

Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD held Tuesday, April 23, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the Boardroom, 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough.

PRESENT:

Trustees - Mmes. Linda Ainsworth, Calahndra Brake (Student Trustee), Eveline Fisher (Student Trustee), and Michelle Griepsma, and Helen McCarthy.

Messrs. Dave Bernier, Braden Leal, and Kevin MacKenzie, Emmanuel Pinto.

Administration – Mmes. Joan Carragher, Laurie Corrigan, Isabel Grace, and Dawn Michie

Messrs. Galen Eagle, Fr. Paul Massel, Tim Moloney, and Michael Nasello.

Recorder – Mrs. Michelle Kennedy

A. Call to Order of the Open Meeting:

Mrs. Michelle Griepsma, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

1. Examen

The Chairperson, Michelle Griepsma, asked Father Paul Massel to lead all who were present through the Examen.

2. Opening Prayer

Following the Examen, Father Paul led the opening prayer.

3. Acknowledgement

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson, acknowledged that the Board Meeting was taking place on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe.

4. Singing of the National Anthem

The National Anthem was sung.

5. Approval of the Agenda.

MOTION: Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Linda Ainsworth

that the Agenda be approved with the following changes:

- Item K.3, Memo from OCSTA re: TCDSB Motion regarding Ontario Autism Program (OAP), be moved in the agenda to follow item C.3; and,
- the addition of item L.2 i) Audit Committee Meeting, May 14, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

Carried.

6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest.

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the March 26, 2019 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by David Bernier

that the Minutes of the regular meeting of March 26, 2019, be approved.

Carried.

8. Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

There was no business arising.

B. Reports from the Director of Education and Student Trustee(s):

1. Report from the Director of Education.

Michael Nasello gave the Director's Report, including the following highlights:

- Happy Easter to everyone!
- Holy week events, including liturgies and Stations of the Cross were celebrated in all of our schools
- The Board mourns the loss of Sister Veronica O'Reilly CSJ who was both teacher and principal in Lindsay and Peterborough
- Six new junior members joined the Student Council Liaison Committee and from among the group, the SCLC elected the new Junior Student Trustee for 2019-2020. Josh Hill, a grade ten student from Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School was chosen from an excellent group of candidates.
- On April 4th, more than 2,500 PVNC students took part in the provincial student walkout in protest of the recent changes made by the provincial government affecting education.

- The board received recognition that PVNC schools have raised over three million dollars in the last thirteen years for the Terry Fox Foundation. This is a wonderful accomplishment!
- Planning has begun for the annual Catholic Parent Engagement Committee and Catholic School Council Appreciation Evening is underway. The event takes place on Wednesday, May 15th at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School.
- The Catholic Student Leadership Awards will be held during Catholic Education Week on May 8th and we look forward to celebrating with the students and families.
- The Board still awaits the release of the Grants for Student Needs and accompanying technical information. This information is critical to beginning the budgeting process.
- Express gratitude to all staff members for all of the work they do each day. Catholic Education is strong at PVNC!

At the conclusion of his report, Michael Nasello invited questions from the trustees.

2. Report from the Student Trustees

- a) Eveline Fisher, Junior Student Trustee and Calahndra Brake, Senior Student Trustee gave a report to the Board of PVNC secondary school activities which have taken place throughout the month of April:
- April was a month filled with initiatives related to the Easter season! All schools had events during Holy Week to remember Jesus' sacrifice for each of us.
 - Food drives were held at St. Mary CSS, Holy Trinity CSS and St. Thomas Aquinas CSS, where all proceeds were donated to local food banks.
 - St. Stephen and Holy Cross held 24 hour fasts where students participated in discussions and activities. Each student who participated gained 24 hours of community service.
 - 'Forty Days of Giving' was held at St. Peter where students set aside a gently-used item they no longer used or needed for each day of lent. Items were then donated to St. Vincent de Paul.
 - Holy Cross held their annual cake auction for World Autism Awareness Day and raised \$2,609. Holy Trinity held a dress down day for the same occasion and raised \$905 which was donated to Autism Home Base Durham.
 - Earth Day was April 22 and Holy Cross students went out into the community to collect garbage.
 - Students at each of the secondary schools walked out of class on April 4 at 1:15

p.m. to protest recent changes to education imposed by the provincial government.

- Other exciting events have included French Language Speeches at St. Thomas Aquinas, Healthy Mind, Body, Spirit Day at St. Peter, Criminal Lawyer presentation for students at Holy Trinity, International Food Festival at Holy Trinity, cops for Cancer at St. Mary, and the Holy Cross service trip to Guatemala.
- Holy Cross Indigenous Studies class hosted students from the Gitksan First Nation at Hazelton, British Columbia for a week of cultural activities and learning. The group from Holy Cross will be travelling to BC on April 30th.
- April was a month of generosity, stewardship and enthusiasm.

At the end of the report Eveline and Calahndra answered questions from the Trustees.

- b) Calahndra Brake and Eveline Fisher announced the new Junior Student Trustee, Josh Hill and welcomed him to the role of Junior Trustee. Josh and his family will be invited to the May board meeting to be formally introduced.

3. Report from the Manager of Communications, Galen Eagle

Manager of Communications, Galen Eagle reviewed his monthly electronic newsletter of system achievements and highlighted the following stories:

- An article by KawarthaNow featuring Erika Mistelbacher who is student enrolled at Fleming College through the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program. The article gives a great deal of information about the Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) Program, OYAP and Erika's perspective on her experiences so far.
- Math Olympics video highlighting the students' views on Math and their enjoyment of the event which is staged yearly at the Board Office.
- Jake Douglas is a Gr. 11 student from St. Peter Catholic Secondary who, for the third year in a row made it to the finals in the Canadian Geographic Challenge. He is hoping to represent Canada in Hong Kong in July at the 2019 International Geography Olympiad.
- PVNC graduates, Fr. John Perdue and Sister Mary Catherine have relaunched the 'Flying Fathers', a hockey team of priests who will play in charity hockey games to raise money for various charities.
- Twitter highlights were shared which included may renditions of the Stations of the Cross and featured scenes from 'The Way of the Cross' which was staged at St. Peter's Cathedral on Good Friday.

C. Presentations:

1. R.A. Proposed Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School Student Excursion to

Guatemala, Central America, April 15-24, 2020.

James Brake gave a presentation about the history/importance of this excursion with the Wells of Hope.

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Braden Leal that the proposed Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School Wells of Hope Student Excursion to Guatemala, Central America, from April 15, 2020 to April 24, 2020, be approved in principle following revisions to the consent form (noted as page 54 in the Board meeting agenda package), and that the trip will include mandatory insurance for all travelers. Such insurance must cover school board or principal rulings for cancellation of the trip.

Carried.

2. Learning Support Services, Deep Learning.

Superintendent Dawn Michie and Learning Consultant, Heather Michel gave a PowerPoint presentation on the concepts of Deep Learning Strategies and how they are incorporated into classrooms throughout PVNC. Deep Learning has grown in popularity in the Board and is being used in 80% of PVNC school. To promote the use of the strategy further, Deep Learning Expos have been organized to showcase examples of how the approach is beneficial to students and teachers alike. Webinars have also been used to share ideas and learning throughout all regions of the board via the internet with the learning consultant moderating. Following the presentation, questions from the Trustees were answered.

3. Presentation from Student Trustees

Student Trustees, Calahndra Brake and Eveline Fisher gave a presentation about the student reaction to the Ontario Government's announced changes to Education. Results from a survey that was sent to secondary students and Gr 7 and Gr 8 students was shared which gave indicators of how well the students understand the issues at hand. Next steps will include writing letters and sharing communications from OSTA-AECO with the student bodies. At the upcoming OSTA event, they are looking forward to having time with the Education Minister, Lisa Thompson.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Eveline and Calahndra answered questions from the trustees

4. K.3 Memo from OCSTA re: Toronto Catholic District School Board Motion regarding

Ontario Autism Program (OAP).

Laurie Corrigan, Superintendent introduced the Chairperson of the Special Education Advisory Committee, Arlene Godby to the Board of Trustees.

Arlene Godby and Laurie Corrigan spoke about the recent changes to the Ontario Autism Program and expressed the importance of the funding for this program and the affected families and the impact on schools now and in September. A draft motion which was adapted from the Toronto Catholic DSB was reviewed.

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto

Whereas - OCSTA supports the recent motion of the Toronto Catholic District School Board, approved by its trustees March 18, 2019, and supports other Catholic School Boards doing the same, the following constitutes an overview of recent developments affecting students and families served by the Ontario Autism Program;

Whereas - the Provincial Government has recently introduced changes to the Ontario Autism Program; and

Whereas - this change to the province's autism program has come into effect April 1st and is expected to bring more high-needs children into classrooms full-time; and

Whereas - the Ministry of Education has announced that the government will subsidize an additional qualification course for teachers on supporting students with autism and that cannot happen until the next school year; and

Whereas - the recent Ministry of Education announcement indicated additional funding for the remaining months in the 2018-19 school year; and

Whereas - this funding applies to new students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) entering the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board for the first time; and

Whereas - students currently enrolled with PVNCCDSB on a part-time basis and transitioning to full time will not generate additional funding; and

Whereas - the announcement confirms that the province will not be increasing funding for students transitioning from part-time to full-time; and

Whereas - many children currently attend school on a modified schedule, and parents have said cuts in funding will leave them with little choice but to send their children to school more frequently, or full-time; and

Whereas - there is an absence of detail with respect to funding; and

Whereas - the Grants for Student Needs are delayed;

Whereas - the current funding is not nearly sufficient to provide all of the

additional resources all students with exceptionalities need; and

Whereas - as per the 2018-19 Revised Budget Estimates, Special Education Programs & Services totals as follows: Revenues \$24 million, Expenses \$25 million. Expenses in excess of Revenues is over \$1 million; and

Whereas - the PVNCCDSB has identified 382 Special Education Need Students (based on predominant exceptionality) with Autism this school year; and

Whereas - as of April 1st, the school year was more than 70% completed and an additional influx of students would cause confusion for existing students, new students, families and school communities; and

Whereas - the proposed funding to help with the transition of students with autism into the school setting does not extend beyond this school year; and

Whereas - school Boards, principals, teachers and support staff may have faced huge challenges with the arrival of students on or after April 1st especially since teachers and front line staff cannot perform the roles of professional therapists; and

Whereas - school Boards would not necessarily have had supports or resources in place for April 1st to allow for the transition of students from therapy to school.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board request that the Provincial Government delay changes to the Ontario Autism Program until the new school year in order to accommodate and transition the entrance of students into the education system; and

Further be it resolved that the Provincial Government be requested to fully fund additional supports for new full-time and part-time students entering the school system as a result of changes to the Ontario Autism Program.

Carried.

D. Programs and Services:

E. Business, Finance and Governance:

1. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Open Session Report.

Board Chairperson, Michelle Griepsma reported on the information items that were shared with the trustees including a memo regarding Toonies for Tuition, the Ontario Autism Program, OCSTA Award winners, Education Development Charges Regulation and the changes as the affect school boards and Rowan's Law. It was noted that there were no legislative highlights shared from OCSTA.

2. STSCO Governance Committee, Open Session Report

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson, reported on the STSCO Governance Committee Meeting held on March 27, 2019. Trustees were informed that changes to bussing, walk zones and bell times affecting students at Monsignor O'Donoghue Catholic Elementary School have been conveyed to parents via letters sent home. This process began in March, which was earlier than in previous years.

Mrs. Griepsma also reported that Ministry of Transportation inspection training with bus operators is taking place. In addition, updates to terminology used to identify students who may require assistance or special requirements is being investigated and reviewed.

F. Human Resources:

G. Policy Development:

H. Old Business:

1. Ontario Association of Parents for Catholic Education (OAPCE) Conference, 2019.

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson reported on her attendance at the OAPCE Conference held on April 6, 2019. She stated that the conference was fairly well attended and well organized and she had the opportunity to meet with the president of OAPCE.

Mrs. Griepsma will recommend to membership with OAPCE be once again considered in the upcoming school year. She will address the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee in June and speak with Principals in August in this regard.

2. PVNC Donation to Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association (CCSTA) 'Toonies for Tuition' Campaign.

Michael Nasello reported that a total of \$5,322 has been collected in our board and will be sent to the Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association.

I. New Business:

J. Bring Forward:

K. Information Items:

1. Chairperson's Report.

Board Chairperson, Michelle Griepsma reported that she attended the Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers Association AGM Banquet in Ottawa on April 11, 2019 which was co-hosted by PVNC. This event was well attended and was celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Association. At the banquet, Superintendent Joan Carragher was recognized as Co-Chair of the event and Director Michael Nasello was recognized as a

past president of the Association.

2. Letter from Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board to Provincial Government re: Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) Funding.

The letter from Hamilton Wentworth District School Board was reviewed and a proposed motion was considered.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Helen McCarthy

Whereas - the Ontario provincial government recently announced changes to the pre-existing "Ontario Student Assistance Program" which had made post-secondary education more accessible and affordable for students across the province;

Whereas - the aforementioned changes are including, but not limited to changing the OSAP grant to loan ratio to a minimum 50 percent, removing the six-month interest-free grace period students would receive after graduation, and lowering the family income threshold;

Whereas - the aforementioned changes will make it significantly harder for many PVNCCDSB students to achieve their post-secondary goals, including youth living in poverty and;

Whereas - the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board is committed to Student Learning and Achievement through our strategic directions, and should support students with their post-secondary goals.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Chair of the Board send a letter to the Minister of Education and Minister of Training, Universities and Colleges that highlights the support for

- a) The provincial government to provision more resources for more non-repayable grants: that support students aspiring to enter post-secondary education to low- and middle-income students, to ensure all Ontario students have equitable access to the education their desire,
- b) Devising a post-secondary education loan system which will support students and allow for practical repayment,
- c) Engaging all education stakeholders, including students and parents, school boards and trustees' associations in early consultation when making decisions regarding funding reforms.

Further be it resolved that the following stakeholders also receive a copy of this

letter:

Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association
Ontario Public School Boards' Association
Ontario Student Trustees' Association
Parliamentary Assistants to the Minister of Education and the Minister of
Training, Colleges and Universities
Members of Provincial Parliament from Durham, Peterborough-Kawartha,
Northumberland-Peterborough South, and Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock
The Education Critics of the Ontario Political Parties
Chairs and Directors of Ontario Provincial School Boards

Carried.

4. Letter from Peel District School Board to Provincial Government re Announced Changes to Education Funding and Program.

The letter received from Peel District School Board was reviewed.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Braden Leal

that that the Director of Education send a letter to the Minister of Education highlighting the local impacts related to changes to class-size averages, e-learning, special education funding and autism, health and physical education curriculum, mathematics curriculum and funding cuts.

Carried.

MOTION: Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the board meeting curfew of 9:30 p.m. be extended to 9:45 p.m.

Carried.

5. OCSTA Toonies for Tuition Challenge.

A challenge was issued to all members of OCSTA to encourage more participation in the fundraising activities planned at the OCSTA AGM in April. It was reported by Linda Ainsworth that an additional auction item has been assembled by her with the support of the trustees.

6. Trustees' Committee Reports:

The draft minutes from the following committee meeting was shared ahead of the Board Meeting.

a. First Nation, Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee Meeting, March 19, 2019.

- b. Special Education Advisory Committee, March 21, 2019.
It was reported that changes are forthcoming with respect students and EQAO testing.
- c. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Meeting, April 1, 2019.
- d. French as a Second Language Committee, April 3, 2019.

L. Future Meetings:

1. Board Standing Committee Meetings:

- a. Chairperson's Committee, May 13, 2019, 4:30 p.m.
- b. Committee-of-the-Whole, May 13, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Policy Development Committee, May 21, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- d. Board Meeting Open Session, May 28, 2019, 6:30 p.m. (In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)

2. Other Committee Meetings:

- a. Faith and Equity Committee Advisory Meeting, May 2, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- b. Accessibility for All Committee Meeting, May 14, 2019.
- c. STSCO Governance Committee Meeting, May 29, 2019, 3:00 p.m.
- d. Student Council Liaison Committee, May 28, 2019, 4:15 p.m.
- e. Special Education Advisory Committee, May 20, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- f. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Meeting, June 3, 2019
- g. First Nation, Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee, June 4, 2019
- h. Supervised Alternative Learning Meeting – TBA
- i. Audit Committee Meeting, May 14, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

3. Board Events:

The list of future board events was reviewed by the Trustees.

- a. OCSTA 2018-2019 AGM and Conference, Toronto, April 25-27, 2019.
- b. Catholic Education Week, May 5-10, 2019.
- c. Catholic Student Leadership Awards, Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, May 8, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- d. CPEC and Catholic School Council Appreciation Event, St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School, May 15, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

- e. CCSTA 2018-2019 AGM and Conference, Canmore, AB, May 30-June 1, 2019.
- f. Secondary School Graduations – All secondary school graduations will take place on Thursday, June 27, 2019. Trustees will be sent a list of the locations and times. It will be confirmed which trustees will attend which secondary schools.

M. Conclusion:

1. Report from the In-camera Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Helen McCarthy, seconded by Braden Leal

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising from the in-camera session, as follows:

- A. Call to Order:
 - 1. Opening Prayer
 - 2. Approval of Agenda as presented.
 - 3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest: None were declared
 - 4. Approval of Minutes: Motion carried to approve the minutes from the March 26, 2019 Regular In-camera meeting.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
 - 1. OCSTA In-camera Session Report.
 - 2. STSCO Governance Committee, In-Camera Session Report.
- E. Human Resources
 - 1. Report on Search for Superintendent.
 - 2. Update on Ministry of Education Announcements.
 - 3. Summary of Current Legal Cases in Progress.
- F. Other Urgent Matter:
 - 1. Approval of Recommended action from the Expulsion Committee Meeting, April 23, 2019.
- G. Old Business:
 - I. Convening in Open Session:
 - 1. Motion to convene in Open Session at 6:32 p.m.

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer.

At the request of the Board Chairperson, Emmanuel Pinto led the closing prayer.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Helen McCarthy, seconded by Braden Leal

that the meeting be adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Carried.

Michelle Griepsma
Board Chairperson

Michael Nasello
Director of Education, Secretary-Treasurer
per M.K.