



# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held on Monday, April 20, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. virtually, by Google Meet.

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**Present:** Linda Ainsworth(Trustee, Clarington), Jennifer Ball (CPEC), Bernita Blair(Parent), Julianne Charette (CPEC), Wayne Clarke(Principal), Michael DeMaeyer(Vice-Principal), Jennifer DeMaeyer(Principal), Michelle Flintoff (CPEC), Angela Gaskell(Parent), Lori-Ann Gervais (CPEC), Karen Goodhand(Parent), Michelle Griepsma(Trustee, Kawartha Lakes and Board Chairperson), Lisa Hiltz(CPEC), Amy Jonkers(Parent), Rachel Logan (CPEC), Kevin MacKenzie (Trustee, Clarington and CPEC), Fr. Paul Massel (CPEC), Bridget McCann-Girard (Principal), Julie McCarthy (CPEC), Tim Moloney(Superintendent), Michael Nasello(Director of Education), Allesandra Rowden(Parent), Sara Scott(Parent).

**Absent/Regrets:** Laura Bassett(CPEC), Christine Haffie(CPEC)

**Recorder:** Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant

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## CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE –REGIONAL MEETING

The Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Chairperson, Jennifer Ball welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

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.

Father Paul Massel, Board Chaplain 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 Lisa Hiltz, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the agenda be approved with the addition of item C.1, Update from OAPCE.

Carried.

2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3. Approval of the CPEC Meeting held on February 3, 2020.

**MOTION:** Moved by Rachel Logan, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the minutes from the meeting held on February 3, 2020, be approved.

Carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:**

1. May 20, 2020 – Craig Keilburger Event Update.

Michael Nasello, Director of Education gave an update on the event that was planned for with Parents Reaching Out Grant funds in May, 2020. Craig Kielburger was contracted to speak at the annual appreciation event that was to be held at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the event is not able to be held. There was discussion about the options available with consideration for the funding that was allotted for this event. It was noted that the WE organization has confirmed that Mr. Kielburger is available to commit to the same event, one year hence.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Julie McCarthy

that the Craig Kielburger presentation be moved to May 19, 2021.

Carried.

2. Director's Report on Board Initiatives – PVNC Learn @ Home.

The Director of Education Michael Nasello reported about the creation and implementation of PVNC's Learn@Home program which is now in its third week. The program is a

continuity of learning approach to engage learning at home to a certain number of hours a week as mandated by the Ministry of Education.

At the beginning of the school closure, a survey was sent to all families in the board to determine technology needs. Nine thousand families completed the survey and provided useful information that enabled Information Technology staff, with the assistance of other staff and administration, to collaborate and worked diligently, using the public health protocols to get technology distributed to students, where needed.

He reported that teachers have entered a new world of teaching through google classroom. The board is proud of staff for the outreach that they have done and everyone is working to resolve issues where they have occurred. For elementary teachers and students, the main focus is on numeracy, literacy and religion. Secondary school teachers are working through their regular course work. The various stresses that families are under are recognized as there has been loss of employment, parents working from home, and many stressors related to scheduling so that students can be connected to their teachers and peers.

Mr. Nasello also reported that changes have been made to the usual school and board activities celebrated during the upcoming Catholic Education Week at the beginning of May. The Catholic Student Leadership Awards will take place virtually. The award winners who have been selected in each school will be celebrated on Twitter on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. A video message from Bishop Daniel Miehm will be shared during the televised Mass on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

During this time of school closure, the board has participated in outreach to our communities. In lieu of expenses for breakfast programs that would have normally happened in our schools, which are funded by a number of resources, the amounts of money that were not spent have been donated to local foodbanks. This has resulted in \$21,000 in donations to all four regions of the board. As well, personal protection equipment (PPE) that were in all of our facilities for various reasons were inventoried and supplies were collected and delivered to hospitals in all regions and also to Hospice Peterborough.

Following his report, the Director answered questions.

### 3. Parent Engagement – Next Steps.

The CPEC Chairperson, Jennifer Ball led a discussion to determine next steps in parent engagement during this unprecedented time. Some suggestions generated from the discussion were:

- Virtual Town Hall - an opportunity to get parent questions answered. Parents are becoming more adept and virtual meetings are less daunting because of this forced experience. CPEC has always struggled with working with the distance barrier to engage parents in the past. Virtual meetings may help to overcome that barrier.

- Questions to parents about how learn at home is working for them. Pre-recorded and/or a live Q & A session could be helpful to parents.
- Information for Parents for assistance with technology. Perhaps pre-recorded teaching sessions or YouTube videos giving information about how to help their children with technology/connection issues.
- Further communication to parents, i.e. good news stories of what has happened so far during Learn@Home.

#### 4. CPEC Model for 2020-2021

Jennifer Ball, CPEC Chairperson led a discussion about use of the regional meeting format during the 2019-2020 school year for CPEC meetings. The continuation of the same format was discussed. It was noted that the conduct of meetings in different regions honours the large geography of the Board and the committee liked that meetings weren't exclusively at the Board Office. There was also discussion about the consideration of conducting meetings using a combination of in-person and streaming formats. It was suggested that parents may be more apt to join due to new comfort with technology.

#### **C. Information Items:**

##### 1. Update from OAPCE

Michael Nasello reported that correspondence from the OAPCE Board of Directors was received in February and confirmed that PVNC will not have an official connection with OAPCE this year.

#### **D. Next Committee Meeting/Special Events:**

##### 1. Next Meeting:

Monday, June 1, 2020, 6:30 p.m. – To be held by Google Meet.

#### **E. Conclusion:**

##### 1. CPEC Business Meeting Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Julie McCarthy, seconded by Rachel Logan

that the meeting adjourn at 7:41 p.m.

Carried.

Following the CPEC Business meeting, parents who were present were invited to participate in a discussion using the following guiding questions:

- a) What is working well at your school?
- b) What is an area of need for support?

It was recognized that there are few Catholic School Council meetings and no events happening during the school closure. There was discussion amongst parents who were present about the activities that were happening with the Learn@Home program. Many of the attendees shared things that their schools were doing to connect the school community. As well, there was discussion about events being hosted on social media by speakers such as Paul Davis and Sarah Westbrook that could be of interest to parents.

There was discussion about the varying family situations, for example health care worker experiences at this time and how their families are being accommodated.

Parents expressed the hope that graduations and proms will be postponed rather than cancelled outright.

The CPEC Chairperson, Jennifer Ball thanked everyone for participating in this meeting. She then invited Father Paul Massel to conclude the evening with prayer.