



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held on Monday, June 5, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough.

Present: Ryan Brooks, Lisa Hiltz, Nathalie Ingram, John Leduc (Chairperson), Fr. Paul Massel, Helen McCarthy, Julie McCarthy, Pat McNeil

Absent/Regrets: Linda Ainsworth, Laura Bassett, Charmaine Lusted

Administration: Joan Carragher, Superintendent of Human Resource Services (on behalf of Michael Nasello, Director of Education.)

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, Fr Paul Massel, opened the meeting by leading the committee.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Pat McNeil, seconded by Natalie Ingram that the Agenda be accepted.

Carried.

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no new conflicts of interest declared.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the CPEC Meeting held on April 24, 2017.

MOTION: Moved by Natalie, seconded by Patrick McNeil that the minutes from the meeting held on April 24, 2017, be approved.

Carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Parents Reaching Out Grant/Jennifer Kolari Presentation – November, 2017

Joan Carragher, Superintendent of Human Resources, reported on behalf of Michael Nasello, that the application for the regional PRO Grant has been completed and Jennifer Kolari has been booked for November 8, 2017.

It was also reported that Julie McCarthy and Stefani Burosch, PVNC Mental Health Lead, have been working another speaker series for the four regions of the board, similar to the series that took place this past year. They are working on dates and seeking out locations to host.

2. Year in Review – Suggestions for Next Year

Michelle Kennedy requested feedback from the committee on the events that took place this year. The members took turns giving their thoughts on the work of the committee during the 2016-2017 school year. There was discussion about the events that took place and the general operation of the committee.

Events and guest speakers were good and well received by attendees. The committee looks forward to Jennifer Kolari in November. The fall event has always been well received and has had better attendance in the last couple of years. The Regional events that happened in past years are not missed.

There was discussion about spring appreciation dinner event. The extension of the invitation to more than the chair and co-chair was a good idea. It was noted that the attendance of parents is generally less than the number of principals and administration and it is unknown if this is due to the time of year, the location or other factors. The committee expressed the importance of thanking the parent volunteers and wondered if the format could be changed. It was suggested that the committee members attend school council meetings to thank and present gifts to the members. The money that would be saved from the event could be used to purchase one gift per council member. The committee members agreed that this would give the school council members an opportunity to meet their representatives and learn more about CPEC and feel part of the big picture. The idea of having some of the CPEC meetings at each of the regions of the board was also suggested.

The need to fill out the CPEC committee and have representation from all of the areas of the board was emphasized. The notice for members to join the CPEC will be going out in June, prior to the end of school. Joan Carragher noted that at the first CPEC meeting in September, (Monday, September 18, 2017) a new Chairperson will be elected.

C. Information Items:

1. Meeting Schedule for 2017-2018 School Year

A list of dates were provided for the 2017-2018 school year. The date for the appreciation dinner has been changed to May 16, 2018 for the time being. The status of this event will be reviewed further based on feedback discussed.

2. Committee Member Updates

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

Julie McCarthy – End of year activities are underway at St. Francis. Schools are busy at this time of year and school is wrapping up well. Looking forward to the rest in the summer months.

Natalie Ingram – This year there were lots of things new at the school: the new Principal and teachers new to the school have settled in well. Yard improvement work continued this year.

Ryan Brooks – Reported on a few events that have taken place at St. Alphonsus. The school took advantage of the cooking program that is offered through Loblaws Supercentre. The proceeds from the 'Fresh for the Farm' fundraising campaign were used it for the school to participate in cooking classes. It was very good for the students to try cooking and employ the math skills to do the recipes. The school also went to 'Zap Attack' Laser-tag. This was a good community building activity. St. Alphonsus is getting ready to host a CASA (Center for Autism Spectrum Assistance) Class starting in September. The school is looking forward to participating in an outdoor Mass on June 21 at St. Catherine.

Ryan Brooks stated that this has been his 3rd year on CPEC and starting in September, Diane Mather will be coming to be the principal representative on this committee. Ryan thanked the committee for all of the sharing and learning and commended the committee for giving so freely of their time. Principals are so grateful to have parent volunteers who give their time to the school.

Fr. Paul Massel – All of the parish priests were on retreat at Mississauga. It was a time for priests to come together and share best practices. Many parishes are preparing for or have hosted confirmations.

Helen McCarthy – Made comments about the great activities that are happening in the schools and how nice it is to hear about them.

Lisa Hiltz – Some schools are working to pool PRO grant resources for another speaker event during 2017-2018. The group is hoping to have Brian Thwaites a speaker who specializes in learning theory and brain activities. St. Patrick has a community fun fair event happening. Funds have gone towards Chromebook purchases and Scientists in the Classroom. Approximately 60 families attended a Literacy Event with author Andrew Larsen.

Patrick McNeil – The CSC has sponsored the Gr. 8 Laser-tag trip. The council has booked a 'Fresh from the Farm' fundraising campaign. Good Shepherd is finishing their first year as a dual track school. There have been growing pains along the way but they are continuing to build on success. Patrick spoke about his family's excellent experience at Holy Trinity's 'Welcome to Secondary School' evening. The evening was very well done and it was a very positive and welcoming environment, putting many at ease about making the jump to secondary school. Patrick also noted that the Clarington youth group is seeing very good attendance

John Leduc – The CSC is having a family movie night. Families are invited to come to the school and watch a moving in the gymnasium as a gift from the council. The council has also sponsored events like 'Rocks and Rings' and Nationwide Lacrosse clinics. Goggles and nets were purchased for use in the gymnasium.

Joan Carragher – Education Accessibility Standard Engagement Opportunity – A handout was given that invites parent councils and parent involvement committee members to engage in a survey regarding accessibility. This communication will be going out to all Catholic School Council Chairpersons and to all CPEC members by email from Michelle Kennedy. Councils are encouraged to provide feedback to the government regarding accessibility in their schools.

D. Next Committee Meeting/Special Events:

1. Next Meeting: September 18, 2017, at the Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough
2. Future Agenda Items
 1. OAPCE – Conference – October 13 and 14, 2017 – Michelle Kennedy to forward information as it becomes available over the summer

E. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer

Committee Member, Fr. Paul Massel, closed the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Julie McCarthy, seconded by Natalie Ingram, that the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee meeting adjourn at 7:47 p.m.

Carried.