



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, held on Tuesday, October 27, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough, Ontario.

PRESENT:

Trustees – Linda Ainsworth, David Bernier, Michelle Griepsma (Chair), Braden Leal by Google Meet, Kevin MacKenzie by Google Meet, Helen McCarthy by Google Meet, Eli McColl (Student Trustee) by Google Meet, and Emmanuel Pinto by Google Meet.

Administration – Joan Carragher, Laurie Corrigan, Galen Eagle, Pepe Garieri, Isabel Grace, Father Paul Massel, Tim Moloney, Michael Nasello, and Stephen O’Sullivan.

Recorder – Michelle Kennedy

REGRETS: Josh Hill (Student Trustee)

A. Call to Order of the Open Meeting:

The Board Chairperson, Michelle Griepsma, called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. and called upon Father Paul Massel to open the meeting with prayer and to lead the Daily Examen.

1. Examen

Father Paul Massel, Board Chaplain and Faith Animator, led everyone in a daily examen.

2. Opening Prayer

Following the examen, Father Paul opened the meeting with prayer.

3. Land Acknowledgement

Michelle Griepsma 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 by Trustee Linda Ainsworth.

5. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie that the Agenda be approved with the addition of two information items: K.4, Letter from the Canadian Education Exchange Foundation, and K.5, Pope Francis' 2020 Encyclical.

Carried.

6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no of conflicts of interest declared.

7. Approval of the Minutes.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto that the minutes of the September 10, 2020 EDC Background Study Joint Public Meeting be approved.

Carried.

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie that the minutes of the September 10, 2020 EDC Successor By-Laws Joint Public Meeting be approved.

Carried.

MOTION: Moved by Helen McCarthy, seconded by Braden Leal that the minutes of the September 22, 2020 Regular Meeting be approved.

Carried.

8. Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

There was no business arising from the minutes.

Board Chairperson Michelle Griepsma welcomed Jennifer DeMaeyer, Principal from St. Martin Catholic Elementary School and Karen McCormack, Principal of St. Anthony

Catholic Elementary School who were present as principal representatives.

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

1. Report from the Director of Education.

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

- At the end of October we remember Mary the Mother of God and her example and approach two important feast days: The Feast of All Saints and the Feast of All Souls, which remind us to pray for all those who have gone before and that together we are all part of the communion of Saints.
- We will be recording a Mass celebrated by Bishop Miehm to be shared in the Season of Advent with all classrooms in our schools, both physical and virtual.
- All six secondary schools celebrated virtual Graduation ceremonies. These tributes were put together with thanks extended to Principals, Vice-principals, school staff members and Information Technology staff expertise. Special gratitude is extended to Galen Eagle, Manager of Communications and Sean Heuchert for their leadership in making the ceremonies the next best thing to in-person celebrations.
- The annual Retirement Celebration for PVNC staff will be take place virtually on Friday November 20, 2020. We look forward to celebrating with our retirees.
- Changes to the School Year Calendar were submitted to the Ministry of Education. Due to changes to expectations in assessment and evaluation, secondary school exam days were no longer necessary. Approval has been received to remove the exam days and convert them to instructional days; as well, a professional activity day that has been moved from November 27 to November 12.
- Last year's put your Director to Work debts are now being paid up. Recently spent a day as a Special Education Teacher in a Learning for Living classroom at St Peter Catholic Secondary School where first-hand experience with COVID protocols in a classroom was gained. Look forward to taking the role as Vice-principal at St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School on November 6.
- This year's collection date for Toonies for Tuition is Friday, November 27, 2020. Donations in the school will be collected in the school cash online system.

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

2. Report from the Student Trustees.

Student Trustee Eli McColl gave the Student Trustee report:

- The month of October continues to move at a rapid pace and the first quadmester is quickly coming to a close.
- Student leadership and school staff continue to promote school spirit as much as possible despite these trying times.
- Schools continue to have faith and social justice initiatives such as Orange Shirt Day to show support for Indigenous families in Canada.
- At the Student Council Liaison Committee meeting, we heard about many initiatives happening in our schools such as food drives that took place around Thanksgiving.
- Planning is underway for this year's student leadership retreat. The theme this year is 'Voices that Heal'. Due to the complications of the pandemic, the retreat is being broken up into four smaller sessions throughout the year that will be held virtually. The four parts will focus on different areas of health: mental health, physical health, spiritual health and environmental health. The first guest speaker, Dr. Joti Samra, scheduled for November 24th, will focus on mental health.
- We continue to support staff and students who are working through these times and pray for safety and for guidance in our tasks ahead.

Following the report, Eli McColl answered questions from the trustees.

3. Report from the Manager of Communications.

The Manager of Communications, Galen Eagle began his report to the Board with a review of the Board website and demonstrated where to find the page devoted to COVID-19 information.

Galen Eagle reported that the United Way campaign in the Board has been launched and played Michael Nasello's video message that was sent to employees to request their consideration of supporting the campaign through payroll deduction this year.

A new format of the Board newsletter was presented and highlighted the following:

- The success stories from the recent virtual Secondary School Graduation Ceremonies were shared. Galen Eagle expressed his gratitude to everyone who helped to make the video presentations so successful with special thanks to the Information Technology department for their attentiveness to making these events as good an experience as they could be.
- The Annual Retirement Celebration will be virtually presented this year. It will be pre-recorded and launched on Friday, November 20, 2020 through the board

website

- The new field being constructed at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School now have lights installed and the community looks forward to the project completion in 2021.
- The beginning of November is Treaties Recognition Week. Look forward to communications through the website and the availability of some virtual events.

C. Presentations:

1. Report on the Re-opening of Schools.

The Director of Education, Michael Nasello provided an update to the Board using a slide show presentation. The presentation included information on the planning for students who have requested a transition from virtual school to physical school or vice-versa and the reorganization of classes in both the virtual and the physical schools. Further input from families will be sought through a Thought Exchange survey to gain insights to support ongoing professional development.

Schools continue to follow health and safety protocols and to date the board has had relatively few public health concerns related to COVID-19. The Ministry of Labour conducted an inspection at a school site and deemed it 'passed' with no recommendations or action items provided for follow up.

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 that any communications received from OCSTA have been sent out to the trustees. The upcoming Catholic Trustees Seminar is being planned for January 16, 2021. The event will be conducted virtually by zoom and the preliminary program was reviewed. It was noted that the OCSTA website has an area devoted to daily reflections.

2. STSCO Governance Committee, Open Session Report.

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson noted that the minutes from the October STSCO Governance meeting were shared with trustees. Michelle thanked the Board Vice-Chairperson, David Bernier for attending the meeting in her absence.

It was noted that STSCO continues to work hard to meet the challenges such as driver shortages, additional cleaning protocols and safety inspections.

Isabel Grace, Superintendent of Business and Finance reported that many of the routes that were experiencing difficulties as a result of driver shortages are now resolved with additional drivers.

3. Recommended Action from Committee of the Whole: School Year Calendar Adjustment.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by David Bernier that the Board remove all formal exam days {five days in January 2021 (January 25, 26, 27, 28, 29) and five days in June 2021 (June 23, 24, 25, 28, 29)} and designate these as instructional days; and that the Board change the PA Day from November 27, 2020, to November 12, 2020.

Carried.

4. Recommended Action from Committee of the Whole: Trustee Honoraria.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Helen McCarthy that the Honoraria for Board members as outlined in the report for the period December 1, 2020 to November 30, 2021, be approved.

Carried.

5. Recommended Action from Committee of the Whole: Education Development Charges Policy.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie that the Board approve an amendment to the Clarington Education Development Charges by-law renewal for 2020 such that it not apply to lands that are owned by and are used for the purposes of a public hospital receiving aid under the Public Hospitals Act R.S.O. 1990.

Carried.

F. Human Resources:

G. Policy Development:

1. Recommended Actions from the Policy Development Committee Meeting, October 20,

2020.

The initial motion was moved and seconded and following a request for clarification and discussion, the motion was amended. It was requested that the item omitted from the motion be brought back to the Policy Development Committee meeting to be held in November.

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by David Bernier
that the Board receive the report and recommendations from the Policy Development Committee dated October 20, 2020, excluding from the report item 1, Administrative Procedure #910, Suspension, Expulsion, and Appeal.

Carried.

H. Old Business:

I. New Business:

J. Bring Forward:

K. Information Items:

1. Chairperson's Report

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson, reported that she, along with other Board Chairpersons have been participating in weekly teleconference calls with the Minister of Education which provides a brief opportunity for questions to be directed to the Minister or Deputy Minister and an opportunity to advocate for board needs. She explained that the Directors of Education are also present on the calls and that the Directors also have weekly calls with Ministry personnel that are more operational in nature.

Michelle Griepsma shared that the Young Authors Awards publication has been from OECTA Provincial office. There are also other publications that are received that can be shared to trustees who are interested in seeing them.

2. OCSTA Regional Report.

Trustee Linda Ainsworth reported that a fellow board in Region 9 has announced the appointment of a new Director of Education. Frances Bagley takes on the position of Director of Education for the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board as of November 1, 2020.

3. Committee Chairperson's Report:

- a. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, September 28, 2020.

It was reported that there has been increased parent participation in the meetings due to the ability to join the meetings virtually. Planning is underway for the annual event in May, 2021.

- b. Special Education Advisory Committee, October 15, 2020.

Trustee Helen McCarthy reported that the committee is working towards enhancing communication about special education. For example, they are creating a feature for school newsletters titled 'Did you know?' with facts about special education.

- c. Accessibility for All Committee, October 20, 2020.

Trustee David Bernier reported that funding for projects to bring the board to accessibility compliance has fallen short. This was cited as topic for consideration for a resolution for the OCSTA AGM since the implications are relevant province-wide.

- d. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, October 22, 2020.

Trustee Kevin MacKenzie shared information about a TedTalk that was part of the last meeting that taught the importance of having literature with messages that are diverse and relevant to different cultures.

L. Future Meetings and Events:

1. Board Meeting

- a. Board Meeting Open Session, November 24, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)
- b. Board Annual Meeting and Mass, December 1, 2020, 4:00 p.m.

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

- a. Chairperson's Committee, November 9, 2020, 2020, 4:30 p.m.
- b. Committee-of-the-Whole, November 9, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Policy Development Committee, November 17, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

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

- a. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, November 2, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
- b. Audit Committee, November 12, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Special Education Advisory Committee, November 19, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

- d. Student Council Liaison Committee, November 24, 2020, 4:15 p.m.
- e. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, November 25, 2020, 4:30 p.m.
- f. First Nation Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee, December 8, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
- g. STSCO Governance Committee, January 13, 2021, 3:00 p.m.
- h. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, February 11, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- i. Supervised Alternative Learning Committee, TBA.

4. Board Events:

- a. PVNC Retirement Celebration, November 20, 2020. (Virtual Event)
- b. Catholic Leadership Development Series – Session #2, November 26, 2020. (Virtual Event)
- c. OCSTA Catholic Trustees’ Seminar, January 15, 2021.

M. Conclusion:

1. Report from the In-camera Meeting

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Linda Ainsworth

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising from the October 27, 2020, in-camera session, as follows:

- A. Call to Order:
 - 1. Opening Prayer
 - 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda with the addition of items G.1, Parent/Student Matter and H.1 Legal Matter.
 - 3. No conflicts of interest declared.
 - 4. Motions for the approval of the minutes from the September 22, 2020 Regular In-camera meeting and from the October 7, 2020, Special, Double In-camera meeting.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
 - 1. OCSTA In-Camera Report.
 - 2. STSCO Governance Committee, In-camera Session Report.
- E. Human Resources:
 - 1. Human Resources Staffing Report.
- G. Old Business:
 - 1. Parent/Student Matter.
- H. New Business:
 - 1. Legal Matter.

- I. Convening in Open Session:
 1. Closing Prayer.
 2. Motion to convene in Open Session.

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer

The Board Chairperson, Michelle Griepsma called on Trustee David Bernier who concluded the open meeting with prayer.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie
that the open session meeting adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

Carried.

Michelle Griepsma
Board Chairperson

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