



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held on Monday, February 3, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. in the Learning Commons at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, Cobourg.

Present: Linda Ainsworth, Jennifer Ball (CPEC), Laura Bassett (CPEC), Julianne Charette (CPEC), David Bernier (Trustee), Michelle Griepsma (Trustee – Board Chairperson), Christine Haffie (CPEC), Lisa Hiltz (CPEC), Rachel Logan (CPEC), and Kevin MacKenzie (CPEC).

Absent/Regrets: Michelle Flintoff (CPEC), Lori Ann Gervais (CPEC), Father Paul Massel (CPEC), and Julie McCarthy (CPEC).

Administration: Michael Nasello, Director of Education, Pepe Garieri, Superintendent of Learning

Recorder: Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant

CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE – NORTHUMBERLAND REGIONAL MEETING

The Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Chairperson, Jennifer Ball welcomed everyone at 6:40 p.m., gave opening remarks and then requested that everyone present introduce themselves. Michael Nasello, Director of Education also gave opening remarks and respectfully acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississauga Anishnaabeg.

Julianne Charette, Principal at St. Teresa Catholic Elementary School and CPEC Member, was called upon to open the meeting with prayer.

CPEC BUSINESS MEETING:

A. Call to Order

Jennifer Ball, Chair of the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee called the business meeting to order.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Rachel Logan
that the agenda be approved.

Carried.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Lisa Hiltz and Rachel Logan both noted that they are employees of the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board.

3. Approval of the CPEC Meeting held on November 25, 2019.

MOTION: Moved by Lisa Hiltz, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the minutes from the meeting held on November 25, 2019, be approved with corrections.

Carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

It was noted that following the last meeting, the Director of Education, Michael Nasello sent a letter to the Ontario Association of Parents for Catholic Education (OAPCE) and has not yet received a response.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Director's Report on Board Initiatives.

The Director of Education, Michael Nasello, thanked Principal Jamie Brake for hosting tonight's meeting at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School. Mr Nasello remarked that the format of holding meetings in the various regions of the board gives opportunity to work on improvements to parent engagement. It was reported that work at the board continues to support students in the classroom. New Mathematics curriculum is expected this year, hopefully by April.

Michael Nasello talked about EcoSchools, which is a program that is operating in many of our schools. Each school in our board has been challenged to take steps to join the program. The program has gained popularity is now becoming a national program. A group of ecologically minded PVNC students has been working to bring attention to the environment and will be giving a presentation at the Board Meeting on February 25th. The group worked together on January 31 to share ideas and knowledge to prepare.

2. May 20, 2020 Event Planning.

The committee discussed the CPEC event scheduled for May 20th at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School at which Craig Kielburger is confirmed and contracted to speak.

Michael Nasello will contact the school principal to determine if the music program at Holy Trinity will be able to provide entertainment and sing the anthem. The timing for the event is proposed as follows:

6:30 – gathering in foyer, music, browse student artwork or other displays; Welcome table to be set up with name badges, markers. CPEC members, Lisa Hiltz and Rachel Logan will welcome and direct guests.

6:50 – Opening Remarks/Welcomes/Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Keynote Speaker (one hour)

Father Paul Massel will be asked to lead the opening prayer and Mark Joly will be asked to give the Land Acknowledgement. Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson agreed to bring greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees. Jennifer Ball will bring greetings on behalf of the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee. Kevin MacKenzie will introduce the keynote speaker and Laura Bassett will thank the speaker. Lisa Hiltz will close the formal program with prayer.

There was further discussion about having a slide presentation or video prepared by Communication Technology students to highlight social justice initiatives in our schools.

C. Information Items:

1. Updates

Julianne Charette – reported that her school is planning its second school community outreach event. The first event was a successful movie night and the second will be a family skating night. The value of the events in creating relationships in the school community was evident.

Michelle Griepsma – reported that the trustees recently attended professional development sessions in Toronto and briefly described the topics of the workshops that were attended which included a session led by Michael Nasello and present and former students on the Holocaust Education Program. Mrs. Griepsma also reported that a Lobby Day is being organized where trustees have the opportunity to go to Queen's Park and meet with MPPs.

Linda Ainsworth – reported that she has received calls from people who wish to enroll their children in our school system. There is a very positive reputation in our schools.

Christine Haffie – reported on the plans at St Anne CES for their annual dance-a-thon. They have also had great success with their hot lunch program and with Kernels popcorn sales. Fundraising is being directed to their playground equipment project.

Laura Bassett – reported that a number of French Immersion students will be travelling to Quebec and there are trips planned to Europe at March Break, including a trip by the Choir to Ireland.

Lisa Hiltz – reported that St. Patrick is planning a pancake Tuesday event and a spring Dance-a-thon. CSC funding has gone towards bringing Jimmy Chapman to their school for dance activities with the students. At Holy Cross a Mission Trip to Guatemala is planned and hats and tshirts have been given to the students from the Catholic School Council. A popcorn fundraiser is being planned at St. John CES for the playground fund.

Rachel Logan – reported that Paul Davis recently gave a presentation to a group of 50 to 60 parents about cyber-security in Clarington. St. Joseph Catholic Elementary in Bowmanville is also preparing for a Dance-a-thon event that is usually very successful and funds technology purchases in schools. Shrove Tuesday events, ski trips, skating days and Trent Enrichment are just some of the events coming up in the near future.

Jen Ball – reported that a buddy bench has been constructed and put in their school in partnership with the students of St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School. She also reported that their Catholic School Council has offered to fund electronic subscriptions for teachers.

D. Next Committee Meeting/Special Events:

1. Next Meeting:

Monday, March 23, 2020, 6:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School, Lindsay.

E. Conclusion:

1. CPEC Business Meeting Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Laura Bassett, seconded by Christine Haffie
that the meeting adjourn at 7:42 p.m.

Carried.

Following the Business Meeting, the planned Roundtable Discussion and Google Drive Demonstration were postponed to the next meeting. The CPEC Chairperson, Jennifer Ball thanked everyone for attending the second regional meeting. Laura Bassett was then invited by the Chairperson to conclude the evening with prayer.