



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held on Monday, February 4, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough.

Present: Jennifer Ball, Laura Bassett (Chairperson), Diane Corkery, Christine Haffie, Lisa Hiltz, Nathalie Ingram, Kevin MacKenzie, Fr. Paul Massel, Diane Mather, Julie McCarthy

Absent/Regrets: John Leduc

Administration: Michael Nasello, Director of Education

Recorder: Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant

A. Call to Order: Committee Chairperson, Laura Bassett, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1. Opening Prayer

At the request of the Committee Chairperson, Diane Mather opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Committee Chairperson, Laura Bassett, acknowledged that the meeting was taking place on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Lisa Hiltz, seconded by Diane Corkery

that the Agenda be approved with the following changes: the addition of 'Welcome and Introductions' under A. Call to Order as item 4, thus renumbering the other items under that heading; the addition of 'Debrief of November Event' under B. Recommended Actions/Presentations as item number 5, thus renumbering the other items under that heading; and the addition of 'Diocesan Event' under C. Information Items as item number 1, thus renumbering all other items under that heading.

Carried.

4. Welcome and Introductions

For the benefit of Trustee Kevin MacKenzie, who is new to the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, the Chairperson invited all present at the meeting to introduce themselves.

5. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the CPEC Meeting held on October 15, 2018.

MOTION: Moved by Diane Corkery, seconded by Natalie Ingram

that the minutes from the meeting held on October 15, 2018, be approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Director's Report on Board Initiatives.

The Director of Education, Michael Nasello reported on initiatives being undertaken at the Board, which included the following:

- Have been meeting with local Members of Provincial Parliament and have arranged for school visits in the four regions of the board. In addition, the Director, a superintendent and Trustee David Bernier participated in a round table consultation on education that was held in Campbellford.
- The provincial legalization of cannabis and the impacts locally on municipalities have led to meetings with Mayors and MPPs to discuss proximity of retail outlets from schools.
- The Board's submission to the Ministry in response to its request for consultation on education was reviewed.
- Planning for the Board's Math Olympics and Robotics Challenges are underway.
- Pinball Clemons spoke to support staff at a recent professional development
- Dialogue with Trent University and Fleming College is ongoing with a focus to develop partnerships with our Board and the offerings at post-secondary.
- Regular meetings with Bishop Daniel Miehm.

Michael Nasello then gave a brief overview of expected focusses of the new government.

2. Financial Update.

Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant, reported that the regular funding from the Ministry of Education is in place this year. Each school has received their allotment of \$500 each for use on initiatives that promote parent engagement in the school community. Funds are kept centrally to finance CPEC events. This amount remains the same as last year and therefore planning of the May CSC Appreciation event can proceed as it did in previous years.

In addition to the regular funding from the Ministry of Education, individual schools who applied to the Parents Reaching Out Grants, in amounts of \$1,000 per each application did receive communication that their projects were approved for grant. Michelle Kennedy will report to the committee on the number of schools who received funding and investigate if there were any schools who did not receive funding for their application.

3. Catholic School Community Profiles.

Michael Nasello, Director of Education, reviewed with the Committee the google form that will be used as a data collection tool to gather information from Catholic School Councils about their individual school communities. Catholic School Councils will be instructed to take time in their Catholic School Council Meetings to complete the survey as a group. The process will inform the Board for planning purposes.

4. Catholic School Council Meeting Visits

Chairperson, Laura Bassett encouraged committee members to reach out to the councils in their families of schools to make effort to attend council meetings and give a brief 10 to 15-minute presentation on the role of the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee.

5. Debrief of November, 2018 Event

The committee was encouraged to comment on the parent engagement evening held on November 7, 2018.

There was a lengthy discussion about the format of the event and possible strategies to engage to support greater attendance.

It was suggested that the Catholic School Councils be given the opportunity to provide their ideas and comments to the committee. It was decided that a survey will be developed to share with councils and gain insight as to their desires with respect to engagement, speakers and learning opportunities. The data collected will inform the committee for further planning on the next fall event.

6. Planning for May 15, 2019, Catholic School Council/Appreciation Event

There was discussion about the desired format for the Appreciation Event that will take place in May, 2019. The committee agreed that the carousel format which featured student participation

was very well received and should be repeated this year. Student success stories from the trades, Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) programs, OYAP or Coop programs at the secondary schools are topics that could work in this format. Further investigation will take place about the possibilities for presenters on this topic.

There was discussion about the possible location of the event. Michael Nasello will speak with secondary principals in Clarington to determine their ability to host and possibly provide the catering through the foods program at the school.

More information will be shared as it is investigated. More planning information will be shared by email with the committee members.

C. Information Items:

1. Diocesan Event

Father Paul Massel reported that the Diocese will be hosting Bishop Gary Gordon from British Columbia. Bishop Gordon will be conducting a mission at St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral from March 18-20, 2019.

2. OAPCE Membership

In the absence of Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson, this item was deferred to the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Meeting scheduled for April 1, 2019.

3. Committee Member Updates.

Natalie Ingram – reported that Sacramental Preparation is underway – it is exciting to see the changes in the confirmation program (her son loves the book) with it being interactive. At St. Stephen, the work towards advocating for a crosswalk has been successful. They have attended council meetings and council is now investigating the best location for a crosswalk. At St. Francis of Assisi, family nights for swimming and use of the gym have been organized. They have had the Toronto Argos come to give anti-bullying presentations. They will be putting on a dance-a-thon with Hawaiian theme with MuchMusic.

Lisa Hiltz – reported that the parent council at Holy Cross has had positive turnout and parent participation this year. Holy Cross was successful to receive \$1,000 PRO grant this year which be used to educate parents and students on minimizing digital footprint. Their council has provided students travelling to Guatemala with hats and t-shirts from council funds. As well, they have provided the Eco club with refillable water bottles for students. At St. Patrick plans for the fun fair are underway. On Pancake Tuesday, Monsignor O'Donoghue will be treated to breakfast.

Christine Haffie – reported that they are planning a school dance-a-thon as well. They are looking into using the school cash online system for parents to make donation online.

Diane Mather – reported that principals participated in a two-day retreat that had a focus of examining the pastoral letter “Renewing the Promise”.

Father Paul Massel – reported that from February 15 – March 2 he will be part of a medical brigade that is travelling to Uganda to bring medical and dental services to those in need in poorly serviced or remote villages.

Jennifer Ball – reported that their council is now giving a 10 percent portion of their food orders to St. Vincent DePaul. Their school has had Jimmy Chapman come to give a break-dancing presentation. Events are planned for Black History Month (February), Family Skating, and Me to We planning with local and global focusses. The school call-out system, School Messenger, has been welcomed and is working well.

Diane Corkery – reported that they had approximately 500 people attend the Gr. 8 information night. The St. Mary CSS choir is travelling to Nashville to compete and recently they held a concert to raise funds. They were successful and managed to raise \$4000 for their trip. She also reported that they hosted a human trafficking presentation that was well attended.

4. Successful Council Meetings Presentation.

Michael Nasello reported that a presentation by James Lochrie about parliamentary procedure that took place at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School was a success. Many Catholic School Council members from various schools attended.

D. Next Committee Meeting/Special Events:

1. Next Meeting:

April 1, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

Lisa Hiltz volunteered to bring opening prayer and Father Paul will bring closing prayer for the next meeting.

2. Future Agenda Items

Please contact Michelle Kennedy if you have any future agenda items for discussion.

E. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer

At the request of the chairperson, Father Paul Massel concluded the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.