



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CPEC) held on Monday, May 1, 2018, at 6:45 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough. ***Please note that this meeting replaced the scheduled meeting of April 16, 2018, which was postponed due to inclement weather.***

Present: Linda Ainsworth, Laura Bassett (Chairperson), Diane Corkery, Michelle Griepsma, Diane Mather, Fr. Paul Massel, Lisa Hiltz, Nathalie Ingram, John Leduc, Julie McCarthy

Absent/Regrets: Jennifer Ball, Patrick McNeil

Administration: Michael Nasello, Director of Education

Recorder: Michelle Kennedy, Administrative Assistant

Guests: Kim Docherty, parent - St. Anne Catholic Elementary School, Christine Haffie, parent – St. Anne Catholic Elementary School,

A. Call to Order: Committee Chair, Laura Bassett, called the meeting to order at 6:51 p.m. Laura Bassett welcomed everyone and requested, for the benefit of the guests, that everyone introduce themselves.

1. Opening Prayer

Diane Mather opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Laura Bassett acknowledged the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishnaabe.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Diane Corkery, seconded by Fr. Paul Massel that the Agenda be accepted.

Carried.

4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None

5. Approval of the Minutes of the CPEC Meeting held on February 5, 2018.

MOTION: Moved by Julie McCarthy, seconded by Diane Corkery that the minutes from the meeting held on February 5, 2018, be approved.

Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

Laura Bassett reported that, to date, she and Diane Corkery have given a brief presentation to all schools in Northumberland, with the exception of one, which they will visit before the end of year. It was reported that they were well received in the councils in Northumberland and some councils have requested that they come each year for a brief presentation.

There was discussion about continuing the practice of the representatives visiting the schools in their family of schools. Having the whole year to schedule the visits will assist with working towards visiting all the Catholic School Councils.

Michael Nasello gave an update on the proposed changes to student transportation. The proposed changes have been put on hold to allow time for review. The Ministry has begun a provincial review of student transportation. The Board of Trustees felt it prudent to not move forward with changes to policy that may have to be changed again as a result of the Ministry review.

Michael Nasello also gave an update that the pastoral letter 'Renewing the Promise', is expected to be released on May 2, 2018.

Michelle Griepsma followed up on her notification at last meeting that there would be a presentation for those interested in running in the municipal election as a school trustee. An information session was held today (May 1, 2018) at the Board Office. The past-president of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association presented information about becoming and fulfilling the role of Catholic School Board Trustee.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. First Nations Métis Inuit (FNMI) Information Meetings

Michael Nasello reported that four information nights were planned using the Parents Reaching Out Grant funds with a focus to engage parents in learning more about First Nations Métis and Inuit. Two evenings have already taken place. Attendance has not been as full as was hoped; however, for those in attendance, there were powerful messages and a deep and meaningful experience.

The next two meetings will continue to be advertised in hopes of getting more participation.

2. Ministry Parent Involvement Committee Symposium – April 20 and 21, 2018

John Leduc reported on his attendance at the Ministry Parent Involvement Committee Symposium on April 20 and 21. There were guest speakers and workshop sessions. The first

guest speaker spoke about 'The Third Path' which explained how to assist students with their stressors and give strategies using simple and natural tools. The other keynote speaker was Carl Subban who spoke about parenting.

3. Social and Recognition Evening – Planning for May 16, 2018

There was discussion about the format of the Social and Recognition evening being planned for May 16. Michael Nasello has contacted secondary principals to request participation of students who have travelled to developing countries for mission/social justice work.

Michelle Kennedy has worked with Mr. Geoff Taylor to plan the food for the evening. Students will be preparing and serving from 'food stations' in the forum area of the school.

The program will begin with all of the parents gathering for opening prayer, O'Canada, opening remarks and a general explanation of the evening. The group will then split up to begin the 'carousel' format of presentation by the students. After the parents have seen all of the presentations, the group will re-convene to thank the speakers, student presenters, etc. and have closing remarks and prayer.

Diane Corkery has been in contact with the music teacher to arrange the choir to perform at the opening. The jazz band will also perform as the guests are arriving to the school. The art department will be displaying art in the forum as well.

Gifts (journal/pen set) for the Catholic School Council members will be packaged and ready for presentation to each school. It was agreed that to save time, the names of those present would not be announced.

4. General Assembly Event – Planning for November, 2018

Michael Nasello invited the committee members to put forward ideas about the General Assembly Event to be held in November, 2018.

There was a lengthy discussion about areas of focus. Some suggestions included indigenous teachings and an exercise similar to the turtle island exercise, mental health and self-regulation, Christian meditation, technology and self-regulation, i.e. setting limits.

It was noted that this event was formerly an opportunity for councils to gain professional development, sometimes in the areas of running an effective council meeting. This could also be of interest again.

The format of small workshops and one keynote was discussed. For example, a main session in a large area (cafeteria) and then 15 minute sessions in classrooms. Having an opportunity to choose from a number of sessions was appealing to committee members as well as incorporating the home, school, parish triad. The anticipated pastoral letter 'Renewing the Promise' may give further guidance on an area of focus.

5. Parents Reaching Out Grants – Application for 2018-2019

Michael Nasello brought attention to the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) grant package which was attached to the meeting agenda. Information for the regional and school grant application was included. Michael invited a committee a parent or two to partner to join him to work on the regional grant application.

The grant application package will be sent out to the Catholic School Councils and Principals for school grant application. The deadline for application was noted as June 5, 2018.

C. Information Items:

1. 2018-2019 CPEC Meeting Dates

Michael Nasello stated that the meeting dates have been chosen for next school year as follows:

Monday, September 17, 2018
 Monday, October 15, 2018
 Monday, February 4, 2019
 Monday, April 1, 2019
 Monday, June 3, 2019

All meetings will be held at the Catholic Education Centre,

CPEC special events for the next school year are as follows:

Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 6:30pm (General Assembly Event)
 Wednesday, May 15, 2019 6:30 p.m. (Appreciation Event)

2. Committee Member Updates

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

Diane Corkery - Asked a question about busing and the coordination of shared bussing with the public board. This year there were four dates on the school year calendar where bussing was not shared and she expressed concern about the additional costs to the board as a result of this. There was discussion about the reasons for the differences in the school year calendars between boards. It was noted that there will only be one date where bussing is not shared in the upcoming school year.

Diane Mather – Briefly stated that principals and vice-principals participate in professional development and learning sessions. All of the current subjects and initiatives, that are discussed or presented at CPEC meetings, for example, Indigenous Studies or Mental Health and Wellbeing, are areas of focus for principal and vice-principal training.

Linda Ainsworth – Reported on her attendance at the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association conference where Trustee Michelle Griepsma was elected Vice-President of OCSTA. She also reported that it was resolved that FACE (Friends and Advocates for Catholic Education) will receive more regular and stable funding.

She reported about attendance at a session on the Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ Gr. 5 program and the development of the Gr. 7 and 8 programs. Pearson stated that they are consulting with students to incorporate the importance of the student voice in the program.

Kim Docherty – Reported on parking lot issues at St. Anne. The school and church share parking space, which can be troublesome in the morning with buses, school drop off and parishioners attending 9 a.m. Mass.

Christine Haffie – Reported about the desire to replace two pieces of playground equipment and the need to fundraise. Council is struggling to balance the distribution of their fundraising to all the projects that they would like to do.

Fr. Paul Masse – Reported that lots of good things are happening throughout the Diocese. There are many upcoming Confirmations and First Communions.

On May 25th at St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral, Stephen DiCarlo, a graduate of Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, will be ordained.

The Abraham Festival took place in Peterborough. It was a celebration for Christians, Jews and Muslims recognizing the similarities in all of their faith traditions.

It was also stated that the new confirmation program will be implemented diocese-wide but will remain a pilot for the coming year.

Michelle Griepsma – Encouraged the committee to engage in discussions about Catholic Education during the upcoming provincial election campaign. All-candidate meetings provide an opportunity to gain insight into the position of each candidate regarding Catholic Education.

Michelle also encouraged everyone to check their status on voterlookup.ca with respect to their appearance on the municipal voter list and their tax support. If a person changes residences it means that they automatically defaults to English-public support.

John Leduc – Reported about Holy Trinity visiting Monsignor Leo Cleary for a student performance to the elementary students. More drama productions would be welcome.

Lisa Hiltz – Reported that Monsignor O'Donoghue will be hosting a Family Literacy night on May 31, 2018. An author will be giving a presentation. Each year this is a very successful event.

The St. Patrick fun fair is also coming up and has historically been very well attended. New kindergarten families are invited to participate giving an opportunity to visit and meet others in the school community. All of the staff comes to this event and past students often attend.

A family math night was hosted in March with many activities including Chess and checkers, lego and connex. The event was hosted by the students and families rotated through stations.

Brian Thwaites, speaker and 'brain trainer' will be presenting at Holy Cross on May 3, 2018. This is a joint presentation with other schools using Parents Reaching Out grant funds.

It was reported that the Catholic School Council at Holy Cross donated money to purchase hats and t-shirts for the Guatemala trip participants.

Natalie Ingram – Reported that their school hosted a "STEAM" night (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics). Stations were set up where the students demonstrated their learning. The event was successful with a large variety of engagement opportunities for all ages. There were take-home kits for families for continued engagement at home.

The Lion King production was also staged at their school at full capacity. All different ages were involved and well attended.

Sacraments and related celebrations have been happening and have been well received.

Julie McCarthy – Offered a suggestion that the student trustees attend a future meeting of the CPEC Committee to report on their role.

D. Next Committee Meeting/Special Events:

1. Next Meeting:

May 16, 2018 – Catholic School Council Social and Appreciation Evening at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School.

June 4, 2018, Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough – 6:30 p.m.

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, Diane Mather concluded the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.