



# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, held on Tuesday, November 26, 2019, in the Boardroom at 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough.

## PRESENT:

- Trustees – Mmes. Linda Ainsworth, Eveline Fisher (Student Trustee), Michelle Griepsma, and Helen McCarthy.  
Messrs. David Bernier, Josh Hill (Student Trustee) Braden Leal, and Emmanuel Pinto.
- Administration – Mmes. Joan Carragher, Laurie Corrigan, Isabel Grace, and Dawn Michie.  
Messrs. Sean Heuchert, Tim Moloney, and Michael Nasello and Father Paul Massel

Recorder – Mrs. Michelle Kennedy

## REGRETS:

Trustee – Mr. Kevin MacKenzie

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

### 1. Examen

The Board Chairperson, Michelle Griepsma, called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and welcomed everyone, with particular mention of the principal representatives Leslie Keating from St. Paul Catholic Elementary, Norwood and Jennifer Fisher from St. Patrick Catholic Elementary, Peterborough.

### 2. Opening Prayer

Father Paul Massel opened the meeting by leading a daily examen followed by prayer.

### 3. Land Acknowledgement

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson, respectfully acknowledged that the Board Meeting was taking place on the treaty and traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabeg.

4. Singing of the National Anthem

The National Anthem was sung.

5. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Helen McCarthy  
that the Agenda be approved with the addition of the following  
item:

- K.3, Walkabout at St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School.

Carried.

6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the October 22, 2019 Regular Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Braden Leal  
that the minutes of the October 22, 2019 Regular Meeting be  
approved.

Carried.

8. Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

There was no business arising out of the minutes.

**B. Reports from the Office of the Director and Student Trustees:**

1. Report from the Director of Education, Michael Nasello.

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

- Celebrated the Mass for Deceased Members of the PVNC Community on November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral.
- Represented the Board and attended the funeral of Patrick Slack in Kingston. Mr. Slack was the former Executive Director of OCSTA and was the father of one of the superintendents from the Algonquin Lakeshore Catholic District School Board.

- Continue to monitor labour negotiations and are committed to keeping staff, students and parents informed of any officially announced developments.
- Attended the opening events of 'When Faith Meets Pedagogy' Conference in Toronto. Other Board participants were Superintendent Dawn Michie, Board Chaplain, Father Paul Massel, Religious Education Consultant Peter Bagnall and a number of other staff members. The Chaplaincy Leaders from each of the secondary schools accompanied students to attend the Youth Forum.
- About 80 leaders and social workers from PVNC and our coterminous board, KPR attended Traumatic Events Training led by Kevin Cameron. This critically important training will better equip our board to respond to traumatic events by having good processes and protocols to ensure safety and security of all.
- the first of our regional Catholic Parent Engagement Committee meetings took place at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School on November 26<sup>th</sup>. This event was well attended.
- Planning is in the works for an exciting CPEC event to take place on May 20, 2020. Through the PRO Grant funding, the board will host Craig Keilburger of the WE Movement as a guest speaker to talk about his and his brother's recent book, "The World Needs Your Kids: Raising Kids Who Care and Contribute."
- The Student Council Liaison Committee hosted the annual Student Leadership retreat on November 7 at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School. The event was a very successful and empowering experience with the theme "Voices that Grow".
- The Board retirement dinner celebration was held on November 8 to honour 35 attending retirees from the 2017-2018 school year. It was a wonderful evening of celebration.
- The Board Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 to elect officers and will be followed by a Celebration of the Eucharist and a Reception.

Following his presentation, Michael Nasello invited questions from the trustees.

2. Report from the Student Trustees, Eveline Fisher and Josh Hill.

Eveline Fisher, Senior Student Trustee and, Josh Hill, Junior Student Trustee gave a report to the Board of the activities which are taking place in secondary schools throughout the system:

- The month began with "Take Your Kid to Work Day" where grade 9 students were able to visit workplaces to experience what a day at work is like. On the same day, Grade 8 students had the opportunity to visit the secondary school they will transition to next year and discover what the future has in store. Students were able to participate in classes such as drama, woodworking, and

phys ed.

- Student Council members from all of the secondary schools participated in the Student Leadership retreat “Voices that Grow”. The day began with a prayer service organized by students at St. Thomas Aquinas. The keynote speakers, learning consultants, Peter Bagnall, Heather Michel and Adam White, delivered messages on the theme in their own way. Breakout sessions were held and the day wrapped up with a collaborative discussion period.
- Remembrance Day ceremonies were held throughout the system giving time to reflect on our privilege of freedom.
- Grade 12 students are taking advantage of opportunities to travel to and tour post-secondary schools. Guidance counselors give amazing support to make transitioning to post-secondary an easier process.
- MADD presentations were held at St. Peter and Holy Trinity
- Many schools took part in the Week for Safe and Caring Schools. Examples were given of events that were held at St. Thomas Aquinas, Holy Cross and St. Peter to promote kindness and well-being.
- Social justice projects for Christmas have begun. At Holy Trinity students are adopting families in need by collecting items for them. The “Be An Angel” program through St. Vincent de Paul is taking place at St. Thomas Aquinas.
- Students are the hands and feet of God and we have so much to be thankful for.

The student trustees then invited and answered questions from the trustees.

### 3. Report from the Manager of Communications, Galen Eagle.

Galen Eagle, Manager of Communications shared the system achievements and highlighted the following events and other stories from across the Board:

- Caring and Safe Schools week which gave examples of events that were held at various elementary and secondary schools.
- Put your Director to Work Day raffle will be taking place again this year. With participation in payroll deduction, employees will be entered to win a day away from their job.
- St. Anne Catholic Elementary students held a birthday Celebration for a retired PVNC teacher who recently turned 100 years old.
- St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School Robotics Team came away from the Ontario Tech’s Engineering Robotics Competition with second place overall. The team was also awarded the sportsmanship award.

- Remembrance Day ceremonies were attended by students throughout the board. Students from St. Joseph, Douro participated in the cenotaph ceremony at Warsaw.
- Holy Cross students, Abby Hiltz and Rachel Bjorgan recently signed scholarship opportunities with US post-secondary schools to play lacrosse and hockey respectively.
- St. Peter Grade 12 French Immersion students are taking part in a deep learning inquiry to discover more about agencies in the Peterborough community who assist people in need. The project has led to students collecting goods and giving back to their community.
- Specialist High Skills Major students from St. Mary and Holy Trinity participated in certification training at Ganaraska Forest Centre.

**C. Presentations:**

1. Proposed Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, St. Mary Catholic Secondary School and St Stephen Catholic Secondary School Ski Excursion to Stowe, Vermont, USA, March 8-11, 2020.

Mark Joly, Principal at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School brought forward proposed excursion, which is identical to other trips that have taken place for the last eight years. Following the presentation, Mark answered questions from the trustees.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Braden Leal

that the proposed Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, St. Mary Catholic Secondary School and St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School ski excursion to Stowe, Vermont, USA, from March 8, 2020 to March 11, 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.

2. Proposed St. Mary Catholic Secondary School Choral Music Excursion to Ireland, April 28-May 6, 2020.

Principal James Brake, and Teacher Tanya Earle from St. Mary Catholic Secondary School gave a presentation about the Choral excursion and the group's opportunity to participate in a competition in Ireland. They answered questions from the trustees following the presentation.

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto

that the proposed St. Mary Catholic Secondary School Choral Group excursion to Ireland, from April 28, 2020 to May 6, 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.

3. Stewards of Sustainability Presentation.

Senior Student Trustee Eveline Fisher and Junior Student Trustee Josh Hill delivered a power point presentation about the newly released document, "Stewards of Sustainability" which was developed by the Catholic Board Council of the Ontario Student Trustees' Association. The document outlines six recommended actions relating to environmental initiatives for school boards. These actions were discussed recently at the PVNC student leadership retreat "Voices that Grow" and the outcomes from those discussions will form the next steps of implementation to be considered by the Board of Trustees. Following the presentation, the student trustees answered questions.

**D. Programs and Services:**

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

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

The Board Chairperson, Michelle Griepsma reported on OCSTA updates as follows:

- The OCSTA Finance Brief was discussed which included the PVNC resolution recommending additional government resources for cyber security.
- The legislative updates being sent out are transcripts from the legislature. Please contact Michelle if any trustees are interested in receiving them.
- A letter was issued from OCSTA regarding the Toronto Catholic DSB Code of Conduct discussions reported in the media.

- An article written by John Milloy, on the benefits of the Catholic Education System in Ontario was distributed to the trustees.

2. Recommended Action from the Committee-of-the-Whole.

It was noted that a recommended action to the Board was passed at the Committee-of-the-Whole on November 11, 2019 regarding the establishment of a French Immersion program at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School and was to be presented to the Board for approval. The French as a Second Language Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on November 27, 2019 and it was stated that the committee could help with the informing of this recommended action.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Braden Leal

that the recommended action from the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting, November 11, 2019, be deferred to the December 17, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.

Carried.

3. Recommended Action from the Audit Committee Meeting, November 13, 2019: 2018-2019 Audited Financial Statements.

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Braden Leal

that the 2019-2019 audited financial statements be adopted as presented.

Carried.

4. Recommended Action from the Audit Committee Meeting, November 13, 2019: 2018-2019 Annual Report.

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Linda Ainsworth

that the 2018-2019 Annual Report of the Audit Committee be received.

Carried.

**F. Human Resources:**

**G. Policy Development:**

1. Recommended Actions from the Policy Development Committee Meeting, November 19, 2019.

David Bernier, Chairperson of the Policy Development Committee, brought forward the recommendations from the November 19, 2019 meeting for approval.

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto

that the Board receive the report and recommendations of the Policy Development Committee of November 19, 2019, for publication and implementation.

Carried.

**H. Old Business:**

**I. New Business:**

**J. Bring Forward:**

**K. Information Items:**

1. Chairperson's Report

As this is the last meeting of the year, the Board Chairperson Michelle Griepsma thanked the trustees for the honour of serving as their Chairperson. She remarked on the Board's ability to work together and looked forward to continuing in that positive relationship. Michelle Griepsma thanked administration for the organizing of the retirement event that was well attended and very enjoyable. On November 11, Michelle had the opportunity to attend the Remembrance ceremony at St. Thomas Aquinas, which was very moving.

The compilation of results from the year's meeting evaluations was distributed and reviewed. It was noted that there was a much lower response rate this year compared to last year (Dec. 1/18 to Nov 30/19 compared to Dec. 1/17 to Nov. 30/18). There was a discussion about the content and execution of the evaluation survey.

2. Trustees' Committees Reports

- a. Special Education Advisory Committee, October 17, 2019.
- b. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, November 6, 2019.
- c. Special Education Advisory Committee, November 21, 2019.



Trustee Helen McCarthy reported that the committee is impressed with the school-based autism programming. They are pleased with the facilities and the number of students that are able to be served.

3. Walkabout at St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School, November 26, 2019.

Trustee Linda Ainsworth reported on her attendance at the 'Walkabout' that took place at St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School on November 26, 2019. This event was an initiative through the Ministry and the Durham School Travel Committee. There was a cross-section of attendees including the principal, transportation planners, a registered nurse, a police officer, municipal councilors from Clarington and herself as a trustee. The group is examining safe accessible routes to school to give children the confidence to walk or wheel to school and will be using data collected through a survey given to the children on their mode of transportation to school. This event was seen as a positive step to making a shift from the problematic increase in number of vehicles bringing children to school.

**L. Future Meetings and Events:**

1. Board Standing Committee Meetings: (Listed in chronological order.)

- a. Annual Board Meeting and Mass, December 3, 2019, 4:00 p.m. – The Mount Community Centre and Sisters of St. Joseph Chapel, Peterborough.
- b. Chairperson's Committee, December 9, 2019, 4:30 p.m.
- c. Committee-of-the-Whole, December 9, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- d. Board Meeting Open Session, December 17, 2019, 6:30 p.m.  
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)
- e. Policy Development Committee, February 4, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

2. Other Committee Meetings: (Listed in chronological order.):

- a. First Nation, Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee, December 10, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- b. Student Council Liaison Committee, December 17, 2019, 4:15 p.m.
- c. Special Education Advisory Committee, January 16, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
- d. STSCO Governance Committee Meeting, January 29, 2020, 3:00 p.m.
- e. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Meeting, February 3, 2020, 6:30 p.m. (St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, Cobourg)
- f. Accessibility for All Committee Meeting, February 4, 2020, 1:15 p.m.
- g. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee Meeting, February 13, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
- h. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, April 15, 2020, 4:30 p.m.

i. Supervised Alternative Learning Meeting, TBA.

3. Board Events:

- a. Peterborough. Catholic Leadership Development Series – Session #2, November 28, 2019, 4:00 p.m., Baxter Creek Golf Course.
- b. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association – Catholic Trustees Seminar, January 17-18, 2020, Delta Hotels by Marriott Airport.
- c. Toonies for Tuition – Board-wide Fundraising Day, April 23, 2020.
- d. OCSTA 2019-2020 AGM and Conference, Ottawa, April 30-May 2, 2020.
- e. Catholic Education Week, May 3-9, 2020.
- f. Catholic Student Leadership Awards, Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, May 6, 2020.
- g. CPEC Parent Engagement Event, Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, May 20, 2020.
- h. CCSTA 2019-2020 AGM and Conference, Collingwood, ON, June 4-6, 2020.

**M. Conclusion:**

1. Report from the In-camera Meeting

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising from the November 26, 2019, regular in-camera session, as follows:

- A. Call to Order: The in-camera meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.
  - 1. Opening Prayer
  - 2. The agenda was approved with the addition of items F.2 Approval of Recommended Action from the Expulsion Committee meeting of November 26, 2019 and G.1, Parent Matter Update.
  - 3. There were no conflicts of interest declared.
  - 4. Approval of Minutes: Motions were carried to approved the minutes from the October 22, 2019 Regular In-camera meeting, and the November 11, 2019 Special In-camera meeting.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
  - 1. OCSTA In-camera Session Report.
- E. Human Resources:
  - 1. Labour Disruption and Collective Bargaining Update.
- F. Other Urgent Matter:
  - 1. Approval of a recommended action from the expulsion committee of November 11, 2019.

2. Approval of a recommended action from the expulsion committee of November 26, 2019.
- I. Convening in Open Session:
  1. Closing Prayer
  2. Motion approved to convene in Open Session at 6:20 p.m.

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer

The Board Chairperson, Michelle Griepsma, led the prayer to close the meeting.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto

that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 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.