



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE Faith and Equity Committee held on Monday, April 24, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Large Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough.

Present: Patty-Anne Bronson, Stefani Burosch, Anne Heemskerk, Wayne Clark, Christina Maschas-Hammond, Greg Healey, Helen McCarthy (Acting Chairperson), Kelly O'Boyle, Stephen O'Sullivan, Bart Scollard, Karen Stoker, Wendy Tedford

Absent/Regrets: Linda Ainsworth, Caitlin Currie, Jessica Devlin, Doug Dodd, Jim Gibson, Sharon Lajoie, Julie McCarthy, Wendy Skan, Luke Stocking

Administration: Laurie Corrigan, Michael Nasello

Recorder: Michelle Kennedy

Guests: Ruth Ciraulo

A. Call to Order:

1. Opening Prayer

Stefani Burosch was asked by the Acting Chairperson, Helen McCarthy, to lead the committee in prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Wayne Clark, seconded by Stephen O'Sullivan that the Agenda be accepted as circulated.

Carried

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None declared

4. Approval of the Minutes.

MOTION: Moved by Wendy Tedford, seconded by Patty Anne Bronson that the minutes of the Faith and Equity Advisory Committee meeting held on January 30, 2017, be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

It was requested that there be a discussion about the draft board resource document to address the terminology of 'obedience' vs. 'alignment' when referring to Catholic Teachings.

MOTION: Moved by Bart Scollard, seconded by Wayne Clark
that a discussion take place following the other scheduled agenda items.

Carried.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Renewing the Promise

The Catholic Parent Engagement Committee joined the Faith and Equity Advisory Committee meeting for this Agenda Item.

Laurie Corrigan, Superintendent of Learning, introduced the Institute for Catholic Education's initiative called 'Renewing the Promise'. Public input will be encouraged as part of a process for gathering information which will be used to guide the direction of Catholic Education in the future.

The work of gathering input from the across the province will lead to a symposium in November, 2017. A team from our Board will attend and be led by our Director of Education.

'Renewing the Promise' is a theme that evolves from two predecessor documents: 'This Moment of Promise' and 'Fulfilling the Promise'

Laurie led the group through the following guiding questions and encouraged partner or small-group discussion.

Question One – What are some ways that Catholic education in Ontario Supports students to be living witnesses to their faith in Jesus Christ?

Question Two – What are some current challenges facing Catholic education in Ontario?

Question Three – What are some current opportunities presented for Catholic education in Ontario that will help shape a positive future?

Laurie then invited all who were present to go to the ICE (Institute for Catholic Education) web link to record individual responses. (The link was provided to the group and is also available on the Board website – connected on to the 'Renewing the Promise' banner on the board homepage.)

2. Draft Catholic Education Directional Policy

Laurie Corrigan introduced the Draft Catholic Education Directional Policy. It was explained that a directional policy is a foundation policy – upon which others are connected but won't necessarily name other policies or administrative procedures that relate to the directional policy. The Catholic Education Directional Policy is a new policy and does not replace anything that exists in our Board. Laurie highlighted the documents that provided the background to this

directional policy. Italicized language in the draft was taken from 'Fulfilling the Promise' or 'This Moment of Promise'.

There was discussion about the draft policy and initial comments were shared by committee members. There was also discussion about religious accommodations and how they are addressed in our schools.

Laurie Corrigan invited questions and asked the committee to forward any further comments that they would like considered for inclusion in the policy.

3. Draft Equity and Inclusive Education Implementation Strategy

Laurie Corrigan introduced the Draft Equity and Inclusive Education Implementation Strategy. This strategic document came to the committee last year, and was also shared with OECTA, the Principal/Vice-Principal Association and CUPE through representation on this committee.

The next step in adopting the document is its presentation at Governance Committee. Laurie invited members to review and comment or ask questions. A brief discussion took place.

C. Information Items:

1. Sacramental Preparation Update – Fr. Paul Massel, Board Chaplain/Faith Animator

Fr. Paul reported that the sacramental programs are only a year old. He stated that a new Bishop could mean that they may be reviewed again. In the mean-time, the implementation will continue to be reviewed over the next few years, for example, what is working, what is not working. Feedback continues to be communicated about the programs.

2. Committee Member Updates

Committee members were invited to share any updates with the Committee.

Stephen OSullivan – Stephen reported that St. Patrick Principal, Karan Leal, was awarded a 'Principal of the Year' award from The Learning Partnership.

Wendy Tedford – Wendy reported that the Catholic Women's League has had a very busy month and was heavily involved with the Bishop's Installation on April 19th.

Fr. Paul Massel – Fr. Paul participated in the 14th Annual Abraham Festival, which was a huge success. The event was sold out. Three Amigos was the entertainment group and represented the Christian, Muslim and Jewish Faiths.

Christina Maschas-Hammond – Chrisitna reported that 130 students ESL have been welcomed into our school board.

Stefani Burosch – The Be Well Strategy Renewal has been a large focus and work continues on its development. The new document will be released in the fall of 2017.

Bart Scollard – Four candidates have come forward for election for OECTA PVNC Unit president. Dean Spence is retiring. Bart also highlighted the Court decision in Saskatchewan.

Laurie Corrigan – Thanked everyone for working on ‘Renewing the Promise’ and also for the work on the draft Catholic Education Directional Policy. Laurie also reported on a session that she attended with Sister Sandra on human trafficking, which has become a 153 billion dollar business. This is criminal activity is more invasive and puts people at risk more than we may think. She noted that there may be a Human Trafficking Focus Group in Peterborough in the fall and encouraged everyone to attend if they could. Laurie noted that Catholic Education Week is May 1 through May 5. Many activities are taking place at our Catholic Schools. Senior Administration and Principals attended the Installation of Bishop Daniel Miehm.

Helen McCarthy – will be attending the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association Annual General Meeting and will participate in electing leaders.

D. Next Committee Meeting Date:

1. The next meeting is scheduled for, **Thursday, October 12, 2017**, at the Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough

Other Faith and Equity Advisory Committee meeting dates for the 2017-2018 school year are Thursday, January 25, 2018, and Thursday, April 26, 2018.

2. Future Agenda Items

Please forward any agenda items to Michelle Kennedy, Administrative Assistant

3. Selection of Member for Opening Prayer –
4. Selection of Member for Closing Prayer –

E. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer

At the request of the Chairperson, Sr. Ruth Hennessey closed the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Wendy Tedford, seconded by Wayne Clark,
that the meeting adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

Carried.