

Thank you Bishop, fellow Trustees, Student Trustees, Superintendents, Unions and everybody in attendance as support staff.

The story I'm going to tell is going to relate to a little while back when I was working. I had an opportunity to watch and guard over for a period of time, Jesse Jackson. Everybody knows who Jesse Jackson is, he's quite the dynamic speaker, and I watched him, it was during the negotiating with the free trade and I was assigned to him to spend the day with him, and I learned a lot from that guy. I'm going to mention him for a reason, and I'm going to tell you why. I was with him when he was giving his speeches, and I watched the way he gave his speeches, I watched how dynamic this guy was. I was stunned that he could do it on the whim, and I asked him when I was sitting in the car going to Toronto, I asked him, where do you get the inspiration? How come you're not reading it? He said, "Dan, scripted speeches, people can tell, they can tell by looking at you if they're scripted. It doesn't have the impact it does when you say it from your heart".

So today's speech I'm going to speak from my heart. I never forgot what he told me. It's not a question of being prepared. It's a lot harder to do this, in my view, than to read something. So, I'm going to start off by telling everybody, thank you very much. My intentions as Vice-chair are simply as follows;

I'm going to support the students and the staff and I'm going to support them. I'm going to do everything I can, and that's the reason why I'm a trustee. For no other reason. Being a trustee is a little bit different than I originally had thought. I thought I was going to come here, show up, help some kids and go home. It's not like that. What an education I had for the last two years. There's hurdles we are going to have to face. They're tough. I got to suck it up in certain areas. I know I'm going to have to do that. I'm going to do the best I can, but being Irish Italian, my head's like this table. It's true, it's very difficult, but my intentions as vice-chair are very straight and forward, I'm here to support our working staff. That's what we're supposed to do, and I'm going to make sure it gets done. I can tell you, but I got to show you, and you'll see it, and I base my reputation on that. But, like I said, I am speaking from the heart. I'm looking at each and every one of you, and that's my intent.

So, I thank you for your time, and, you'll see.

Thank you very much.