



Minutes

The Minutes of the Faith and Equity Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Large Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre.

PRESENT:

Trustees/Members	Kevin MacKenzie, Emmanuel Pinto, Stephanie Dahl, Bart Scollard, Jennifer Angelo, Mary Cozzarini, Maureen Potts, Faye Tan, Steve O'Sullivan, Adam White, Michelle Griepsma, Christine Haffie, Anne Heemskerk
Administration	Dawn Michie, Peter Bagnall, Fr. Paul Massel
Absent/Regrets	Angela Connors, Natalie Rizzo, Jamie Brake, Nora Shaughnessy, Eveline Fisher, Maria Fitzgerald, Jessica Devlin, Sharon Lajoie
Recorder	Joanne Friar

A. Call to Order:

1. Welcome

Kevin MacKenzie called the meeting to order.

2. Opening Prayer

Adam White led the opening prayer.

3. Territorial Recognition

Kevin MacKenzie acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishnabe.

4. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

5. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Maureen Potts, seconded by Anne Heemskerk

that the Agenda be approved with the following change:

Introductions will be moved to the last item in the Call to Order.

Carried

6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 2, 2019

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Anne Heemskerck
that the Minutes of the Meeting of May 2, 2019 be approved.

Carried

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising out of the Minutes.

9. Introductions

Kevin MacKenzie asked all members to introduce themselves.

B. Discussion/Presentations:

1. Christian Meditation

Fr. Paul Massel gave a brief overview of the history of Christian Meditation within our Board. He spoke to the many positive benefits for students and staff with incorporating Christian Meditation into work, school and home. Christian Meditation deepens one's relationship with God and helps one develop one's inner self.

The committee members watched a video of students at Holy Family Catholic Elementary School participating in Catholic Meditation and sharing their feedback on this experience.

Fr. Paul Massel then led the committee members in Christian Meditation.

2. Catholic Social Teachings

Peter Bagnall gave an overview of the different aspects of the Catholic Social Teachings: Human Dignity, Peace, Preferential Option for the Poor, Common Good, Subsidiarity, Rights and Responsibilities, Care for Creation, Solidarity and Dignity of Work.

He noted that Consultants and Senior Administration had the opportunity to participate in a Catholic Social Teachings Retreat on September 4, 2019 at the Mount Community Centre. They reflected on the Catholic Social Teachings and were then able to apply them to their planning and professional practices for this school year.

Peter asked the committee members to break into pairs and discuss how the Catholic Social Teachings are reflected in the work of the committee and also in their own work. The discussions were then shared as a group.

3. Review Faith Day

Peter Bagnall went through the suggested agenda for Faith Day that had been shared with principals. The day included Christian Meditation as well as two videos of David Wells speaking about two themes of the "Renewing the Promise" document. There were many opportunities during the day for discussions with colleagues and community walks. The flexibility of the agenda allowed each school to customize the day for their own staff and setting. The feedback received has been very positive.

Dawn Michie thanked Fr. Paul Massel and Peter Bagnall for all of their work in making this such a successful Board Faith Day.

4. Pastoral Plan

Peter Bagnall reported that as part of the pastoral planning this year, a recommendation was made to develop a 3 year Pastoral Plan for the Board. A sub-committee of the Faith and Equity Advisory Committee will be developed to work on this initiative. The sub-committee will meet two times prior to the next committee meeting in February, with the goal of having the plan developed in time for the next school year.

Committee members were asked to let Peter Bagnall know if they are interested in participating.

C. Information Items:

1. Round Table

Steve O'Sullivan reported that the Knights of Columbus are holding a coat drive this weekend. Anyone who would like to donate a coat can do so at one of the Masses.

Adam White spoke to the growth and success of the ELD classes at St. Peter Catholic Secondary School. Initially he thought they would be working with 8 students in the program this year, but there are now over 40. He noted the fantastic work of the two ESL Itinerant Teachers.

Faye Tan spoke to the high number of government and privately sponsored refugees that have arrived in this area. The New Canadian Centre is continuing to accept volunteers to pair with these families. The NCC also runs a Living Library Project where organizations can request speakers to come and share their stories.

2. Care for Creation

Peter Bagnall spoke to this environmental initiative that incorporates concepts from the Season of Creation and Eco Schools initiatives. Michael Nasello, Director of Education, has asked all schools to endeavor to become Eco Schools this year. This focus is also being applied at the Catholic Education Centre.

3. Pastoral Care in Catholic Schools

Fr. Paul reported that this document is now in its final stages. Once it has been completed, Michael Nasello will take it to Bishop Miehm for his review. Once approval has been received, the document will be presented at a future Priests/Principals Meeting.

4. Blessing of Chapel

Fr. Paul reported that several months ago, a place for prayer and reflection was identified as a need at the Catholic Education Centre. The work has now been completed and the chapel will be blessed by Bishop Miehm following tomorrow's Mass.

D. Next Committee Meeting Dates:

1. Thursday, February 13, 2020 – 6:30 p.m., Large Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre
2. Thursday, April 30, 2020 – 6:30 p.m., Large Boardroom, Catholic Education Centre
3. Selection of committee member for Opening Prayer – Stephanie Dahl
4. Selection of committee member for Closing Prayer – Emmanuel Pinto

E. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Maureen Potts.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Adam White, seconded by Peter Bagnall
that the meeting adjourn – 8:08 p.m.

Carried