

Minutes

The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, 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 (online), Jenny Leahy, Kevin MacKenzie (Chairperson), Mary Ann Martin, Vivica Muinde (Junior Student Trustee) (online), Carter Peios (Senior Student Trustee), and Kathleen Tanguay.

Administration: Wayne Clark, Jonathan Di Ianni, Mark Giunta, Sean Heuchert, Darren Kahler, Stephen O'Sullivan, and Julie Selby.

Recorder: Michelle Kennedy.

A. Call to Order

The Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Chairperson MacKenzie welcomed everyone online and in the boardroom to the meeting. The principal and vice-principal representatives, Jill Barker, Principal at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School and Jillian Coulis, Vice-Principal at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, were acknowledged.

1. Opening Prayer.

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

2. Land Acknowledgement.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie, respectfully acknowledged the traditional and treaty territory of the Michi Saagiig Anishnabeg.

3. National Anthem.

The National Anthem was sung.

4. Approval of Agenda.

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MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by John Connolly that the agenda be approved.

Carried.

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay that, in accordance with legislation, Trustee Loretta Durst be excused from attending the meeting in-person.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest.

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the April 28, 2026, Regular Board Meeting, Open Session.

MOTION: Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by John Connolly that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on April 28, 2026, be approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes.

There was no business arising from the minutes.

B. Programs and Services:

1. Student Excursions.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Jenny Leahy

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that the proposed St. Mary Catholic Secondary School international excursion to New York City, USA, from March 31 to April 4, 2027, be approved in principle and that the trip will include mandatory insurance for all travelers. Such insurance must cover school board or principal rulings for cancellation of the trip.

Carried.

C. Reports from the Director, Chairperson, Student Trustees, and Manager of Communications.

1. Report from the Director of Education, Stephen O'Sullivan.

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

- Schools in the system have been engaged in the 2026 spring EQAO assessment process and many schools have already completed their assessments.
- Thanks were extended to Frank Bradica, Principal of Information Technology for his leadership in the business continuity plan process which involved senior leaders in the board collaborating and learning about how to prepare for an unexpected service interruption.
- Bill 101 received Royal Assent on May 7, 2026. The board will continue its work to incorporate any changes and will continue to ensure PVNC Catholic's work in Catholic education continues.
- Congratulations to Trustee Martin who was recognized with 26 years of service as a Catholic trustee at the recent OCSTA Annual General Meeting and Conference.
- Many celebrations took place during Catholic Education Week and PVNC Catholic was honoured to host the OCSTA Catholic Education Week Provincial Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral. Those who helped to stage the event, including celebrant, Most Reverend Bishop Miehm, and the St. Mary Catholic Secondary School Choir were thanked. A thank you letter from Pat Daly, Executive Director from OCSTA was read.

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- The annual Catholic Student Leadership Awards were held during Catholic Education Week and the Director extended sincere thanks to the organizing committee led by Principal Matt Bowen.
- The Math Olympics were recently held at the Catholic Education Centre and Holy Cross CSS and schools from all regions of the board participated. The Director congratulated the Board's Math Consultants and their team for a successful event.
- Congratulations to the six educators who recently completed the Aspiring Leaders Program. Superintendent of Human Resource Services, Darren Kahler and his committee were thanked for guiding the leadership program.

At the end of the report, Director O'Sullivan answered questions and received comments from the trustees.

2. Report from the Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie reported to the trustees that May 1st marked the opening of nominations for municipal elections. Chairperson MacKenzie encouraged people to consider public service as a trustee and emphasized the importance of democracy.

Chairperson MacKenzie attended the Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School Cultural Food Fair on May 8, a school concert at St. Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School on May 14, and the Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School drama production of the Addams' Family.

The month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and a time to be reminded that Catholic Education is not only about academics but nurturing Christ's values in our students. Trustees are called to lead with the same values.

Student leadership and achievement were celebrated at the Catholic Student Leadership Awards during Catholic Education Week and in June, trustees look forward to graduations in our schools.

Kevin MacKenzie wished everyone a Happy Pride month in June and, at the conclusion of his report, wished God's blessings on the staff and students of PVNC Catholic.

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3. Report from the Student Trustees: Carter Peios, Senior Student Trustee, and Vivica Muinde, Junior Student Trustee.

The Student Trustees, Carter Peios and Vivica Muinde, gave the Student Trustee report which included the following highlights:

- Catholic Education Week was celebrated at all schools in PVNC Catholic at the beginning of May.
- May 5th marked the National Day of Awareness for Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit Individuals.
- St. Mary Catholic Secondary School marked Culture Day, organized by the Unity and Diversity Club and celebrated food from different cultures. The St. Mary CSS Choir received Gold Standing at the Niagara Music Festival and was honoured to bring music ministry to the Provincial Catholic Education Mass hosted by PNVC Catholic at St. Peter's Cathedral. May Day celebrations took place with spirit activities, and the school is excited for the Drama Production, Mamma Mia.
- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School outdoor education students will be taking a hiking trip to the Bruce Peninsula. The Track and Field team will be competing this month and the LINK Crew are preparing with bonding activities as they prepare to welcome incoming Grade 9 students to offer a glimpse into secondary school life.
- Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School students have engaged in student council leadership events, spring sports events and mental health and wellness activities. The Social Justice and Equity Team held events to mark Asian Heritage Month. Other events at the school included Gr 9 Geography Treetop Trekking and a Board-wide Aviation event for Gr 9 and Gr 10 students.
- Students at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School also took part in Treetop Trekking excursions as part of gym classes, held Asian Heritage events, a talent show, and a spring concert. Students in senior French classes took DELF testing to gain certification in bilingualism and sports teams were active competing. Specialist High Skills Major students participated in certifications and training.
- St. Peter Catholic Secondary School sports teams enjoyed OFSAA successes and students took part in community initiatives and clubs to heighten service and inclusion. Excursions to Ottawa and Newfoundland were experienced by History and Music students and the Skills Ontario conference and Special High Skills

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Major events provided valuable experiences for many students. The school is excited about the announcement of next year's drama production, Mamma Mia.

- At Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, the Student Cabinet hosted their annual Cultural Food Fair. Prom was a successful and fun-filled event. An accident prevention presentation was received by the senior students building awareness about driving safely. The drama production of The Addams Family was well attended and the Courtice Catholic elementary schools were able to see the performance. School sports teams have enjoyed recent successes and Girls Soccer teams and Track and Field participants will be attending OFSAA competitions.
- The student trustees attended the OSTA-AECO Student Trustee Annual General Meeting in Toronto from May 21-24. They were able to take part in numerous workshops and enjoy the opportunity to learn and grow as student trustees.
- Carter Peios thanked the Board for their support to allow the student trustee participation in their professional development and noted what a privilege it was to lead the conference as the president of OSTA-AECO.
- Carter Peios was humbled to be a recipient of a student scholarship from OSTA-AECO as he enters his post-secondary studies in the fall.
- On May 6, PVNC Catholic hosted the Catholic Education Week Mass from St. Peter's Cathedral, which was a meaningful celebration of Catholic Education Week.

At the conclusion of the report the Trustees had the opportunity to provide comments and ask questions which were answered by the Student Trustees.

4. Report from the Manager of Communications, Mark Giunta.

Mark Giunta, Manager of Communications, shared the following system highlights and initiatives:

- Student Success Consultant, Alex Duketow, received a prestigious provincial award from Skills Ontario, recognizing his exceptional role in the advancement of technological education.
- Faith and Wellness Day for the Catholic students of the City of Kawartha Lakes was held at St. Dominic Catholic Elementary School provided an opportunity to reflect on the connection between faith, mental health, and personal well-being.

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- An Indigenous Skilled Trades Day was held at the Ontario Power Generation Darlington Complex and provided PVNC Catholic students with an opportunity to learn about diverse skilled trades career pathways available and the program that recruits and places Indigenous talent into rewarding careers.
- St Mary Catholic Secondary School Skilled Trades Workshop was held on April 27, 2026, and was attended by participants who engaged in hands-on activities and trades-based learning. The event was attended by the Hon. David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Trustees, and the Director of Education.
- The marriage of Q and U at St. Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School brought kindergarten classes together for a mock ceremony, dance, and treats celebrating the literary union of the letters Q and U, recognizing that those letters are always happily together.
- St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School celebrated their first drama production, 'Seussical JR' which involved 45 students from Grades 6 to 8 demonstrating a commitment to arts education.
- The Rotary Club's annual Citizenship Reaffirmation Ceremony was held on May 11 at Monsignor O'Donoghue Catholic Elementary School for students in Grades 4 to 8 and staff members to reaffirm their loyalty and commitment to Canada.

At the conclusion of his report, Mark Giunta invited questions from the trustees, which were answered.

D. Presentations:

1. EQAO.

Julie Selby, Superintendent of Learning gave a presentation on the EQAO results analysis and resulting action at PVNC Catholic.

An overall analysis of the data in the Grades 3 and 6 reading, writing, and math assessments, the Grade 9 math assessment, and the Grade 10 literacy assessment was given that noted the gains which have been made in the last year. Special education results were also reviewed in comparison to previous years and comparisons were made to the results of the coterminous board in all areas. Ministry of Education personnel have noted the successes and the improvements made by PVNC Catholic.

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Comprehensive data analysis has been provided to PVNC school administrators assisting with identification of how the students have performed assessment over assessment, to assist with their improvement strategies.

Superintendent Selby reviewed other strategies that are currently employed to further assist with the assessments to ensure the best results possible, including mid-year practice assessments and small group instruction for level two students.

At the conclusion at the presentation, Julie Selby answered questions from the Trustees.

2. Balanced Day.

Julie Selby, Superintendent of Learning and Darren Kahler, Superintendent of Human Resource Services delivered a presentation on the Balanced Day consultation which included information gathering from staff, parents, guardians, students, and community members.

The consultation process included a voluntary YouTube live information session, broadcast to 263 staff members, a survey that was shared with 1500 school staff members, which resulted in 320 responses, and a public consultation for parents through the PVNC Engage platform on the board's website, which resulted in 952 responses.

The feedback that was gathered in the consultations was reviewed and summarized in the presentation. Superintendents Selby and Kahler reported on the outcomes of the surveys and engagement that took place and noted the benefits of the change in schedule and also the challenges identified by staff, including how the challenges would be addressed. Similarly, the parent consultation results were shared, noting both the perceived benefits and challenges and how those challenges would be addressed through communication and programming.

The next steps in the process were identified and at the end of the presentation the trustees had the opportunity to provide comments and ask questions of the presenters.

E. Business, Finance and Governance:

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

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Chairperson MacKenzie invited trustees to reference the information items for the month of May found in Section K in the agenda.

F. Human Resources:

G. Policy Development:

H. Old Business:

I. New Business:

1. Trustee Matter.

MOTION: Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by Mary Ann Martin that the motion regarding the vacancy of the trustee seat for the Municipality of Clarington be a recorded vote.

Carried.

MOTION: Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by John Connolly

WHEREAS subsection 228(1) of the *Education Act* provides that a member of a board vacates his or her seat upon the occurrence of certain prescribed circumstances;

AND WHEREAS subsection 228(1)(e) of the *Education Act* provides that a member vacates their seat if they fail to be physically present as required by the regulations;

AND WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 463/97, section 7(1), requires that all members of the board be physically present in the meeting room of the board at every regular meeting of the board and every regular meeting of a committee of the whole board, unless participation by electronic means has been authorized in accordance with applicable requirements;

AND WHEREAS Trustee Glover (the "Trustee"):

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- was absent from the Committee of the Whole meeting on January 12, 2026, without authorization;
- attended the regular Board meeting on March 24, 2026, by electronic means without prior authorization from the Chair;
- attended the Committee of the Whole meeting on April 13, 2026, by electronic means without prior authorization from the Chair;
- was absent from the regular Board meeting on April 28, 2026, without authorization;
- was absent from the Committee of the Whole meeting on May 11, 2026, without authorization.

AND WHEREAS the Chair provided the Trustee with written correspondence on January 19, 2026, and April 27, 2026, outlining the statutory requirements for attendance and the necessity of obtaining prior authorization within the meaning of the *Education Act* and Ontario Regulation 463/97;

AND WHEREAS the aforementioned absences of the Trustee were not authorized by the Chair in accordance with the requirements set out in the *Education Act* and Ontario Regulation 463/97, and therefore he failed to be physically present as required by the *Education Act* and Ontario Regulation 463/97;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board confirms that one seat for the Municipality of Clarington, previously occupied by Joshua Glover, is vacated by operation of subsection 228(1)(e) of the *Education Act* and Regulation 463/97.

Trustee Vote:

John Connolly – In favour
Loretta Durst – In favour
Jenny Leahy – In favour
Mary Ann Martin – In favour
Kathleen Tanguay – In favour
Kevin MacKenzie – In favour

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Carried.

J. Bring Forward:

K. Information Items:

1. Trustee Committee Reports.

a. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, April 30, 2026.

The Board Vice-Chairperson, Jenny Leahy, reported on the French as a Second Language Advisory Committee that included a report from Learning Consultant, Nancy McCarthy, on the cultural and language activities happening in PVNC Catholic schools. The committee also heard a report about tools that are used for French as a Second Language assessment. The committee also discussed the exploration of ways to retain educators in the French program.

b. Accessibility for All Committee, May 7, 2026.

The Board Vice-Chairperson, Jenny Leahy, reported on the Accessibility for All committee held on May 7. The committee reviewed the annual mandatory report that is submitted to the Ministry of Education each year. The committee also had the opportunity to review updates to the five administrative procedures that relate to accessibility and the board. The trustees were also reminded that Accessibility Awareness Week begins on Sunday, May 31, 2026, and there are events being planned throughout the board. Students from the Student Council Liaison Committee are serving on the Accessibility for All committee to provide insight from the student voice.

c. Special Education Advisory Committee, May 21, 2026.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay reported on the Special Education Advisory Committee held on May 21, 2026. It was reported that Jori McMahon, Manager of Finance, gave a report on the Special Education funding for the 2026-2027 school year.

2. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association and Ministry Information Items.

a. CCCB Resources for National Family and Life Week 2026 – April 23, 2026.

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- b. Appearance Before the Standing Committee on Social Policy RE: Bill 101, Putting Student Achievement First Act, 2026 – April 28, 2026.
- c. OCSTA News Release - Ontario's Catholic School Trustees Elect Leadership and Honour Outstanding Service at 2026 AGM – May 4, 2026.
- d. Passing of Bill 101, Putting Student Achievement First Act, 2026 – May 8, 2026.
- e. 2026 OCSTA / OSTA-AECO Catholic Student Trustee Servant Leadership Scholarship – May 11, 2026.
- f. 2026-2027 Catholic Education Theme: Becoming Artisans of Peace – May 12, 2026
- g. Office of the Auditor General of Ontario Special Education Needs Performance Audit – May 13, 2026.
- h. OCSTA Memo Re: Core Education Funding, 2026-2027 – May 13, 2026.
- i. Minister of Education, Paul Calandra and Deputy Minister of Education, Denise Cole's May 14, 2026, Memorandum – May 20, 2026.

L. Future Meetings and Events:

1. Board Meetings:

- a. Regular Board Meeting Open Session, June 23, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)

2. Board Standing Committee Meetings:

- a. Chairperson's Committee, June 8, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
- b. Committee-of-the-Whole, June 8, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Policy Development Committee, June 16, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

3. Other Committee Meetings:

- a. STSCO Governance Committee, June 3, 2026, 3:00 p.m.
- b. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, June 4, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
- c. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, June 9, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
- d. Special Education Advisory Committee, June 18, 2026, 1:00 p.m.

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- e. Student Council Liaison Committee, June 23, 2026, 4:15 p.m.
- f. Accessibility for All Committee, TBA.
- g. Audit Committee, TBA.
- h. Faith and Equity Committee, TBA.
- i. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, TBA.
- j. SAL Committee, TBA.

4. Board Events:

a. Secondary School Graduations:

June 24, 2026 – St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School, Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, and St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School

June 25, 2026 – St. Peter Catholic Secondary School, St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, and Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School.

M. **Conclusion:**

1. Report from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera Session, May 26, 2026.

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 April 28, 2026, as follows:

A. Call to Order:

- 1. Opening Prayer.
- 2. Motion to excuse Trustee Loretta Durst from in-person attendance from the meeting in accordance with legislation.

Motion for the approval of the agenda

- 3. No conflicts of interest were declared.
- 4. Approval of the minutes of the April 28, 2026, Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session.

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D. Business Finance and Governance:

1. OCSTA In-camera session report.

I. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer.
2. Motion to convene in open session.

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer.

Trustee Mary Ann Martin led the closing prayer to conclude the meeting.

3. Adjournment.

MOTION: Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay that the open session meeting adjourn at 8:17 p.m.

Carried.

Kevin MacKenzie
Board Chairperson

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