



# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held on Monday, June 1, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. virtually, by Google Meet.

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**Present:** Linda Ainsworth, Jennifer Ball (Chairperson), Julianne Charette, Michelle Flintoff, Lori-Ann Gervais, Michelle Griepsma, Lisa Hiltz, Rachel Logan, Kevin MacKenzie, Fr. Paul Massel, Michael Nasello.

**Absent:** Laura Bassett, Christine Haffie, Julie McCarthy

**Recorder:** Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant

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## A. Call to Order

### 1. Opening Prayer

Chairperson, Jennifer Ball called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and invited Father Paul Massel to lead the committee in prayer.

### 2. Land Acknowledgement

Following prayer, Jennifer Ball gratefully acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe.

### 3. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Lori Ann Gervais, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the agenda be approved with the addition of item B.2, Parent Volunteer Recognition.

Carried.

### 4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

### 5. Approval of the Minutes of the April 20, 2020 Regional Meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Rachel Logan, seconded by Lisa Hiltz

that the minutes from the meeting held on April 20, 2020, be approved.

Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:**

1. Director's Update on School Closure.

Michael Nasello, Director of Education gave a comprehensive update on the status of the PVNC School Closure which included information on the Continuity of Learning program, planning for re-opening, planning for retrieval of personal property, return of board property and an overview of Summer Programs.

- The province is currently in its tenth week in the learn at home program. We have witnessed the accomplishment of a great deal and the perseverance and hard work from teachers and staff, students and families.
- He noted that there has been a broad spectrum of engagement with students and he is humbled and in awe of everyone in our system.
- There are 3,178 devices distributed to students – including special education equipment, Chromebooks and 4G enabled devices for students without internet.
- Following a survey of all schools, in total, there are about 27 students in 10 schools that are not engaged in learning at this time out of a total of 15,000 students board-wide.
- There are approximately 70 students who are working on the Learn at Home program with paper copies of assignments.
- There are between 500 and 5000 'posts' to Google Classroom sites per day.
- There are 650 teachers are leading Google meet sessions and there are teachers who are using other modes to engage in synchronous learning.
- The Learn at Home program will continue until June 26. Elementary report cards will be distributed based on the mark attained by March 13. For secondary students, the March 13 is the minimum to be attained – further achievement by the student could result in an improved mark.

- All PVNC elementary schools are working on virtual Grade 8 Graduation ceremonies.
- The Ministry released a document entitled 'Ontario's Framework for Continued Learning' and are looking for feedback from stakeholders to provide comments questions or concerns about what school will look like in the fall.
- The Board is in the midst of planning the return of personal property as well as the return of devices from graduating students only. Families will receive information inviting them to come to the school to retrieve items and drop-off equipment, if applicable, and other materials such as text books. A protocol has been developed to outline the process of how this will be administered and it is in the process of seeking approval from our three Public Health Authorities in the jurisdiction of the board.
- The various components of the Summer Learning Programs were reviewed. These programs will be available for registration through the board website. This year there will be funding for special education supports. All of the programs will be virtual. There will not be any face-to-face summer programs this year.

## 2. Parent Volunteer Recognition.

Committee Chairperson, Jennifer Ball stated the importance of the parents who engage in all of the schools make the school experience richer and brought forward the idea of celebrating this volunteerism at a board level. There was a discussion of what could be involved in this concept and how it could be developed.

Michael Nasello, Director of Education suggested that this idea be presented to the principals in the fall of 2020 and brought back to this committee for further discussion.

## C. Information Items:

### 1. Meeting Schedule for 2020-2021.

Meeting dates for the 2020-2021 school year were shared. The September meeting is expected to be a virtual meeting. It was suggested that at the return of face to face meetings, an online or call-in option will be available to any participants. This will be noted and offered when the agendas are sent out.

### 2. Ontario PIC Connection Meetings.

Jennifer Ball reported that Chairpersons from Parent Involvement Committees from across Ontario met on a teleconference with the Ministry of Education with the Ministry purpose to collect feedback on Learn at Home and parent involvement. As follow up to the call the parent involvement committee chairpersons sent correspondence to the Minister of

Education. A copy of the letter was provided in the agenda package for the committee's information and discussion. Jennifer invited comments and feedback from the committee.

Jennifer Ball commented that when connecting with other boards and hearing experiences of other PICs, she is very proud of the direction that PVNC is headed and is happy to see that we are in a good place.

### 3. Committee Member Updates.

Julianne Charette – Reported that she is happy that the committee will be carrying over the regional meeting concept to next year.

Kevin MacKenzie – Reported that he recently attended the Board's Faith and Equity Advisory Committee meeting, which was very informative and uplifting. The next meeting will be held in the fall; date to be determined.

Linda Ainsworth – Reported that she is amazed to see the level of the engagement and commitment required by everyone to have students engaged at home. There are challenges in every aspect of society right now and she feels we are weathering the Learn at Home well at PVNC and feels our system is paying attention to our students and their health and well-being.

Lisa Hiltz – Reported that at Monsignor O'Donoghue Catholic Elementary the beloved custodian who has been there since 2000 is retiring and they have introduced a student award in his honour. Their council is also sponsoring signage for graduates. At St. Patrick the Catholic School Council is helping with graduation plans and at Holy Cross the Catholic School Council is also finding creative ways to honour students who are leaving.

Lori Ann Gervais – Reported that everyone keeps moving forward as much as they can. The information shared by the board has been great and is appreciated. She is happy that graduations are being planned virtually and postponed to fall and not cancelled.

Michelle Flintoff – Nothing to report from Holy Family.

Michelle Griepsma – The chairpersons from all of the boards across the province have had the opportunity to have teleconferences with the Minister of Education to discuss the school closures and provide comments and concerns about the at home learning and reentry planning.

Father Paul – Stated that he is totally in awe of the creativity of PVNC in its work to keep children learning.

Rachel Hogan – Discussed creative ways to celebrate events that would normally be happening at this time of year, that have to be reimagined because of COVID, for example, lawn signs and special t-shirts for graduating students with their signatures.

Jennifer Ball – reported that Catholic School Council came up with ideas to support graduation celebrations, although students are still hoping there will be a face to face event.

The committee was reminded that feedback on the continuity of learning has a deadline of June 8, 2020.

Michael Nasello thanked everyone for their time, presence and engagement with this committee.

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

1. Next Meeting:

Monday, September 28, 2020, 6:30 p.m. – to be held virtually.

**E. Conclusion:**

1. Closing Prayer

Father Paul Massel was invited to close the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Rachel Logan, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie  
that the meeting adjourn at 7:38 p.m.

Carried.