the two reasons had anything to do with operational issues - finances, mismanagement of resources and planning etc. - the roles of managers hired to do a job. Please tell me how one jumps from dollars and cents to verbs and adjectives to justify existence in administration.

(g) On a positive note, your reporter at the Star concedes that Chair **Iafrate has not been in breach of the Code of Conduct since she was first elected in 2018.** Was this invitation to the Star to sensationalize these unsupportable allegations an effort to undermine the legitimacy of Catholic Education and the role of Italian Canadians in it?

(10) i think you would agree that our readers would expect a huge public apology if that is in fact a motivation to **throw someone with gravitas under the bus;** don't you?

From: "info" <info@corriere.com>
Sent: 10/12/26 2:04 PM
To: "Mark Brosens" <mark.brosens@ycdsb.ca>
Subject: FWD: YCDSB

Hello Mark:

I hope you are enjoying your thanksgiving weekend. I am at work.

You may have been following our coverage of Catholic District School Boards, their trustees and Senior Staff. I have sent you requests for comment and/or information in the past month and before. You have declined, as you have been directed or of your own initiative. Today, while researching your interim director, I came across the below.

I would invite your help in clearing up the following questions that emerged as a result:

1. What prompted the "retirement" or "leave" of Mr De Faveri at the earlier part of the year?

2. Was the leave granted with or without pay? How did that affect the pay of the interim director Mme Sarna?

3. Did the Board or the Supervisor authorize it?

4. Does he still receive re-imbursement (or allowances) in and for his advisory role? Is it deducted from Mme Sarna or from Mme Kormos? Whose signature appears on the docs sent to the Ministry? is there an accompanying explanatory note?

5. Inasmuch as Mr De Faveri was the de facto director when YCDSB was placed under supervision, did the Minister attribute the shortcomings of the Board to his lack of attention to the duties of a [then] director, or were there other issues?

6. Former Chair Crowe advised me before declining to seek re-election (when the Board was still meeting) that the legal bill for trustee Mc Nicol's action against the Board exceeded $270,000. By how much? Did the Board provide her the full amount or was that the agreed portion for the board of the total package? Who were the other contributors?

Thank you in advance for a prompt response. We are planning to go to print tomorrow or Wednesday, at the latest

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Today, the York Catholic District School Board (YCDSB) announces the retirement of Director of Education John De Faveri, effective June 30, 2026.

John has had a long and distinguished career advocating for students, staff and families in three school boards across Ontario. He began his career with the YCDSB in 1979 as a teacher at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Elementary School in Woodbridge and went on to serve as a Vice-Principal, Principal and Superintendent. In 2006, John took on a role at the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board as Superintendent of Secondary Schools. He then served as Director of Education for the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board from 2007 until his first retirement in 2011. John was welcomed back to his "home" at the YCDSB in 2024 to serve as Director of Education.

During this first retirement, John brought his leadership to the not-for-profit sector, where he chaired the Board of Directors of Georgina Trades Training, Inc. and held the position of President of the Aurora Cultural Centre Board.

Although John is retiring, he has generously agreed to continue sharing his wisdom and talents with the YCDSB as an advisor to Supervisor Carrie Kormos.

The entire YCDSB community thanks John for his dedicated work and leadership, which advanced publicly funded education across the province, and especially here at the YCDSB. We wish him all the best in his retirement, where we know he will enjoy his time with his wife, children, sons-in-law and grandchildren.