



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, held on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. by Google Meet.

PRESENT:

Trustees – Linda Ainsworth, David Bernier (Chairperson), Michelle Griepsma, Josh Hill (Student Trustee), Braden Leal, Kevin MacKenzie, Helen McCarthy, Eli McColl (Student Trustee) and Emmanuel Pinto.

Administration – Jeannie Armstrong, Joan Carragher, Laurie Corrigan, Galen Eagle, Isabel Grace, Father Paul Massel, Tim Moloney, Stephen O’Sullivan and Sheila Piggott.

Recorder – Michelle Kennedy

A. Call to Order of the Open Meeting:

The Board Chairperson David Bernier called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m.

David Bernier, Board Chairperson, welcomed Sheila Piggott and wished her well in her new role as Superintendent of Learning. Principal representatives Joe Kennedy from Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School and Rob Citro from St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Virtual Elementary School and Catherine Whitnall from Kawartha Lakes This Week were also welcomed by Mr. Bernier.

Everyone in attendance was asked to keep in their prayers the families of two trustee colleagues who have recently passed away from Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board and from the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario.

David Bernier then asked Father Paul Massel to lead the Daily Examen and begin the meeting with prayer.

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

David Bernier respectfully acknowledged that the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board's geographic area and the people attending the virtual Board Meeting, with all areas represented, 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 Helen McCarthy, seconded by Braden Leal
that the Agenda be approved.

Carried.

6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no of conflicts of interest declared.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the February 23, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto
that the minutes of the February 23, 2021 Regular Meeting be
approved.

Carried.

8. Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

There was no business arising from the minutes.

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

1. Report from the Director of Education.

Joan Carragher gave the Director's Report, which included the following points:

- The board mourns the loss of Marjorie Maguire, Autism Spectrum Disorder worker at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School in Cobourg. Supports were made available to staff and students in the school community.

- We join the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board to mourn the loss of their trustee Loretta Fonso. We also pray with the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario who mourn the loss of their trustee Robin Riel. Mass cards have been sent on behalf of the PVNCCDSB trustees and community.
- We have also expressed condolences to Fleming College President Maureen Adamson in the loss of their student, Zachary Root, who passed away from COVID-19.
- Voluntary asymptomatic testing has begun at school sites. A clinic was held at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School on March 6 and 13 for the schools in Clarington. The testing clinic site was moved to St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School on March 20 and will continue on March 27 to offer testing for families and staff in the City of Kawartha Lakes.
- Approximately twenty staff members are staying home each day as a result of the requirement to self-isolate when there is a symptomatic person in the same household. This has caused shortages of occasional teachers in our schools and we have deployed central consultant staff to offset any vacancies.
- Plans for the continuation of a virtual school will proceed. Registration will be taken for families who wish their children to attend virtual school in September 2021 will be taken this spring. Families will be asked to confirm their registration by April 11; registration at the virtual school will mean a commitment for the entire year. Transitions from online to in person learning and vice versa will not be permitted throughout the year.
- The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test is a graduation requirement that has been waived by the Ministry of Education for those set to graduate this year. While some school boards have chosen to not administer the test this year, PVNCCDSB will continue with the provincial assessment for eligible students. This year there is more flexibility in the scheduling of the two-part test which can be administered anytime between March 24 and June 4.

Following her presentation, Joan Carragher answered questions from the trustees.

2. Report from the Student Trustees.

Student Trustees Josh Hill and Eli McColl gave the Student Trustee report which included the following highlights:

- A vast amount of school spirit was demonstrated this month when many students participated in spirit weeks at their schools during what would have been the March Break. The activities included COVID appropriate events such as Bingo, card tower building and a 5 km run. St. Patrick's Day was celebrated as was

“Rock Your Socks” Day, an event for Down Syndrome awareness.

- The Student Council Liaison Committee had the opportunity to take part in Strategic Planning with Director Joan Carragher. The Lead, Learn, Serve pillars were reviewed with the SCLC and the group had amazing things to say about our board and gave ideas to the renewal process. The student trustees expressed their pride in being part of the strategy renewal process.
- Preparations are underway for the next session in the Voices that Heal Student Leadership Retreat series on March 25th when Bishop Daniel Miehm will speak to the student leaders of the board about Spiritual Health and Healing.
- Promoting the student voice continues with the OSTA-AECO ‘Volume of Our Voices’ project. This is an initiative being promoted by student council liaisons and provides an opportunity for students to make their voices heard on current issues such as COVID-19, racism, and gender identity.
- The process of student elections has begun and we are excited to promote the process of bringing forward the next group of student leaders to represent their peers in PVNCCDSB.
- Thank you for everyone’s ongoing efforts to ensure that students are able to continue in a safe and healthy environment that takes student well-being into consideration in these trying times.

At the conclusion of the report, the student trustees answered questions from the trustees.

C. Presentations:

1. De-Streaming Mathematics

Superintendent of Learning Jeannie Armstrong and Learning Consultant Sandra Connolly gave a presentation on the Ministry’s initiative of de-streaming Grade nine Mathematics by eliminating applied and academic levelled courses, beginning in September, 2021. The presentation explained the Ministry’s rationale to address inequities and goals of creating a cultural shift and expanding educator capacity for effective, culturally responsive instruction.

The implementation of the program in our board was outlined by the presenters and included the communication plans and professional preparation and ongoing considerations. Professional development for teachers, special education teachers, guidance teachers, principal and vice-principals will take place during the PA Day in May, with follow up professional development scheduled for the August PA Day. In addition, there will be a system-wide focus on equity training that will be a year-long process during the 2021-2022 school year.

Following the presentation, the trustees were invited to ask questions of the presenters.

2. Strategic Priorities Planning

Joan Carragher, Director of Education gave a slide show presentation to update trustees about the progress with Strategic Planning Consultations. The presentation included an overview of the various groups that have been consulted so far and the themes that have emerged from the conversations in those meetings. Consultations will continue through the months of April and May and a board-wide ThoughtExchange survey will be developed that will engage and seek input from students, staff, and parents.

D. Programs and Services:

E. Business, Finance and Governance:

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

Chairperson David Bernier reported that there were eighteen memoranda shared with Trustees in the last month. Communications of particular interest were highlighted and included the Catholic Education Week resource kit, a request for input on combatting human trafficking, the OCSTA Speakers series on March 24, information about student well-being and mental health and the recent changes in the Manitoba legislation on school board governance.

The OCSTA nomination report for elections was noted and Trustee Linda Ainsworth has been nominated for the position of Region 9 Director.

In her Regional report, Linda Ainsworth thanked everyone for their prayers for the trustee colleagues who passed away recently. It was noted that both individuals were highly committed to Catholic education as having been educators in their working careers and then board trustees in retirement.

Trustees were reminded of the virtual speaker events available for professional development including the OCSTA Prayer Breakfast to be held online on Monday, March 29th at 7:30 a.m. Information was shared by email and can be found on the OCSTA web site.

2. Trustee Professional Development and Conferences, Spring, 2021.

MOTION: Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Linda Ainsworth

that Trustees wishing to do so, be authorized to attend the following conferences and annual general meetings:

- a) Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association Virtual Annual General Meeting, May 1, 2021.
- b) Canadian Catholic School Trustees Association Virtual Annual

General Meeting, June 3-4, 2021.

Carried.

- MOTION:** Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto
- that Student Trustees wishing to do so, be authorized to attend the following conferences and annual general meetings:
- a) Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Virtual Annual General Meeting, May 1, 2021.
 - b) Ontario Student Trustees' Association Virtual Annual General Meeting, May 27-30, 2021.

Carried.

F. Human Resources:

G. Policy Development:

H. Old Business:

I. New Business:

J. Bring Forward:

K. Information Items:

1. Chairperson's Report

Board Chairperson, David Bernier reported that teleconference calls with the Minister of Education and Board Chairpersons continue on Monday afternoons and gave an overview of the types of topics that are discussed. Following a brief update, Chairpersons are able to ask questions. The recent developments with school board governance in Manitoba was discussed.

2. Committee Chairperson's Report:

- a. First Nation Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee, March 9, 2021.

L. Future Meetings and Events:

1. Board Meeting

- a. Board Meeting Open Session, April 27, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)

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

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting scheduled for April 12, 2021,
be rescheduled to April 6, 2021; and

that the Chairperson Committee meeting scheduled for April 12, 2021, be
rescheduled to April 19, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.; and

that the Policy Development Committee meeting scheduled for April 14,
2021, be rescheduled to April 20, 2021.

Carried.

- a. Chairperson's Committee, March 19, 2021, 4:30 p.m.
b. Committee-of-the-Whole, April 6, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
c. Policy Development Committee, April 20, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

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

- a. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, March 24, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
b. Special Education Advisory Committee, March 25, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
c. STSCO Governance Committee, March 31, 2021, 3:00 p.m.
d. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, April 21, 2021, 4:30 p.m.
e. Student Council Liaison Committee, April 27, 2021, 4:15 p.m.
f. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, April 28, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
g. Special Education Advisory Committee, April 29, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
h. Accessibility for All Committee, May 6, 2021, 1:00 p.m.
i. First Nation Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee, June 1, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
j. Audit Committee, TBA.
k. Supervised Alternative Learning Committee, TBA.

4. Board Events:

- a. Catholic Leadership Development Series, Session #3, April 22, 2021, 4:00 p.m.
- b. OCSTA Virtual Annual General Meeting, May 1, 2021.
- c. Catholic Education Week, May 2-7, 2021.
- d. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Event, May 19, 2021.
- e. Canadian Catholic School Trustees Association Virtual Annual General Meeting, June 3-4, 2021.
- f. Secondary School Graduations, June 29, 2021.

M. Conclusion:

1. Report from the In-camera Meeting

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Braden Leal

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising from the March 23, 2021, in-camera session, as follows:

A. Call to Order:

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda.
- 3. No conflicts of interest declared.
- 4. Motions for the approval of the minutes from the February 23, 2021 Regular In-camera meeting and March 9, 2021 Special In-camera meeting.

D. Business, Finance and Governance:

- 1. OCSTA In-Camera Report.
- 2. Legal Matter Update.

E. Human Resource Services:

- 1. Staffing Update

I. Convening in Open Session:

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

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer

Trustee Helen McCarthy was called upon to conclude the open meeting with prayer.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie
that the open session meeting be adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Carried.

David Bernier
Board Chairperson

Joan Carragher
Director of Education, Secretary-Treasurer
per M.K.