



# Minutes

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The Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting, held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street W, Peterborough and by Google Meet.

**PRESENT:**

Trustees – Linda Ainsworth, Loretta Durst, Braden Leal (Chairperson), Kevin MacKenzie, Siobhan Marie (Student Trustee), Helen McCarthy, and Emmanuel Pinto.

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

Recorder – Michelle Kennedy

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

The Board Chairperson Braden Leal called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and welcomed principal and vice-principal representatives Shannon Brady, Principal at St. Peter Catholic Secondary School and Paul Hough, Vice-principal at St. Peter Catholic Secondary School.

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

1. Examen and Opening Prayer

Father Paul Massel, Board Chaplain and Faith Animator, led everyone in a daily examen and opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Braden Leal, Board Chairperson, respectfully acknowledged that the board meeting was taking place on the treaty and traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabeg.

3. Singing of the National Anthem

The national anthem was played.

4. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Linda Ainsworth  
that the Agenda be approved.

Carried.

**MOTION:** Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Helen McCarthy  
that Trustee David Bernier be excused from the meeting.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

6. Approval of the Minutes

a. Approval of the minutes of the November 23, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.

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

Carried.

b. Approval of the minutes of the November 29, 2021 Joint Education Development  
Charges Policy Review Meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto  
that the minutes of the November 29, 2021 Joint Education  
Development Charges Policy Review Meeting be approved.

Carried.

c. Approval of the minutes of the November 29, 2021 Joint Education Development  
Charges Background Study and Draft By-Laws Meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by Linda Ainsworth  
that the minutes of the November 29, 2021 Joint Education  
Development Charges Background Study and Draft By-Laws  
Meeting be approved.

Carried.

d. Approval of the minutes of the December 1, 2021 Annual Board Meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Emmanuel Pinto  
that the minutes of the December 1, 2021 Annual Board  
Meeting be approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

There was discussion about the difficulties experienced by trustees with the connectivity to the virtual meetings held jointly on November 29, 2021 with Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board. It was noted that some trustees were not able to effectively take part in the meeting and a suggestion that technology for meetings be tested ahead of time for virtual meetings.

Chairperson Braden Leal and Vice-chairperson Kevin MacKenzie were congratulated on their new positions of leadership with the Board of Trustees.

**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:

- Congratulated the Board of Trustees as they begin a new year with the leadership of Board Chairperson, Braden Leal and Board Vice-chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie.
- Noted the passing of former PVNCCDSB trustee, Mary Amyotte, who was the first woman trustee to serve the board and offered sympathy and prayers of comfort to her family.
- Reviewed the list of active cases in PVNCCDSB schools, which have been kept quite low, and only one school is in a declared outbreak at the present time.
- Rapid Antigen Tests, which have been provided by the Ministry of Education, were distributed to all schools and will be sent home with each student this week. Each student will receive five tests for use over the holiday break. In addition, a number of PCR tests are available at each school for use at the direction of public health, if needed.
- Secondary schools will return to a full semester model of four courses for the second half of the year, beginning on February 2, 2022.

- The Student Council Liaison Committee Student Leadership Retreat took place on December 6. The theme of the virtual session was 'Voices that Accompany: Being Creative'.
- Congratulations were extended to each of the Principals and Vice-principals on their efforts in working with school staff to keep children safe through these challenging times.
- The Hon. David Piccini, Minister of the Environment and Sam Oosteroff, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Education visited St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Elementary School on December 14. Thanks were extended to Teacher Adele Cronin and her Grade 4 class, Principal Stephen Smith, Superintendent of Schools, Jeannie Armstrong and Trustee Linda Ainsworth for hosting these special guests.
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas with all of God's blessings.

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

2. Report from the Student Trustee, Siobhan Marie.

Student Trustee Siobhan Marie gave the Student Trustee report which included the following highlights:

- Student-led initiatives in schools during Safe and Caring Schools Week included a collection of 3,400 pairs of shoes at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School for the Soles4Souls Organization and a fundraising effort at St. Peter Catholic Secondary School that resulted in \$6,200 collected for the Peterborough Regional Health Centre in memory of student Raj Shahe.
- Christmas spirit week activities have taken place throughout all secondary schools including gingerbread house decorating, food drives and other fundraising for organizations such as St. Vincent de Paul Society.
- The Student Council Liaison Committee hosted a student leadership retreat for student council members from all PVNCCDSB secondary schools. The retreat series will have three sessions that will follow the three pillars of the strategic priorities. The theme of the first retreat was titled 'Voices that Accompany: Being Creative'. The guest speaker was Mr. Paul Crough, teacher from St. Peter Catholic Secondary School who talked about his own experiences, inspirations and ways of being creative.
- Kevin MacKenzie was welcomed to the Student Council Liaison Committee as the new Board Vice-chairperson.
- Gratitude was expressed for the ongoing support to all students from educators and those who support the SCLC committee and student councils in schools.
- Extended best wishes for the relaxing and very Merry Christmas.

Siobhan Marie invited questions and comments at the conclusion of her report.

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:

- The annual Christmas concert celebrated the spirit of the season at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School. The event was held this week outdoors in a modified COVID-19 format.
- The Board surpassed its United Way fundraising goal this year raising more than \$68,000 board-wide through payroll deduction and special events that took place throughout the board.
- The board's Christmas card features student artwork this year. Zoey Levy, a Gr 12 student from Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School had her creation depicting the genealogy of Jesus Christ chosen from hundreds of entries.
- 3,400 pairs of shoes were collected at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School to support 'Soles4Souls' a not-for-profit global organization committed to fighting poverty during Safe and Caring Schools Week.
- Director's Annual Report for 2020-2021 has been released and is available on the Board website.
- Dr. Niigaan Sinclair visited our board to continue his work with our community on Truth and Reconciliation. He was able to connect virtually and engage with students from across the board in Grades 5-12. He met with administrators to speak about the importance of Truth and Reconciliation in the hallways of our schools.

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

**C. Presentations:**

1. Protecting the Environment.

Superintendent of Learning Sheila Piggott introduced Learning Consultant Sarah Taylor and Annie Corkery, Teacher at St. Anne Catholic Elementary School who gave a presentation on the initiatives being undertaken with respect to Protecting the Environment, one of the eight priorities named in the Board's Strategic Plan.

The powerpoint presentation outlined the journey of this priority over the last two years

including the work that continued from the student presentation to the Board in February, 2020. The work has continued to the development of an environmental program to care for the earth that will be available to all classrooms engaging students to integrate the Board's strategic pillars of Being Well, Being Creative and Being Community.

Following the report, the presenters answered questions from the trustees.

2. Director's Annual Report, 2020-2021.

The Director of Education, Joan Carragher gave a presentation on the 2020-2021 Director's Annual Report which documents the progress of the board in relation to the Board's strategic goals. The review included evidence in all eight strategic priorities.

Joan Carragher, Director of Education, thanked the communications department for their support of the completion of this report. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Director invited and answered questions from the trustees.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Linda Ainsworth  
that the Director's Annual Report for 2020-2021 be received by  
the Board and submitted to the Ministry of Education, as required.

Carried.

**D. Programs and Services:**

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

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

Braden Leal, Chairperson of the Board reported that information from OCSTA was shared with trustees and invited Trustee Linda Ainsworth to give a regional update. Linda Ainsworth gave highlights of a recent the recent OCSTA Board of Directors meeting that was held in person. She noted that the direction of property tax support through MPAC remains important and parents may not be aware of the requirement to make the designation following the purchase of a property or change of residence.

2. Borrowing Resolution.

Isabel Grace, Superintendent of Business and Finance explained the purpose of the borrowing resolution and the importance of having it in place.

**MOTION:** Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by Linda Ainsworth  
that the Board approve the Borrowing Resolution in support of the

Operating Line of Credit in the amount of \$10,000,000.

Carried.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Linda Ainsworth  
that the Board authorize the Chair and the Director to sign the  
credit amendment agreement with the Canadian Imperial Bank of  
Commerce.

Carried.

**F. Human Resources:**

1. Semi-Annual Report from the Joint Health and Safety Committee.

Stephen O'Sullivan, Superintendent of Human Resource Services presented the Joint Health and Safety Committee's semi-annual report. The report included information on the committee's activities and progress over the last six months. Mr. O'Sullivan thanked the chairpersons of the committee for their work throughout the year. Trustees were invited to comment or ask questions at the completion of the report.

**MOTION:** Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Linda Ainsworth  
that the Joint Health and Safety Committee Semi-annual Report to  
the Director of Education dated December 9, 2021, be received.

Carried.

**G. Policy Development:**

**H. Old Business:**

**I. New Business:**

**J. Bring Forward:**

**K. Information Items:**

1. Chairperson's Report

Board Chairperson, Braden Leal paid tribute to former PVNCCDSB trustee, Mary Amyotte who passed away on recently and expressed the importance of recognizing

individuals who have served as trustees in the past and who have committed themselves to the cause of Catholic education. In addition, he recognized his former teacher, André Métivier, who will be retiring in December from Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School. In closing, Braden Leal wished everyone a Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2022.

2. Committee Chairperson's Report:

- a) First Nation, Métis, Inuit Advisory Committee, December 7, 2021.

**L. Future Meetings and Events:**

1. Board Meeting

- a. Board Meeting Open Session, January 25, 2022, 6:30 p.m.  
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)

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

- a. Chairperson's Committee, January 10, 2022, 5:00 p.m.  
b. Committee-of-the-Whole, January 10, 2022, 6:30 p.m.  
c. Policy Development Committee, February 1, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

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

- a. STSCO Governance Committee, January 12, 2022, 3:00 p.m.  
b. Special Education Advisory Committee, January 20, 2022, 6:30 p.m.  
c. Student Council Liaison Committee, January 25, 2022, 4:15 p.m.  
d. Accessibility for All Committee, February 3, 2022, 1:00 p.m.  
e. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, February 10, 2022, 6:30 p.m.  
f. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, February 28, 2022, 6:30 p.m.  
g. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, March 8, 2022, 6:30 p.m.  
h. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, April 27, 2022, 4:30 p.m.  
i. Audit Committee, TBA  
j. Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL), TBA.

4. Board Events:

- a. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Catholic Trustees Seminar, Toronto, ON and virtual, January 14-15, 2022.



- b. Catholic Leadership Development Series – Session #3, April 21, 2022.
- c. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Annual General Meeting, Ottawa, ON, April 21-23, 2022.

**M. Conclusion:**

1. Report from the In-camera Meeting

MOTION: Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Linda Ainsworth

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising from the December 14, 2021, in-camera session, as follows:

A. Call to Order:

- 1. Opening Prayer
- 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda with addition of item E.1, Human Resources Matter, and F.1, Recommended Action from the Expulsion Committee.
- 3. No conflicts of interest declared.
- 4. Motion for the approval of the minutes from the November 22, 2021 Special In-camera meeting and the November 23, 2021 Regular In-camera meeting, were approved.

D. Business, Finance and Governance:

- 1. OCSTA In-Camera Report.

E. Human Resources:

- 1. Human Resources Matter.

F. Other Urgent Matter:

- 1. Recommended Action from the Expulsion Committee.

I. Convening in Open Session:

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

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer

Trustee Loretta Durst led the closing prayer to end the meeting.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the open session meeting be adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Carried.

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Braden Leal  
Board Chairperson

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