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The Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting, held on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough, and virtually, by Google Meet.

Present:

Trustees – John Connolly, Loretta Durst, Madelyn Gaskell (Senior Student Trustee), Joshua Glover, Claire Heitzner (Junior Student Trustee), Jenny Leahy, Kevin MacKenzie (Chairperson), Mary Ann Martin, and Kathleen Tanguay.

Administration – Jeannie Armstrong, Jonathan Di Ianni, Galen Eagle, Sean Heuchert, Darren Kahler, Father Paul Massel, Stephen O’Sullivan, Sheila Piggott, and Julie Selby.

Recorder – Michelle Kennedy

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

The Board Chairperson Kevin MacKenzie called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed guests in attendance in person and guests who were joining the meeting online by Google Meet. The Chairperson welcomed the principal representatives Jean-Paul St-Amour, Principal at Holy Family Catholic Elementary School and Angelo Costa, Principal at St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Grafton.

1. Examen and Opening Prayer

The Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie invited Father Paul Massel to begin the meeting with the Daily Examen and prayer.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Kevin MacKenzie, 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 sung.

4. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Loretta Durst  
that the agenda be approved with the addition of item I.1, Letter  
from the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Ministry of  
Education.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

6. Approval of the minutes from the November 28, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay  
that the minutes of the November 28, 2023, Regular Board  
Meeting be approved.

Carried.

7. 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.

Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education, presented the Report from the Director of Education, which included the following points:

- The Student Council Liaison Committee annual student leadership retreat held on December 1<sup>st</sup> was a success. Thanks to the student trustees, Claire Heitzner and Madelyn Gaskell for their work to organize with the help of their principal advisor, Shannon Brady, and vice-principal advisor, Kim Fletcher.
- The Vice-principal Retreat was held on December 8<sup>th</sup> with the theme "Healing Through Hope" with guests Bishop Daniel Miehm and Doug Finbow. Thank you to Superintendent Julie Selby and Father Paul Massel for their leadership to prepare a spiritually nourishing event.
- Dr. Moira McQueen was the special guest at the last Adult Faith Formation session where there were approximately 30 participants engaged in professional learning about the synodality of the church.

- Superintendents and Math leads from boards in the eastern region of the province were hosted at PVNCCDSB to share information and practices employed in their Math Achievement Action Plans. Thank you to Jeannie Armstrong and her Math team for modelling the PVNC Catholic plan and their commitment to student achievement.
- As we celebrate the season of advent we thank teacher Kirk Campbell and his students from Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School who constructed the beautiful Nativity scene displayed on our property, seen from Lansdowne Street.
- The many acts of charity and kindness that are witnessed every day in our schools in the work of Catholic education exemplify the Gospel of the light that comes to dispel the darkness through Christ, the light of the world.
- May hope, peace, joy, and love be in your hearts as we celebrate Christmas.

Stephen O'Sullivan invited and answered questions from the trustees at the conclusion of the report.

## 2. Report from the Student Trustees.

Senior Student Trustee, Madelyn Gaskell and Junior Student Trustee, Claire Heitzner, gave the Student Trustee report which included the following highlights:

- The student leadership retreat for student council members of our six secondary schools was held on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The theme of the retreat was “Voices that Flourish” and included an opening ceremony, guest speaker Aubrey Noronha, and sharing workshops to encourage leadership to help fellow students flourish.
- Gratitude extended to Director O'Sullivan and Trustees Mary Ann Martin and Jenny Leahy for their attendance and support.
- At Holy Cross Catholic Secondary there are many advent activities happening including a Christmas Spirit Week, Movie night, Christmas Coffee House, and a social justice food drive.
- St. Peter Catholic Secondary School has successfully raised \$44,062 for the Terry Fox Foundation. The many activities that took place this year involved students and staff alike with impressive school spirit.
- An 'Arts Night' was held at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School to showcase the diverse talents of students. Students have also participated in a Christmas Market featuring student stalls and participated in charitable drives for food and toys.
- St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School partnered with OnTech to host a computer science workshop. A drama production “Nothing But the Truth” will soon be in rehearsal. Other social justice projects such as the “Be an Angel” program and food drives are taking place and students look forward to the semi-

formal dance and the Christmas Assembly.

- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School students are engaging in the community with regular visits to a local nursing home and taking part in other community fundraising projects.
- Community outreach is also happening at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School where students were involved in Christmas hampers and dress down fundraisers for the breakfast club. CPR and First Aid training sessions have taken place for students and the Athletics SHSM had a trip to the Toronto Raptors Basketball Club.

Student trustees Madelyn Gaskell and Claire Heitzner invited questions and comments from the trustees at the conclusion of their report.

### 3. Report from the Communications Department.

Galen Eagle, Manager of Communications shared the system achievements from all areas of the board which included the following highlights and initiatives from the PVNC Inspires newsletter:

- The Peterborough region ambassador for SickKids Hospital is Monsignor O'Donoghue Catholic Elementary School student Carter Khuth.
- The PVNCCDSB entry for the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association's annual video contest was viewed. Voting for the contest takes place online.
- Monsignor Leo Cleary Catholic Elementary School was honoured with a prestigious environmental award recognizing the commitment of students and staff to a more sustainable future.
- The board's United Way campaign wrapped up with over \$56,000 raised.
- Student Council members from each of the six secondary schools participated in a day-long retreat "Voices that Flourish."
- Students from Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School and St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School attended Braiding Diversity into Justice, an experience for students of colour to learn about the field of law.
- St. Peter Catholic Secondary School hosted a Special Olympics basketball qualifier.

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

### **C. Presentations:**

1. Delegation: Bus Stop Location, City of Kawartha Lakes County Road 17 and McGinnis Road.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie introduced Clare Curtin, parent from the St. Luke Catholic Elementary School community to come forward for his presentation regarding a bus stop location in the City of Kawartha Lakes in the vicinity of County Road 17 and McGinnis Road. The Chairperson explained that there would be a 15-minute time allotment for the presentation followed by a 5-minute allotment to give trustees the opportunity to ask clarifying questions.

Clare Curtin gave a five-minute presentation which explained his request for a change to the location of his children's bus stop and the rationale for doing so. A map of the area was displayed on the projection screen to aid in the explanation. It was noted that there have been several serious accidents occur in immediate location of the bus stop.

At the conclusion of the presentation, there was an opportunity for the trustees to seek clarification on any of the information provided. Mr. Curtin was thanked by the trustees for coming forward with his concern.

2. Providing Excellence in Teaching and Learning: Review of PVNCCDSB EQAO.

Superintendent of Learning, Jeannie Armstrong and Learning Consultant, Sandra Connolly delivered a presentation on the EQAO results from the 2022-2023 school year. Background information was provided with respect to the test, how and when it is delivered in the schools. The results for the primary reading, writing and math, junior reading, writing and math, Grade 9 math, and Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test were reviewed in comparison to provincial statistics.

The next steps for working towards greater success were discussed and included teaching students how utilize patience and perseverance for the type of questions that are presented online, giving more sample tests to familiarize students and more practice for students attempting the OSSLT with follow up supports for students.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the trustees had the opportunity to ask questions of the presenters.

3. Providing Excellence in Teaching and Learning: Catholic Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being (CBIPSAW).

Superintendent of Learning, Julie Selby and Superintendent of Learning, Sheila Piggott gave a powerpoint presentation which outlined the development of the Catholic Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being (CBIPSAW).

Aspects of the CBIPSAW that relate to the main pillars of the Board's Strategic Plan, "Being Creative, Being Well, Being Community" were reviewed noting that equity and Catholicity are imbedded and integrated throughout.

It was noted that the Catholic School Improvement Plans for Student Achievement and

Well-being (CSIPSAW) are directly aligned to the CBIPSAW. The school plans are posted to the website by November 1 each year. Monitoring of the progress of CSIPSAWs and the CBIPSAW is done through school visits, professional learning, resource allocation, and through staff and departmental meetings. Evidence is gathered to record progress and inform the next year's plan.

The presenters answered questions posed by the trustees at the end of the presentation.

4. Valuing Relationships: Mentoring Program at PVNCCDSB.

Superintendent of Human Resource Services, Darren Kahler, updated the trustees about the mentoring opportunities available to employees at PVNC Catholic. The alignment of the mentoring with the strategic priorities and the benefits of mentoring for the mentors, mentees and the organization were noted. Following the presentation, Darren Kahler answered questions from the Trustees.

5. Building a Community that Accompanies: Director's Annual Report, 2022-2023.

Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education presented the Director's Annual Report reviewing its contents and highlighting significant initiatives and outcomes from the past year which demonstrated evidence of the board's fulfillment of its Strategic Priorities. The annual report will be posted on the board website to be accessible by the public.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Jenny Leahy

that the Director's Annual Report for 2022-2023 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.

The Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie, expressed his condolences to the family and friends of Father Patrick Fitzpatrick, who passed away on December 7, 2023. Father Fitzpatrick was chaplain for the OCSTA for over 20 years and was deeply respected throughout the province for his support of Catholic education.

Board Chairperson MacKenzie noted that Morgan St. Marie's OCSTA Region 9 report was shared with the trustees. All other memos received from OCSTA were also shared throughout the month and trustees were invited to ask any questions about the

information received.

There was discussion about the annual awards that are presented at the OCSTA Annual Meeting and Conference.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Loretta Durst  
that Siobhan Marie, former student trustee, be nominated for the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Student Trustee Alumni Award.

Carried.

2. Borrowing Resolution.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Loretta Durst  
that the Board authorize the signing officers of the Board to enter into agreements with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce for the following:

1. The borrowing of funds to meet operating requirements up to a maximum of \$10,000,000 for the 2024 calendar year.
2. Interim capital financing of up to \$5,478,159 to support capital projects planned and/or underway funded by School Condition Improvement Grant.

Carried.

3. Trustee Professional Development, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Annual General Meeting, Conference and OCSTA/OCSBOA Business Seminar, May 2-4, 2024.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay  
that trustees wishing to do so, be authorized to attend the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Annual General Meeting, Conference and Business Seminar, being held May 2-4, 2024, in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Carried.

**F. Human Resources:**

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

**MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Loretta Durst  
that the Joint Health and Safety Committee Semi-annual Report to  
the Director of Education dated December 19, 2023, be received.

Carried.

**G. Policy Development:**

1. Recommended Action from the Policy Development Committee Meeting, December 5, 2023.

**MOTION:** Moved by Joshua Glover, seconded by Mary Ann Martin  
that the Board receive the report and recommendations from the  
Policy Development Committee meeting dated December 5, 2023,  
for publication and implementation.

Carried.

**H. Old Business:**

**I. New Business:**

1. Letter from the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) to the Ministry of Education.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by John Connolly  
that the letter put forward by the Special Education Advisory  
Committee and discussed by the Committee-of-the-Whole, be  
approved and sent to the Minister of Education and shared with  
other Boards' Special Education Advisory Committees in Ontario.

Carried.



**J. Bring Forward:****K. Information Items:**1. Chairperson's Report.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie reported that bi-weekly teleconference calls with the Minister of Education continue to take place and on the last call he participated in the question-and-answer portion of the call. Chairperson MacKenzie reported that he questioned the minister about the lack of special education funding to meet the needs in our board. Other information noted from the call included the PSW education program and the expansion of the Gr. 10 curriculum to avert extremist/hate movements was shared by Minister of Education.

2. Committee and Committee Chairperson's Reports:

There were no reports as there were no meetings held since the last regular board meeting (between November 28, 2023, and December 19, 2023).

3. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Information Items:

- a. December 7, 2023 – Fr. Patrick Fitzpatrick CSSp. (1934-2023)
- b. December 14, 2023 – OCSTA Short Video Contest – Online Voting.

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

- a. Regular Board Meeting Open Session, December 19, 2023, 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 15, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
- b. Committee-of-the-Whole, January 15, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Policy Development Committee, February 6, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

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

- a. STSCO Governance, January 10, 2024, 3:00 p.m.
- b. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, January 16, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

- c. Special Education Advisory Committee, January 18, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
- d. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, January 29, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
- e. Accessibility for All Committee, February 22, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
- f. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, February 22, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
- g. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, April 24, 2024, 4:30 p.m.
- h. Audit Committee, TBA.
- i. Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL), TBA.

4. Board Events:

- a. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association – Catholic Trustees Seminar, January 19-20, 2024, Toronto, ON

**M. Conclusion:**

1. Report from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera Session, December 19, 2023.

**MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session, held on December 19, 2023, as follows:

A. Call to Order:

- 1. Opening Prayer.
- 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda.
- 4. There were no conflicts of interest declared.
- 5. Approval of the November 28, 2023, Regular In-camera minutes.

D. Business, Finance and Governance:

- 1. OCSTA In-camera Report.

I. Conclusion:

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

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie invited Trustee Kathleen Tanguay to lead the

closing prayer to end the meeting.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay  
that the open session meeting be adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Carried.

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Kevin MacKenzie  
Board Chairperson

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Stephen O'Sullivan  
Director of Education, Secretary-Treasurer  
per M.K.