



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held virtually by Google Meet on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Committee Members:

Jennifer Ball (Chairperson), David Bernier (ex-officio), Julianne Charette, Lori Ann Gervais, Christine Haffie, Lisa Hiltz, Rachel Logan, Kevin MacKenzie, and Father Paul Massel.

Catholic School Council Members/Parents/Guests:

Karen Goodhand, Remilekun Idowu, Erin O'Sullivan, and Cindy Pearce

Administration:

Joan Carragher, Director of Education.

Recorder:

Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant.

Regrets:

Michelle Flintoff

A. Call to Order

1. Opening Prayer

Chairperson, Jennifer Ball called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and invited Father Paul Massel to lead everyone in prayer to begin the meeting.

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 invited the attendees one by one to introduce themselves.

4. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Father Paul Massel, seconded by Lisa Hiltz
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.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the February 16, 2021 meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Lisa Hiltz

that the minutes from the meeting held on February 16, 2021, be approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Strategic Priorities Planning Consultation.

The Director of Education, Joan Carragher explained that the strategic planning process is tasked to the Director of Education by the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Carragher introduced Erin O’Sullivan, retired principal, who is assisting with the process developing the new plan based on consultations held with various stakeholders of the Board.

The vision and mission statement are formed from the strategic planning process and will form the priorities of the Board’s work in the next four years. A summary of the current strategic plan that was implemented over the past 3 years was reviewed. The group was asked to share ideas about PVNCCDSB that are relevant and important to them as parents who are engaged and committed to quality Catholic education. Various ideas were shared which were recorded by Mrs. O’Sullivan. It was noted that this consultation would not be the sole opportunity for parents to share their ideas. A ‘ThoughtExchange’ survey will be shared system-wide in April that will seek parent opinions on various aspects of board operations and future direction. The same platform will be used to seek input from students and staff members as well.

Joan Carragher stated that she will be suggesting to principals that the topic be added to upcoming Catholic School Council meetings and will provide the summary of the current strategic plan and guiding questions. She expressed the importance of seeking parent input on significant issues to our board’s future road map.

Following the presentation and discussion, Erin O’Sullivan left the meeting.

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

Joan Carragher, Director of Education updated the committee on developments with respect to the May 19 event. Dr. Samra’s administration team has agreed to use Big Marker, an online broadcasting platform that is able to have up to 500 participants. The board’s IT department will provide technical support for the event. Dr Samra has also agreed to record the presentation so that it can be shared with parents who are not able to attend. A flyer will be developed for distribution to school communities.

C. Information Items:

1. Ministry of Education Parent Involvement Committee Meeting, February 24, 2021, Meeting Summary.

The Ministry of Education hosted an online session for Chairpersons of Parent Involvement Committees from across the province on February 24. Jennifer Ball, CPEC Chairperson and Joan Carragher, Director of Education, were in attendance. The summary information that was provided by the Ministry was provided to the committee in the agenda package.

2. Committee Member Updates

This item was combined with the engagement discussion under item D.1.

3. Next Meeting

Monday, April 19, 2021.

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.

The committee members and guests talked about activities taking place in PVNCCDSB schools, including spirit week activities during what was to be the March break. A school bingo event has evolved to be a family online event and has generated a great deal of excitement.

There was discussion about parent-school communication and with the use of email and social media to keep families informed of the activities in the school.

Planning for graduations has begun in the schools and principals and senior leaders have met to discuss what graduations will be like this year. Guidance will be given with consideration of everyone's safety and adherence to public health guidelines. Elementary Graduations will be the week of June 21-25 and Secondary Graduations will take place on June 29.

It was noted that the pandemic has created new ways of being in the schools and has proven to have benefits. An example that was shared was a virtual talent show that was inclusive of activities that could be videoed such as a demonstration of horseback riding which would not have been possible in a traditional talent show. Another example of a benefit was the ability of out-of-town family members to participate in online graduation ceremonies.

Father Paul Massel reported that an Easter Mass celebrated by Bishop Miehm has been recorded and will be shared with the entire Board on April 8. The pandemic has provided an opportunity for all of the students to hear Bishop's message.

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 April 19, 2021.

2. Closing Prayer.

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

3. Adjournment.

MOTION: Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Lori Ann Gervais
that the meeting adjourn at 7:37 p.m.

Carried.