



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held on Monday, January 16, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough.

Present: Linda Ainsworth, Laura Bassett, Ryan Brooks, Lisa Hiltz, Nathalie Ingram, John Leduc (Chairperson), Fr. Paul Massel, Julie McCarthy

Absent/Regrets: Pat McNeil, Charmaine Lusted

Administration: Tim Moloney, Michael Nasello, Stefani Burosch, Cynthia Chan Reynolds

Recorder: Michelle Kennedy

A. Call to Order: Chairperson, John Leduc, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. Opening Prayer

Committee member, Natalie Ingram, opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Julie McCarthy, seconded by Natalie Ingram that the Agenda be accepted.

Carried.

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts declared.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the CPEC Meeting held on October 17, 2016.

MOTION: Moved by Nathalie Ingram, seconded by Julie McCarthy that the minutes from the meeting held on October 17, 2016, be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Be Well Strategy, Renewal Consultation

Michael Nasello introduced Stefani Burosch, PVNC Mental Health Lead and Dr. Cynthia Chan-Reynolds, Educational Psychologist.

Ms. Burosch gave a presentation about the Provincial 'Be Well Strategy for Education' and explained that they are engaging in a consultation process across the province. Stefani reviewed the current 'Be Well' strategy that is in place. She and Dr. Chan Reynolds asked for the committee's feedback as to what they, as parents, have been aware of so far since the inception of the strategy three years ago. In addition, the committee was asked where they felt efforts should be focused in order to continue to promote the well-being of students in safe, inclusive environments over the next three years. It was noted that the Ministry is making a shift from having the well-being strategy attached to mental health, to a focus of well-being attached to student achievement.

Committee members engaged and commented about their personal experiences and observations in their own school communities. There was discussion about the school, home, and parish connection with respect to mental health.

Stefani and Cynthia requested that if any of the committee members had anything else to contribute or any questions that they contact them at the Board Office.

2. Upcoming Strategic Planning Process

Michael Nasello, Director of Education, explained that the three year cycle of the board's current strategic plan (2014-2017) is ending and plans are underway to gather information to shape the next three year plan.

Methods for gathering information from all areas of the board included the following: System-wide survey in February; Focus Groups; and Town Hall Meetings in the four geographical regions of the board.

Once information has been gathered on the most important areas of focus for the Board, a draft plan will be formed and will be shared with key stakeholders to determine if it hits the mark. Once feedback is received on the draft, the plan will be finalized and shared for implementation. The process will take about six months and the new plan will be in place for the new school year in September.

3. Catholic School Community Profile

Michael Nasello distributed a package to each of the committee members with samples of the Catholic School Community Profiles (formerly the Principal Profiles) that had been used in the past. There was discussion about the content and process of collecting the data from Catholic School Councils and its purpose. A new Catholic School Council Community Profile was presented by Mr. Nasello which combined the method used last year with the checklist from the Catholic Leadership Framework. The general consensus from the committee was that the proposed tool for 2017 combined a good mix of anecdotal opportunity with the user-friendliness of a checklist.

4. General Assembly – November 9, 2016

Michael Nasello asked the committee to reflect on the General Assembly, held on November 9, 2016, and provide feedback.

There was general discussion about how the evening went and how it was received by the audience.

Overall it was felt by the group that it was a good evening with the exception of the quality of the sound system. The commissioning ceremony for the OAPCE representatives was well received and heightened the awareness of the position.

There was discussion about increasing the number of people able to come to Peterborough from all regions of the board. Perhaps there could be an option to podcast and view the presentation at a time convenient for families. An online streaming option would require checks that there is appropriate technology in place to ensure our network would handle an online broadcast where people log in. The downside to a virtual gathering would be the loss of community gathering and comradery that is gained from the evening.

There was discussion about possible speakers for next year. Two suggestions were: Dr. Jennifer Kolari and David Bouchard.

5. Social and Recognition Evening – Planning for May 24, 2017

There was discussion about the up-coming Social and Recognition Evening that is scheduled for May 24, 2017.

Michelle Kennedy reported that St. Peter Catholic Secondary School has been contacted and asked to host this event this year. It has also been requested that the foods program be highlighted and cater the dinner.

It was requested that the invitation be extended to the Parent Council to send three representatives per school – not necessarily to be the Council Chair or OAPCE representative. Many time they are the same person. Would like to see the response better. It was noted that some schools were not represented at all last year.

There was discussion about having an award or honouring out-going parent council members who have been involved for a number of years or the establishment of an annual award. It was decided that this could be investigated in the future but would not be acted upon at this time.

The committee was in agreement that Father Gilles Mongeau be approached and asked to speak at this year's event. He is scheduled to present earlier in the day to Principals and there is a possibility to have him stay into the evening and address the Parents as well.

Michelle Kennedy will investigate further the logistics for the evening including ordering the gift (usable keepsake, such as the journals that were given in other years), invitation, arranging the dinner, script, and music.

6. Draft Directional Policy on Parent and Community Relations

Michael Nasello introduced the Draft Directional Policy on Parent and Community Relations which was linked to the agenda. Michael provided an overview and explained the background of the policy. The policy is in the consultation stage of the development process. The committee was invited to respond with feedback.

C. Information Items:

1. OAPCE Representative Report

Laura Bassett reported on her recent work as OAPCE Representative.

Recently, the OAPCE Executive/Board of Directors met for a two-day meeting in Toronto. It was reported that there have been recent changes to the OAPCE executive. Also, at the meeting, Bishop Debroski, representing the ACBO, gave a presentation about travelling to Rome for the Lumina.

There will not be an OAPCE Conference in the spring of 2017. The next conference will be held in October of 2017. Since the next conference falls in the next budget year with respect to the grant funding, the OAPCE executive is exploring the idea of hosting symposiums in the spring. There was discussion about the possibility of PVNC hosting a symposium. It was decided that it would not be feasible at this time. Future consideration for hosting a conference could be possible.

The committee was reminded that the award links on the OAPCE web site are available and application/nominations are being accepted.

2. Committee Member Updates

Committee members were invited to share information. The following individuals gave verbal reports:

Lisa Hiltz – Reported that St. Patrick held a turkey dinner at Christmas and the CSC used funds to pay the use of an auditorium for the Christmas concert. They are in the process of planning a Math Evening, using PRO Grant funds. Monsignor O'Donoghue is planning a Family Literacy event during Catholic Education Week and a Pancake Tuesday event. At the Holy Cross Grade 8 information night, the parent council will be setting up an information table to promote involvement in parent council.

Laura Bassett – Reported that St. Mary, Grafton Parent Council also hosted a Turkey dinner for the kids. This was the first time this had ever been done at their school. On Shrove Tuesday they are joining with the church to have a dinner.

Ryan Brooks – St. Alphonsus is having an evening event at the Peterborough Petes game in the near future. This will be a school community event and not a fundraiser. They will also be having a family bowling night which is a fun opportunity for families and requires very little set up or volunteer involvement. The St. Alphonsus Environmental Club is having a 'New to You Sale' fundraiser.

John Leduc – Monsignor Leo Cleary hosted a ‘Dancing with the Elves’ fundraiser that met goal their goal of \$4,000 and consequently, the principal got duct taped to the wall. Council also ran a ‘Fresh from the Farm’ fundraiser and they had a limo ride as the top fundraiser prize. Their Turkey dinner went well and it was a busy November and December.

Fr. Paul Massel – Commented on how he is enjoying the spiritual component of how that plays in the Wellness Strategy. Recently he was part of the Principal Retreat where they take time for team building and reflection and can learn from each other. In February, he will be travelling to Uganda with the Peterborough Medical Brigade.

Tim Moloney – Announced to the committee that Michael Nasello will be working as an Educational Assistant for the day on Friday of this week. The Educational Assistant won the day off through a United Way draw.

Michael Nasello – Informed the committee of an Eco-schools Challenge that will be taking place in some schools to lower the temperature in the school by two degrees for the day for environmental awareness.

Julie McCarthy/ Natalie Ingram – Catholic School Council at St. Francis also participated in Farm Fresh fundraising. The council has also organized a warm clothing swap. Whatever is left over at the end of the swap is given to St. Vincent DePaul.

Julie updated the committee about the PRO Grant Speaker Series that is taking place in the Clarington area. The next event will take place this Thursday (January 19, 2017) which coincides with the secondary school orientation. The last speaker was well received and it was nice to see the conversation happen after the speaker was done. There was a sense of community as the parents chatted about the speaker with each other.

D. Next Committee Meeting/Special Events:

1. Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at the Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough
2. Future Agenda Items
Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grant
3. Volunteer for Opening and Closing Prayers
Opening Prayer for April Meeting - Laura Bassett
Closing Prayer for April Meeting - Ryan Brooks

E. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer

Committee Member, Julie McCarthy, closed the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Lisa Hiltz, seconded by Julie McCarthy that the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee meeting adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Carried.