



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held virtually by Google Meet on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Committee Members:

Jennifer Ball (Chairperson), David Bernier (ex-officio), Julianne Charette, Christine Haffie, Lisa Hiltz, Rachel Logan, and Kevin MacKenzie.

Catholic School Council Members/Parents:

Karen Goodhand, Kerri Riel, and Joan Tigert.

Administration:

Joan Carragher, Director of Education.

Recorder:

Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant.

Regrets:

Father Paul Massel

A. Call to Order

1. Opening Prayer

Chairperson, Jennifer Ball called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and opened the meeting with 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 welcomed Joan Carragher, Director of Education to her first meeting with the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee in her new role as director.

Joan Carragher thanked the committee chairperson for the introduction and welcome to the committee. She expressed her appreciation for the connection of the parent community and opportunity to get to know the committee members.

4. Approval of Agenda

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

Carried.

5. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Committee members Rachel Logan and Lisa Hiltz confirmed their conflict of interest as employees of PVNCCDSB. Kerri Riel, Catholic School Council member from St. Joseph, Douro, also declared that she is an employee of the PVNCCDSB.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the November 2, 2020 meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Lisa Hiltz
that the minutes from the meeting held on November 2, 2020, be
approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:1. Continuity of Learning - Update.

Joan Carragher, Director of Education, updated the committee on the continuity of learning since the last meeting. After the Christmas break all schools were learning remotely as the province imposed a stay at home order. On January 18, students in the City of Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland County, and Peterborough City and County were able to return to their physical schools. Schools in Clarington under the jurisdiction of Durham Region Health returned to in-person learning on February 8. Technology was shared where needed with families for their time learning remotely.

The third 'quadmester' began at the beginning of February. The last opportunity for students to transition has now taken place and students will remain in their mode of learning now until the end of the school year. It was noted that there was a slight increase in the number of students who moved from virtual learning to in-person learning which resulted in very minor adjustments to staffing.

Joan Carragher answered questions from the committee and the parent participants.

Information was shared about targeted voluntary asymptomatic testing which will be done by an external agency in cooperation with the school board and public health authorities. More details will be shared in school communities when they are available.

2. Update and plan for CPEC Event – May 19, 2021, Dr. Joti Samra.

Michelle Kennedy confirmed that Dr. Joti Samra has been booked as guest speaker for the May 19 virtual event. She will follow up with Dr. Samra regarding the platform to be used and if the presentation will be recorded for those who can't be at the presentation.

There was discussion about the order of the program for the evening. Jennifer Ball, Committee Chairperson, reviewed a list of duties and asked for volunteers to assist. Julianne Charette agreed to be the online host for the event. Jennifer Ball, CPEC Chairperson, David Bernier, Board Chairperson and Joan Carragher, Director of Education will give opening remarks and welcome to guests. Lisa Hiltz will give the introduction of the the guest speaker and Kevin MacKenzie will thank the guest speaker at the conclusion. Michelle Kennedy will ask Father Paul Massel if he will be available to do the opening and closing prayer.

There was discussion about a video presentation prior to the keynote speaker to highlight student achievements. This idea will be explored further by the Director's office.

C. Information Items:

1. Ministry of Education Parent Involvement Committee Meeting, November 26, 2020, Meeting Summary.

The Ministry of Education hosted an online session for Chairpersons of Parent Involvement Committees from across the province on November 26. Jennifer Ball, CPEC Chairperson and Michael Nasello, Director of Education, were in attendance. Jennifer invited committee members to review the summary information that was provided by the Ministry following the online meeting and contact her with any questions about the content.

2. Catholic School Council Community Profile Memorandum.

Joan Carragher, Director of Education noted the memorandum that was sent to Catholic School Council Chairpersons on February 3rd. She noted the importance of the information that is gathered in the survey and how it is used to inform decisions when assigning administrators to school communities.

3. Committee Member Updates.

Christine Haffie – Has reached out to other Catholic School Councils in Peterborough regarding fundraising this year. The St. Anne Catholic School Council is wondering about what fundraising has taken place at other schools this year.

Julianne Charette – reported that she has invited her colleagues to share photos of their schools, including bulletin boards and artwork with their parent communities as a way for parents to feel connected to what is happening at their children's school.

Karen Goodhand – Is also interested in hearing about fundraising opportunities this year. They were able to hold a safe poinsettia sale prior to Christmas at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School.

Kevin MacKenzie – Invited all parents to attend the next Faith and Equity meeting taking place on April 28.

Lisa Hiltz – reported on the activities happening with Catholic School Councils at Holy Cross and its Family of Schools. She explained how the Holy Cross uniform sale was adapted to COVID protocols.

Rachel Logan – reported that their council has been discussing topics relating to governance of Catholic School Councils. Sarah Westbrook was a guest speaker at a virtual presentation to some Clarington schools arranged with pooled PRO Grant funds.

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. There was discussion about fundraising in schools. Some schools found themselves in a surplus situation at the end of the 2019-2020 school year and therefore took a fundraising holiday this year.

There was discussion about the opportunities that have been presented with COVID which have been positively received. For example, recordings were made for the Christmas Concerts and Advent Celebrations which were able to be enjoyed by parents who work during the day. There have been ways in which school communities have connected in non-traditional ways and there has been some great innovation.

E. Conclusion:

1. Closing Remarks.

CPEC Committee Chairperson, Jennifer Ball thanked everyone for participating in the meeting and noted the next meeting to be held virtually on March 24, 2021.

2. Closing Prayer.

Trustee Kevin MacKenzie was invited to close the meeting with prayer.

3. Adjournment.

MOTION: Moved by Rachel Logan, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie
that the meeting adjourn at 7:53 p.m.

Carried.