



# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held on Monday, November 2, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough and virtually, by Google Meet.

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## **Committee Members**

- Present:** Jennifer Ball (Chairperson), Julianne Charette, Michelle Flintoff, Lori-Ann Gervais, Christine Haffie, Rachel Logan, Kevin MacKenzie, Fr. Paul Massel, Michael Nasello.
- Regrets:** Lisa Hiltz, Laura Bassett, and 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 treaty and traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe.

### 3. Welcome, Introductions and Opening Remarks

Jennifer Ball, Committee Chairperson welcomed the parent guests online and requested that everyone present at the meeting introduce themselves.

### 4. Approval of Agenda

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

Carried.

### 5. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Rachel Logan confirmed that the requirement for her to declare her conflict of interest as an employee of PVNCCDSB was fulfilled at the previous CPEC meeting.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the September 28, 2020 meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Rachel Logan  
that the minutes from the meeting held on September 28, 2020, be approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

Jennifer Ball, Committee Chairperson noted that business arising from the minutes with regard to the May CPEC event would be covered under agenda item B.3, Update and Plan for CPEC Event – May 19, 2021, Dr. Joti Samra.

**B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:**

1. Director's Report on School Reopening and Virtual School.

The Director of Education, Michael Nasello provided an update to the Board using a slide show presentation. The presentation included information on the planning for students who have requested a transition from virtual school to physical school or vice-versa and the reorganization of classes in both the virtual and the physical schools. There will be a net change of 180 students moving to virtual school. There have been 140 requests for electronic devices to assist with technology needs, which will be able to be accommodated. Further input from families will be sought through a Thought Exchange survey to gain insights to support ongoing professional development.

Schools continue to follow health and safety protocols and to date the board has had relatively few public health concerns related to COVID-19. The Ministry of Labour conducted an inspection at a school site and deemed it 'passed' with no recommendations or action items provided for follow up.

Michael Nasello answered questions from the committee and the parent participants.

2. Review of Draft Administrative Procedure 1004, Catholic Parent Engagement Committee and Appendix A, Catholic Parent Engagement Committee By-Laws.

Michael Nasello, Director of Education, reviewed the draft administrative procedure, AP 1004, Catholic Parent Engagement Committee and its accompanying appendix, Catholic Parent Engagement Committee By-Laws. There was discussion about proposed changes and suggestions from the committee were recorded. Following the review of the draft

administrative procedure by the committee, it will be reviewed and considered for approval at the upcoming Policy Development Committee meeting on November 17, 2020.

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

that the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee recommends to the Policy Development Committee the Draft Administrative Procedure and By-laws reviewed on November 2, 2020.

Carried.

### 3. Update and plan for May 2021 CPEC Event

Michael Nasello, Director of Education, updated the committee on the planning developments since the last meeting. He reported that Dr. Joti Samra is available to give a virtual presentation over 'Zoom'. The presentation would be approximately 45 minutes with a 15-minute question and answer period. The cost will be \$1,000 and will be covered by budgeted funds. Should grant money become available, then those funds would be used. Dr. Samra will be asked to speak on the topic of finding and maintaining family-life balance during the pandemic.

There was discussion about the format of the rest of the evening's presentation and it was suggested that there be 15 or 20 minutes scheduled before and after Dr. Samra for prayers, opening and closing remarks. It was also noted that parents are very interested in seeing student achievement showcased. Perhaps video compositions could be compiled to accomplish this.

## C. Information Items:

### 1. Committee Member Updates.

Christine Haffie – reported that their council is investigating online fundraising ideas. There are other Catholic councils who have chosen not to do any fundraising at this time. Their council would like to begin to have hot lunches again and are wondering what protocols/permissions would need to be in place from Public Health.

Karen Goodhand – At St. Thomas Aquinas, Poinsettia sales are happening with safety protocols in place. They are having payments made by school cash online and contactless pick up will take place at the school. St. Dominic Catholic School Council has chosen not to do any fundraising at this time.

Kristy Chartrand - reported that parents from St. Dominic are organizing an online trivia night to promote community engagement.

Lori Ann Gervais – reported that the Catholic School Council at St. Stephen is recruiting more parents to be involved on council. They continue to meet virtually.

Jennifer Ball – has also joined St. Stephen Catholic School Council.

Kevin MacKenzie – reported on the recent Faith and Equity Advisory Committee meeting and shared some insights from a video that was shared at the meeting. Kevin noted that this is the last meeting for Director, Michael Nasello. He gave tribute to Michael and thanked him for his dedication and focus to students, parent engagement and to the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee.

Julianne Charette – reported that St. Teresa Catholic Elementary in Peterborough is also holding off on fundraising activities this year and also hoping to return to hot lunches. At this time there are too many logistics to work out. They will continue to follow Public Health direction and will wait for any further information from them.

Father Paul Masse – will be putting together a liturgy to remember loved ones who have gone before us. This liturgy will be held in the schools with staff on the upcoming professional activity day.

Michael Nasello – updated the committee on the graduate requirement of community service hours. For students graduating this year the number of hours has been reduced from 40 hours to 20 hours. 10 hours of the service can be course or employment related. In addition, the literacy test/course requirement has been waived.

#### **D. Roundtable Discussion:**

##### 1. Guiding Questions:

- a) What is working well for parent engagement in your school?
- b) What is the one creative adaptation to fostering parent engagement given the current pandemic environment?

Chairperson, Jennifer Ball led the round-table discussion. Comments were focused on the well-being of students and parents. It was noted that the increased time for students to be outside has had positive impact. Parents like that students are getting more fresh air; teachers are reporting that daily movement and exercise has enhanced student focus and learning. Parents are missing the ability to visit the school to see their child's classroom and see what is happening in the school.

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

##### 1. Closing Remarks.

CPEC Committee Chairperson, Jennifer Ball thanked everyone for participating in the final meeting of 2020. She invited parents to participate in the next meeting in February.

Michael Nasello expressed his gratitude to the committee for their work and for welcoming him when he began as Director of Education in 2016. He thanked everyone for their participation and for making their time together so enjoyable.

2. Closing Prayer.

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

3. Adjournment.

MOTION: Moved by Rachel Logan, seconded by Lori-Ann Gervais  
that the meeting adjourn at 8:49 p.m.

Carried.