

# Minutes

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THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD held Tuesday, May 28, 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.

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

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

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

Regrets – Mrs. Helen McCarthy

Recorder – Mmes. Michelle Kennedy and Andrea Bradley

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**A. Call to Order of the Open Meeting:**

Mrs. Michelle Griepsma, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:40 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.

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that trustee Helen McCarthy be excused from the regular board meeting, open session.

Carried.

5. Approval of the Agenda.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Braden Leal

that the Agenda be approved with the deferral of item B.2, Introduction of Josh Hill, 2019-2020 Junior Student Trustee, to the June 25, 2019 Regular Board meeting.

Carried.

6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest.

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the April 23, 2019 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto

that the Minutes of the regular meeting of April 23, 2019, be approved.

Carried.

8. Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson welcomed all the guests who had joined the meeting as observers. She also welcomed the principal representatives who were present: Jennifer DeMaeyer, Principal of St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Lindsay, Susan Mooney, Principal of St. Luke Catholic Elementary School, Downeyville, and Arlene Robinson, Principal St. Paul Catholic Elementary School, Lakefield.

**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:

- Commend to our prayers the repose of the soul of Mr. Paul Pulla, retired Director of Education and Trustee of our neighbouring board, Durham Catholic District School Board.
- Welcome to PVNC CUPE members in attendance: your presence is recognized as a strong message to how the cuts have impacted employees of PVNC. Decisions have been difficult to make, deliver and receive. The members of CUPE are commended as dedicated professionals who have been patient and gracious in the face of difficult news and continue to put students first and work with diligence every day.
- Our board will continue to work diligently to ensure that services to students continue to the best of our ability. With consultations still underway, and contract negotiation just beginning we will be hopeful that things will evolve for the better.
- Kevin Cameron, a world-renowned expert in school and community safety led a two-day session in Violent Threat Risk Assessment Training, Level 2. Tim Moloney, Superintendent of Safe Schools was thanked for his leadership in arranging and leading the event.
- Deep Learning Expos and Invention Conventions have been taking place in many schools to share examples of deep learning and collaborative learning. Thanks to Dawn Michie who continues to lead this important work.
- Catholic Education Week was celebrated throughout the system with the theme, “Living as Joyful Disciples”. A highlight of the week is always the Catholic Student Leadership Awards which celebrate students who have daily demonstrated the Catholic Graduate Expectations.
- Thank you to the eighty Rosary Program volunteers in our schools to model and pray the rosary with our students in twenty-six of our schools.
- The Priests, Principals and Chaplaincy Leaders gathered on May 15 to meet for the second time this year to collaborate on the draft “Guidelines on Pastoral Care in Schools”, a document that will guide how we minister to the staff and students in our schools. As well, the Sacrament of Reconciliation celebrations from this past season of Lent were reviewed in the spirit of making these events more meaningful and relevant to students.
- The Catholic Parent Engagement Committee hosted their annual appreciation social evening for all Catholic School Councils at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School where they enjoyed presentations from students and staff on the experiences of some of our Specialist High Skills Majors programs (SHSMs).
- Thirty-one students are engaged in deep learning preparations for their experiential learning field study in Germany and Poland this summer as part of the Holocaust Education Program. There will be media coverage of their

learning experiences.

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

2. Introduction of Josh Hill, 2019-2020 Junior Student Trustee

The introduction of Josh Hill was deferred to the June 25, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.

3. Report from the Student Trustees

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 May:

- The month began with Catholic Education Week highlighting the connection to Catholic schools and Catholic Parishes. The theme “living as joyful disciples” encouraged young people to develop their faith, enhance their relationship with God and discern their beliefs.
- Catholic Student Leadership Awards were given out to recognize a student in each elementary and secondary school for their dedication to their studies and their school communities
- Secondary schools are in the process of selecting next year’s link crew leaders
- Social justice initiatives included St. Stephen and St. Peter students assisting local seniors with yard work; “Change for Chickens” at St. Peter saw a collection of over \$1,000 to purchase chickens for families in need; St. Thomas Aquinas traveled to Oshawa for their monthly visit to the St. Vincent’s Kitchen; Holy Trinity held their annual Daniella Caterina Memorial Baseball Game for cystic fibrosis research; Holy Cross raised money for Kawartha Food Share through a Read-a-thon and also raised money for “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” in support of Crossroads Women’s Shelter.
- St. Stephen will be holding a Multicultural Day to showcase foods from various ethnicities.
- St. Thomas Aquinas’ Environmental Science class has begun construction of a greenhouse with generous donation from Kawartha Lakeshore Building Company.
- The Environmental Club at Holy Trinity worked with the Toronto Zoo and collected old cell phones to be recycled and support Gorilla conservation.
- Inspired by the Student Council Retreat and keynote speaker, Meaghan Murphy, a chalk board was set up at St. Thomas Aquinas with the heading, “I wish I could...” Students were inspired to share their wishes for themselves and society.

- Many presentations took place throughout PVNC. St. Stephens grade nine students learned about human trafficking and the grade ten students took part in a resiliency workshop. A mental health fair was held at St. Thomas Aquinas which was presented by a girls' gym class.
- The junior and senior student trustees and the incoming junior student trustee all participated in the Ontario Student Trustees' Association Annual General Meeting and the various workshops and presentations offered there.
- Calahndra expressed how she is looking forward to seeing accomplishments from the other trustees next year as she closes out her tenure as senior trustee and Vice-President of the OSTA Catholic Board Council.

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

#### 4. 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:

- His Excellency, Bishop Daniel Miehm's Catholic Education Week video message about what it means to be a "joyful disciple".
- Catholic Student Leadership Awards Ceremony, held May 8, 2019 during Catholic Education Week.
- A Day in the Life of a Principal twitter campaign during Catholic Education Week gave insight into the wonderful work in our Catholic Schools.
- Polar plunge for St. Mary, Campbellford Principal, Jason Roberts who rose to the challenge after the school raised its goal of \$11,000 towards playground equipment.
- Walk a Mile fundraising event at Holy Cross to raise money for the 'Safe Nights' program at the YWCA Crossroads Shelter.
- Students at St. Joseph, Douro created habitats for bees, bats and birds with the Kawartha Wildlife Centre.
- St. Peter Catholic Secondary School student Jake Douglas has earned a spot to represent Canada at the International Geography Olympiad in Hong Kong after placing in the top four of the Canadian Geographic Geography Challenge.

### **C. Presentations:**

#### 1. Student Presentation – Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School Student Exchange to Gitksan First Nation, British Columbia

James Brake, Principal of Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School and Sharon Lajoie, Learning Consultant were joined by a group of students to give a presentation on their

experiences on their recent exchange with students from Hazelton, British Columbia who are part of the Gitksan First Nation. The students shared many interesting photographs and spoke about the value of their excursion. The trustees then had an opportunity to ask questions.

2. Student Presentation – Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, Wells of Hope Trip to Guatemala, Central America, April, 2019.

James Brake, Principal of Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School and Chris Clarke, Teacher at Holy Cross were joined by students who recently journeyed to Guatemala and participated in a social justice trip with the group 'Wells of Hope'. A ten-minute video which compiled comments from the student travelers was viewed by the trustees.

3. Learning Support Services, Childcare Partnerships Presentation.

Dawn Michie, Superintendent of Learning and Kerri Riel, Early Years and Childcare Programs Supervisor gave a presentation about the Childcare Partnerships which are existing with PVNC at the present time. Ms. Riel gave a brief history of the evolution of the Early Years program and the status today in our system. She also reported on future considerations and directions. At the conclusion of her report, questions from the Trustees were answered.

4. R.A. Summer Program in Holocaust Studies, Excursion to Germany and Poland, July 4-18, 2020.

MOTION: Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by David Bernier

that the proposed Summer Program in Holocaust Studies, student excursion to Germany and Poland, from July 4, 2020 to July 18, 2020, be approved in principle 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.

#### **D. Programs and Services:**

#### **E. Business, Finance and Governance:**

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

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson, reported on information which has been received from OCSTA during the month of May and highlighted some of the correspondence received. She noted that of particular interest is the messaging and article from the Hamilton Spectator, written by Pat Daly, when speaking about the

benefits of a Catholic school system.

Information on invitations to consultation processes and the OCSTA's responses were noted. Michelle Griepsma encouraged the Student Trustees to share the letter which they sent to the Minister of Education with Steve Andrews from OCSTA as further input of student voice.

2. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Annual General Meeting Reports from attending Trustees.

Linda Ainsworth reported on her attendance at two of the presentations at the OCSTA AGM and Conference. She was inspired by Dr. Thomas Groome's presentation entitled 'Faith in Action in Catholic Schools: Education from and for Faith'. Linda also attended a workshop focused on Chaplaincy entitled, 'Encountering Jesus in Our Lives, Our Schools, Our World', which explained their role and vision of Chaplaincy in schools.

Emmanuel Pinto offered congratulations to Linda Ainsworth who was elected as Regional Director for District 9. He reported on his attendance at a very impactful presentation entitled 'Connecting Young People to God' by Julian Paparella, who is a university student who attended the Youth Synod. Emmanuel also reported that he enjoyed a session which gave a hands-on look at the Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ curriculum documents and heard the Deputy Minister of Education speak as well.

Michelle Griepsma reported on her experience hearing from an excellent speaker, Maggie McDonnell, who is a young teacher from Cape Breton and Global Teaching Award winner who talked about her experiences teaching in an Inuit community.

**F. Human Resources:**

**G. Policy Development:**

**H. Old Business:**

**I. New Business:**

**J. Bring Forward:**

**K. Information Items:**

1. Chairperson's Report.

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson reported that she had received recent communication from CUPE President, Nora Shaughessy, about a request for an opportunity to speak with the Trustees. Information has been received from the President, and, while a presentation to the board not possible due to the collective bargaining process, the Chairperson has offered to explore the possibility of a meeting

that would respect each organization's roles and responsibilities.

2. Trustees' Committee Reports.

The Chairpersons of the following committees were given the opportunity to report on the meetings as listed:

- a. Special Education Advisory Committee, April 25, 2019.
- b. Faith and Equity Committee Meeting, May 2, 2019.
- c. Accessibility for All Committee, May 14, 2019.
- d. Audit committee, May 14, 2019.

**K. Future Meetings:**

1. Board Standing Committee Meetings:

- a. Chairperson's Committee, June 10, 2019, 4:30 p.m.
- b. Committee-of-the-Whole, June 10, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Board Meeting Open Session, June 25, 2019, 6:30 p.m. (In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)

2. Other Committee Meetings:

- a. Student Council Liaison Committee, May 28, 2019, 4:15 p.m.
- b. Special Education Advisory Committee, May 30, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Meeting, June 3, 2019
- d. First Nation, Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee, June 4, 2019
- e. STSCO Governance Committee Meeting, June 12, 2019, 3:00 p.m.
- f. Supervised Alternative Learning Meeting, June 18, 2019, 3:30 p.m.
- g. Special Education Advisory Committee, June 20, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- h. Student Council Liaison Committee, June 25, 2019, 4:15 p.m.

3. Board Events:

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

- a. CCSTA 2018-2019 AGM and Conference, Canmore, AB, May 30-June 1, 2019.
- b. Secondary School Graduations – All secondary school graduations will take place on Thursday, June 27, 2019.  
Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School – 6:30 p.m. at Holy Cross CSS (Braden Leal



and Emmanuel Pinto)

St. Peter Catholic Secondary School – 7:00 p.m. at St. Peter CSS (Helen McCarthy)

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School – 7:00 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas CSS (Michelle Griepsma)

Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School – 7:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity CSS (Linda Ainsworth)

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School – 5:30 p.m. at Cobourg Community Centre (David Bernier)

St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School – 6:00 p.m. at St. Stephen CSS (Kevin MacKenzie)

## **M. Conclusion:**

### **1. Report from the In-camera Meeting.**

**MOTION:** Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Braden Leal

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising from the May 28, 2019, in-camera session, as follows:

- A. Call to Order:
  - 1. Opening Prayer
  - 2. Approval of Agenda as amended with the addition of items D.3, STSCO Update, and G.1, Former Parent/Student Correspondence.
  - 3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest: None were declared
  - 4. Approval of Minutes: Motions carried to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2019 Regular In-camera meeting, the April 23, 2019 Special In-camera meeting, and the May 13, 2019 Special In-camera meeting.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
  - 1. OCSTA In-camera Session Report.
  - 2. Update on Holy Cross Field Project.
- E. Human Resources
  - 1. Staffing Updates.
- I. Convening in Open Session:
  - 1. Closing Prayer
  - 2. Motion to convene in Open Session at 6:38 p.m.

Carried.

### **2. Closing Prayer.**

At the request of the Board Chairperson, Braden Leal led the closing prayer.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel, seconded by Braden Leal  
that the meeting be adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Carried.

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Michelle Griepsma  
Board Chairperson

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