



# Minutes

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The Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting, held on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street W, Peterborough and by Google Meet.

## PRESENT:

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

Administration – Jeannie Armstrong, Joan Carragher, Laurie Corrigan, Jonathan Di Ianni, Galen Eagle, Isabel Grace, Father Paul Massel, and Sheila Piggott.

Recorder – Michelle Kennedy

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

The Board Chairperson David Bernier called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. and welcomed principal representatives Stephen Smith from St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Elementary School and Jennifer Wright from St. John Catholic Elementary School. Retired Superintendent, Tim Moloney was welcomed as a special guest. Mr. Bernier welcomed Jonathan Di Ianni to his first Board Meeting as a Superintendent of Learning.

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

A recording of O'Canada sung in English, French and Ojibway, produced by the Anishinabek Police Service was played.

5. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Linda Ainsworth that the Agenda be approved with movement of item B.3, Report from the Manager of Communications, to Section C, Presentations as item C.3, and with the addition of item E.4, Student Trustee Professional Development, Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA-AECO) Fall General Meeting, November 4-7, 2021.

Carried.

6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no of conflicts of interest declared.

7. Approval of the Minutes of the June 22, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto that the minutes of the June 22, 2021 Regular Meeting be approved.

Carried.

8. Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

There was no business arising from the minutes.

9. Swearing in of Student Trustee, Siobhan Marie.

The swearing-in ceremony for the Junior Student Trustee, Siobhan Marie, was officiated by the Director of Education, Joan Carragher, Chairperson, David Bernier, and Father Paul Massel. A pledge of commitment to the service of Catholic Education and fellow students was given by Siobhan and she was welcomed to the Board with a prayer and blessing by Father Paul Massel. Siobhan Marie was then presented with a board pin to symbolize her call to service with PVNCCDSB.

10. Special Comments – Tim Moloney, Superintendent (retired).

Board Chairperson, David Bernier welcomed Tim Moloney and thanked him for attending the board meeting. Mr. Bernier noted that Mr. Moloney's retirement from the board happened following the last board meeting of the 2020-2021 school year and the opportunity to thank him and make note of his final meeting was not taken in June. Dave Bernier gave remarks to honour Tim and thanked him for his dedicated service to the students and staff of PVNCCDSB throughout his 31 years of employment.

**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:

- Opening Mass was held for Principals, Vice-principals, Superintendents and Managers at the Cathedral on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Thanks were extended to trustees who attended to show trustee support for administrators.
- Tim Moloney has retired from the Superintendent Team and we thank him for his leadership and service. Superintendent Jonathan Di Ianni joined the team and we welcome him to this new role.
- Over the summer staff diligently prepared for the opening of school in September. There were two Professional Activity Days with various topics covered by staff to ensure our students returned to a safe environment.
- Attention to safety in our schools with respect to COVID-19 prevention now includes confirmation of daily self-screening for students and staff, required masks for students in Grades 1-12, the development of a vaccination disclosure procedure for all board employees, and rapid antigen testing for staff members who are not vaccinated. Of the board employees who have submitted an attestation, 93.4% have attested to being fully vaccinated. The staff disclosure is reported on the board website in accordance with Ministry requirements.
- COVID-19 cases have occurred in our schools and number of cases at Monsignor Leo Cleary Catholic Elementary School have resulted in its closure for a period of two weeks with students shifting to online learning. Galen Eagle and Jonathan Di Ianni were thanked as they continue to work diligently through these challenges.
- The Director participated in a farewell celebration for Peterborough Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Rosana Salvaterra. The relationships with all three public health offices continues to be integral as we move through this pandemic.
- Superintendents have made many visits to schools already and the Director has been out to visit schools in each of the four regions of the Board. The schools are vibrant and active places of learning and the staff and students are happy to

be with each other.

- The focus on equity and inclusion in our system continues with the preparation of the student data census survey as the board looks to identify and remove barriers that our students are facing.
- This week has been dedicated to Truth and Reconciliation and the commemoration of September 30, our first National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. There is an obligation for all of us to take action for the healing of indigenous peoples of Canada. The events taking place throughout the week were summarized and Superintendent Jeannie Armstrong was thanked for her leadership in the coordination of the Indigenous learning for our students and staff.

Following her presentation, Joan Carragher invited questions and comments from the trustees.

## 2. Report from the Student Trustees, Eli McColl and Siobhan Marie.

Student Trustees Eli McColl and Siobhan Marie gave the Student Trustee report which included the following highlights:

- Students are beyond excited to be back in their schools for face-to-face learning.
- The student trustees look forward to working alongside the board of trustees this year.
- An example of student perseverance through the pandemic was evident when Ava Stewart, student from St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School represented Canada at the Tokyo Olympics this past summer.
- A walk in support of Ovarian Cancer research was organized at St. Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School to honour a late teacher and successfully raised over \$4,000.
- The Student Council Liaison Committee welcomed Superintendent Jeannie Armstrong who explained the PVNC Student Data Census. The census will gather information about students that will be used to develop learning environments that support diversity, inclusion and equity in PVNCCDSB schools.
- The student census will be promoted to all PVNC youth to receive the best feedback possible.
- Thank you to all those who support the importance of student voice and collaboration with the Student Council Liaison Committee and hopeful that all stay safe and healthy through the year.

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

trustees.

### C. Presentations:

#### 1. Summer Learning Update

Superintendents Jeannie Armstrong, Laurie Corrigan, Jonathan Di Ianni and Sheila Piggott gave a slide show presentation to inform the trustees of the many aspects of summer learning that were delivered to students and staff during the summer of 2021.

Jonathan Di Ianni, Superintendent of Learning, reviewed programs that were available to elementary students including Camp AIM, Ojibway Language and Culture Program, English Language Learners Program, Grade 8 Transition to Secondary and Reach Ahead programs. Secondary students were able to access credit recovery and credit upgrade programs. Dual credits and coop credits were earned in the Focus on Youth program.

Superintendent of Special Education, Laurie Corrigan explained the special education learning opportunities and supports that were offered in the summer months. The transition program employed a team approach with teachers and support staff collaborating with families to build skills and ready students to return to school. A video summing the activities was shared.

Sheila Piggott, Superintendent of Learning reviewed the Reading Mentor Program and the Reading Teacher/Coach Program and shared statistics on improvements of the students and teachers that participated in the programs.

Staff development opportunities were presented by Jeannie Armstrong, Superintendent of Learning. Voluntary professional development sessions that were led by principals, teachers, consultants, and math provincial leaders on various topics, including de-streaming Mathematics, were well attended by educators.

At the completion of the presentation, the superintendent panel answered questions and welcomed comments from the trustees.

#### 2. Strategic Priorities, 2021-2025

The Director of Education, Joan Carragher presented to the board the proposed strategic priorities, including vision and mission statement for the years 2021 through 2025. The strategic priority document entitled “Building a Community that Accompanies” outlines three over-arching pillars: being Creative, being Well, being Community. There are eight areas of priority, each with three strategic goals that will set the Board’s strategic direction over the next four years. The areas of priority are Inspiring Faith, Valuing Relationships, Nurturing Mental Health and Well-being, Providing Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Ensuring Equity, Expanding Technology, Protecting the

Environment, and Maximizing Resources.

Following her presentation, Joan Carragher invited questions and comments from the trustees. Board Chairperson, David Bernier congratulated the Director on her accomplishment of completing this work during the difficult circumstances and for reaching so many stakeholders for consultation during the pandemic.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Helen McCarthy  
that the draft Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board Vision, Mission, and Strategic Priorities for 2021-2025, be approved.

Carried.

Galen Eagle, Manager of Communications gave an overview of the communication plan for the implementation of the new strategic priority branding and visuals into the board website and print materials. The use of a new hashtag, #PVNCInspires will be used replacing the use of #PVNCLearns, #PVNCLeads, and #PVNCServes.

### 3. 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:

- Ava Stewart, Olympic gymnast who represented Canada and what it's like to come back to her school, St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School.
- Launch of the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan: "Building a Community That Accompanies" which provides a roadmap for the PVNCCDSB through the next five years and beyond.
- Introduction of the 2021-2022 Student Trustees – Siobhan Marie and Eli McColl
- Every Student Counts Student Census will gather identity-based student data and address systemic barriers to learning. The census will be launched in early October and communications will go out to students and parents to encourage participation.
- St. Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School celebrated the life of Melissa George with a fundraising walk for ovarian cancer.

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

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

**E. Business, Finance and Governance:**1. Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA) Open Session Report.

Chairperson David Bernier reported that the OCSTA has recently shared letters written by Catholic school boards to the Ministry of Education lobbying for mandatory vaccination. There was discussion about the course of action desired by PVNC trustees. Trustees were asked to review letters received so far and contemplate a course of action. This topic will be further discussed and resolved at the Committee-of-the-Whole on October 12, 2021.

David Bernier expressed his thanks to Joan Carragher for the coordination of the input from senior administration for the Board response to the OCSTA Fall Regional meeting discussion topic.

Linda Ainsworth reported on the regional meeting held on September 27, 2021 by zoom. A summary was given on the presentations by Anne O'Brien, and Father Penna. Trustees were reminded that the seminars and presentation materials could be viewed on the OCSTA website, through the members' portal. Linda Ainsworth also noted an upcoming OCSTA seminar scheduled for October 28, 2021, at 7 pm to be given by Justice Peter Lauwers.

2. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Annual Membership Fees, FACE Levy, and Central Bargaining Fees.

**MOTION:** Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto

that the payment of the 2021-2022 Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association membership fees and FACE Levy 2021-2022 in the amount of \$65,490.55 be approved;

and,

that the payment for the 2021-2022 Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association GSN Funding for Central Bargaining fees in the amount of \$55,384.00 be approved.

Carried.

3. Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA-AECO) Fees 2021-2022.

**MOTION:** Moved by Helen McCarthy, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto

that the payment of the 2021-2022 Ontario Student Trustees' Association annual membership fees in the amount of \$1,691.55 be

approved.

Carried.

4. Student Trustee Professional Development, Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA-AECO) Fall General Meeting, November 4-7, 2021.

**MOTION:** Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto  
that student trustees wishing to do so, be authorized to attend the Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA-AECO) Fall General Meeting, November 4-7, 2021, in Toronto, Ontario.

Carried.

**F. Human Resources:**

**H. Old Business:**

**I. New Business:**

1. Trustee Matter.

Board Chairperson, David Bernier reported that Board Vice-chairperson Michelle Griepsma has given notification of her resignation as a trustee effective October 5, 2021.

**MOTION:** Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie  
that the resignation from the Board of Trustees received from Michelle Griepsma be accepted, with regret.

Carried.

Chairperson Bernier gave remarks to honour Michelle Griepsma in her service to the board over the last eleven years and her strong commitment to Catholic education. Director of Education, Joan Carragher made a gift presentation on behalf of the board and thanked Mrs. Griepsma for her dedicated service as a trustee, Board Chairperson and Board Vice-chairperson throughout her tenure. Michelle Griepsma responded by thanking the board, David Bernier and Joan Carragher for their kind words and assured that the board would be in her prayers.

**J. Bring Forward:**



**K. Information Items:**1. Committee Chairperson's Report:

- a. First Nation, Métis and Inuit Advisory Education Advisory Committee, September 14, 2021.
- b. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), September 16, 2021.

The letter from the SEAC Committee addressed to the Board was discussed. David Bernier reported that he will be attending the next SEAC meeting to address concerns and answer questions. He noted that committee members are restricted from meeting with committee members to conduct committee business outside of scheduled committee meetings and stated that board committees are required to adhere to their terms of reference. In his comments he affirmed that the trustee voices at the board table are equal and each should be respectful of other board members, who should feel cared for and part of the PVNC community as a whole.

2. Chairperson's Report

Board Chairperson, David Bernier reported that the process for replacement of Trustee Michelle Griepsma will begin with an advertisement for applications. Qualified individuals will be interviewed and the Board of Trustees will vote to determine the successful candidate who will become the interim trustee. Trustee questions were answered on the process of the trustee replacement.

David Bernier stated that he will continue to pray for the Board in hopes that the trustees can work as a team, move forward and away from conflict. He noted that the board table is not a place for conflict and is hopeful that all will pray that we move forward in the name of Jesus, for the common good.

**L. Future Meetings and Events:**1. Board Meeting

- a. Board Meeting Open Session, October 26, 2021, 6:30 p.m.  
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)

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

- a. Policy Development Committee, October 5, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- b. Committee-of-the-Whole, October 12, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Chairperson's Committee, October 12, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

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

- a. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, October 4, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- b. Audit Committee, October 6, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- c. STSCO Governance Committee, October 13, 2021, 3:00 p.m.
- d. Accessibility for All Committee, October 14, 2021, 1:00 p.m.
- e. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, October 14, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- f. Special Education Advisory Committee, October 21, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- g. Student Council Liaison Committee, October 26, 2021, 4:15 p.m.
- h. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, November 10, 2021, 4:30 p.m.
- i. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, December 7, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
- j. Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL), TBA.

4. Board Events:

- a. Catholic Leadership Development Series - Session #1, October 21, 2021
- b. Catholic Leadership Development Series - Session #2, November 18, 2021
- c. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Catholic Trustees Seminar, January 14-15, 2022.

**M. Conclusion:**

1. Report from the In-camera Meeting

MOTION: Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Helen McCarthy

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising from the September 28, 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 June 22, 2021 Regular In-camera meeting.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
  - 1. OCSTA In-Camera Report.
  - 2. Motion for approval of a recommended action from the In-Camera session of the September 13, 2021 Committee-of-the-Whole meeting.
- I. Convening in Open Session:

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

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer

Trustee Linda Ainsworth was asked to conclude the open meeting with prayer.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto  
that the open session meeting be adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Carried.

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David Bernier  
Board Chairperson

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