



Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, held on Tuesday, May 25, 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 6:32 p.m. and welcomed principal representatives Laura Carson, Principal at St. Dominic Catholic Elementary School and Sherry Davis, Principal at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School. St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School student, Chevon Cadigan and her parents were welcomed by Mr. Bernier as was Catherine Whitnall from Kawartha Lakes This Week.

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 April 27, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto
that the minutes of the April 27, 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:

- Sorrow for the loss of six-year-old St. Elizabeth student, Jessica Babs-Adewumi. The board extends prayers for the repose of her soul and heart-felt condolences to her parents and younger sister.
- As students continue remote learning, staff and students exemplify tremendous resilience and optimism.
- Catholic Student Leadership awards were celebrated during Catholic Education

Week with the theme of “Nurturing Hope”.

- Preparations are now underway to prepare the 2021-2022 operating budget within the framework of the provincial Grants for Student Needs which were recently released to school boards.
- Professional development in the area of equity and anti-racism continued on May 12 at the Director’s Meeting when guest speaker Mante Molepo gave a presentation entitled ‘Anti-racist Approach to Leadership’ to principals, vice-principals and superintendents.
- Secondary teachers participated in professional learning on May 14 in the areas of equity, Destreaming Grade 9 Math and Deep Learning.
- On May 19, the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee hosted Dr. Joti Samra, clinical psychologist, who spoke about Children’s Mental Health. Parent participation was close to 200 attendees at its peak during the online event.
- Vaccinations for staff continue and preparations are underway for Public Health Units across the province to conduct clinics for youth aged 12-17. Communications about the clinics will be sent out by the board and it is expected that students will be able to get both vaccines prior to the return of school in September.
- Strategic Priorities ThoughtExchanges and surveys with parents, staff, priests and students has now ended and the task of analyzing data will begin. This data will assist as staff begin to work on the Catholic Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being.

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

2. Introduction of 2021-2022 Junior Student Trustee, Chevon Cadigan.

Director of Education, Joan Carragher introduced and welcomed the newly elected Junior Student Trustee for the 2021-2022 school year. Chevon Cadigan is a student at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School who was elected among her student leader peers at the April Student Council Liaison Committee. Student trustees Josh Hill and Eli McColl welcomed Chevon to the role and expressed their best wishes.

3. Report from the Student Trustees.

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

- Peter Katz gave an inspiring and engaging speech on May 18th at the fourth session of the ‘Voices that Heal’ Student leadership retreat. Just under 100

students heard him speak about getting out of your box and being okay with being scared and vulnerable when pursuing goals.

- School spirit events continue as student leaders and schools do their best to continue to engage and inspire students to participate and connect. Some of the initiatives have been the creation of a cookbook of family recipes, a 'think fast' event, and a 5 km charity run event that raised \$1,200.
- At the Student Council Liaison Committee meeting on May 25, members had the opportunity to consult with the Information Technology manager to provide student perspective on technology in schools.
- Recent initiatives from OSTA-AECO include a letter to the Ministry of Education regarding support for LGBTQ+ students and the release of the first chapter of Volume of our Voices, Learning and Living during a pandemic, which can be found on the website and highlights student experiences from across Ontario.
- Thanks to everyone for their ongoing support for the student voice and collaboration with the Student Council Liaison Committee.

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

4. Report from the Manager of Communications.

The Manager of Communications, Galen Eagle shared system highlights from all areas of the board which included the following highlights:

- Peter Katz presentation to student leaders on May 18, which included musical performance and story-telling with an inspired message of encouragement for students to stretch out of their comfort zone and overcome obstacles to find success.
- Catholic Parent Engagement Committee presentation of Dr. Joti Samra on Children's Mental Health that took place on May 19 was well received and virtually attended by parents from across the board.
- Shreya Plassery, Grade 8 student from St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School was a Platinum Award winner at the Canada-wide Science Fair. Her project also won an Excellence Award Gold Medal – Junior and the Youth Can Innovate Award.
- Deep Learning Expo held on April 28 showcased many deep inquiry projects and involved PVNC students and educators with deans and professors from several universities in Canada.
- A video featuring the PVNCCDSB Specialist High Skills Major Health and

Wellness programs.

- Catholic Student Leadership awards celebrations which were held over Twitter during Catholic Education Week, on May 5.

At the conclusion of his report, Galen Eagle invited questions and comments from the trustees.

C. Presentations:

1. Strategic Priorities Planning

Joan Carragher, Director of Education updated the trustees on the strategic priorities planning that has taken place to date. In a slide show presentation, Joan Carragher reviewed the consultation meetings and emerging themes that have been evident so far. ThoughtExchange surveys were sent out to parents and board staff. In addition, Google surveys were distributed to students from Grades 6 through 12 and a survey was sent to parish priests. The data collected from the surveys and ThoughtExchanges will be reviewed in the near future and next steps will be taken to interpret all data collected so far which will be used in the next stage of the planning process. At the conclusion of her presentation, Mrs. Carragher answered questions.

2. French as a Second Language ThoughtExchange Outcomes

Superintendent of Learning Sheila Piggott gave a presentation which reviewed results from a recent French as a Second Language ThoughtExchange survey involving almost 750 participants. The survey requested input about the Board's French Immersion and Core French programs. One of the outcomes has been a decision to move Mathematics from being taught in French in Grade 5 to being taught in English beginning in Grade 4. At the conclusion of the presentation, questions from the trustees were answered by Mrs. Piggott and Adam White, Learning Consultant.

3. Specialist High Skills Major, Project Updates.

Tim Moloney, Superintendent of Learning and Alex Duketow, Learning Consultant gave a presentation detailing funding that will enhance the Specialist High Skills Major programs and Co-op program placements. The recent successful application to significant increases to program capacity and equipment and will take effect in the 2021-2022 school year. The presenters invited questions at the end of the presentation.

D. Programs and Services:

E. Business, Finance and Governance:

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

Chairperson David Bernier reported on a successful Annual General Meeting held by the OCSTA and noted that the resolution that was authored by PVNCCDSB regarding accessibility funding was passed and will move on to be part of the work of the Political Advocacy Committee. A memorandum to clarify the confusion experienced in the process of the conduct of the business portion of the Annual General meeting was circulated to OCSTA members.

In her regional report, Linda Ainsworth reported on the speakers from the Annual General Meeting. Trustees were reminded that the Canadian Catholic School Trustee Association Annual General Meeting is taking place online on June 3 and 4. Registration information CCSTA has been sent by email.

F. Human Resources:

1. 2021-2022 Staffing Report.

Superintendent of Human Resource Services, Stephen O’Sullivan reported on staffing preparations for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. The report noted a reduction in the projected required number of teachers anticipated in September, however the number of teachers retiring and expected increase in enrolment will reduce the number of surplus teachers. CUPE staffing levels were also reviewed noting the changes in numbers of workers as a result of CUPE System Investment funds.

G. Policy Development:

1. Recommended Actions from the Policy Development Committee held on May 12, 2021.

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie that the Board receive the report and recommendations from the Policy Development Committee dated May 12, 2021, for publication and implementation.

Carried.

H. Old Business:

1. Institute for Catholic Education Memo (May, 2020), ‘Affirming our Commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusive School Communities’

Joan Carragher, Director of Education gave an update on the actions that have taken place at the board since May 2020, when the commitment was made to support the ICE memorandum and ensure all students feel safe and welcome with the message of “we

are all wonderfully made". Superintendents Jeannie Armstrong and Laurie Corrigan reported on initiatives related to their respective portfolios of equity and accessibility.

The presentation was followed by a discussion about the display of the pride flag and the potential for PVNCCDSB to adopt the practice of its display on board property. It was noted that trustees would not be prepared to vote on the subject without more time for consideration. Trustee Helen McCarthy gave notice of her intention to bring forward a motion that the pride flag be flown on board property at the June Regular Board Meeting.

I. New Business:

J. Bring Forward:

K. Information Items:

1. Chairperson's Report

Board Chairperson, David Bernier thanked staff and students for their endurance through the challenges of this school year. A big thanks was extended to all those supporting students in their learning. Mr. Bernier reported on the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee special event that involved many participants and reiterated the importance of everyone's well-being and mental health at this time.

2. Committee Chairperson's Report:

a. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, April 28, 2021.

b. Special Education Advisory Committee, April 29, 2021.

Superintendent of Special Education, Laurie Corrigan shared an informative awareness video about autism which was created by students at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School.

c. Accessibility for All Committee, May 6, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

L. Future Meetings and Events:

1. Board Meeting

a. Board Meeting Open Session, June 22, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)

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

a. Committee-of-the-Whole, June 14, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

- b. Chairperson's Committee, June 14, 2021, 4:30 p.m.
- c. Policy Development Committee, October 5, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

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

- a. Special Education Advisory Committee, May 27, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- b. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, May 31, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- c. First Nation Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee, June 1, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- d. STSCO Governance Committee, June 2, 2021, 3:00 p.m.
- e. Student Council Liaison Committee, June 22, 2021, 4:15 p.m.
- f. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, October 14, 2021.
- g. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, TBA.
- h. Audit Committee, TBA.
- i. Supervised Alternative Learning Committee, TBA.

4. Board Events:

- a. Canadian Catholic School Trustees Association Virtual Annual General Meeting, June 3-4, 2021
- b. Elementary Graduations, Week of June 21-25, 2021.
- c. Secondary 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 May 25, 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. Motion for the approval of the minutes from the April 27, 2021 Regular In-camera meeting.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:

1. OCSTA In-Camera Report.
- E. Human Resource Services:
 1. Principal/Vice-principal Assignments, 2021-2022.
 2. Clarington School Matter.
- I. Convening in Open Session:
 1. Closing Prayer.
 2. Motion to convene in Open Session.

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer

Board Chairperson, David Bernier concluded the open meeting with prayer.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Braden Leal
that the open session meeting be adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Carried.

David Bernier
Board Chairperson

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