

Minutes

The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, April 28, 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, Jenny Leahy, Kevin MacKenzie (Chairperson), Mary Ann Martin, Vivica Muinde (Junior Student Trustee), Carter Peios (Senior Student Trustee), and Kathleen Tanguay.

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

Recorder: Michelle Kennedy.

Absent

Trustee Joshua Glover

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, Adam White, Vice-Principal at St. Anne Catholic Elementary School, and Laura Carson, Principal at St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Lindsay, were acknowledged.

1. Opening Prayer.

Kevin MacKenzie, Board Chairperson, invited Trustee Mary Ann Martin 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.

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The National Anthem was sung.

4. Approval of Agenda.

MOTION: Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by Mary Ann Martin
that the agenda be approved with the addition of item K.3,
Recognition of a Retiree of the Board.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest.

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

6. Approval of the Minutes of the March 24, 2026, Regular Board Meeting, Open Session.

MOTION: Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Loretta Durst
that the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on March 24,
2026, be approved as amended.

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 Jenny Leahy, seconded by Mary Ann Martin
that the proposed St. Peter Catholic Secondary School international
excursion to Greece, from March 8-17, 2028, be approved in principle

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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.

2. Recommended Action from the Special Education Advisory Committee, April 2, 2026: Approval of new alternate member.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by John Connolly that Anne Beach, Down Syndrome Association of Peterborough, be approved as an alternate member of the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remaining term of November 15, 2022, to November 14, 2026.

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:

- Everyone was asked to join in a moment of silence as tribute to the National Day of Mourning for Persons Killed or Injured in the Workplace, which is observed annually on April 28. Flags have been lowered at all schools and at the Catholic Education Centre in remembrance.
- The Board celebrates Most Reverend Bishop Miehm in his reappointment to the Diocese of London. Gratitude was expressed for his clarity and sensitivity and for his service to our Board and to Catholic Education.

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- The Board Crisis Response Team was acknowledged for their work and service to our schools in times of need. Thanks were also extended to our community partners who serve our school communities.
- The senior team witnessed the commissioning of Superintendent Wayne Clark as a Catholic Supervisory Officer by the Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers' Association.
- PVNC Catholic is honoured to receive the Champions of Change award from the United Way Peterborough and District, recognizing most funds raised in the workplace.
- Recently met with Durham College and coterminous school boards to tour Durham College and discover ways to enhance partnerships and strengthen collaboration.
- Attended an event at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School as part of the Peterborough Youth Substance Use Prevention Initiative. The initiative is a collaboration of schools, community and public health and reminds us that prevention begins with connection, belonging, and hope.
- Catholic Education Week begins on Sunday, May 3rd with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope: On the Path to Holiness". Numerous events in our schools across the board will take place in celebration of Catholic Education.
- A highlight event will be the OCSTA Provincial Mass which is being hosted by PVNC Catholic and celebrated by Most Rev. Bishop Daniel Miehm, at St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral, and broadcast across the province.

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 that he attended St. Mary Catholic Secondary School for their Specialist High Skills Major Information Session. The session was attended by MPP David Piccini and Trustees Leahy, Durst and Tanguay.

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Chairperson MacKenzie expressed condolences on behalf of the Board of Trustees to the family of OPP Sgt Brandon Malcolm who was tragically killed in a motorcycle accident on April 27, 2026.

The board looks forward to the upcoming Catholic Education Week and the Catholic Leadership Awards ceremony honouring student leadership in Catholic Education.

Chairperson MacKenzie reported on the recent changes to the role of trustees through the recently introduced Putting Students First Act, 2026. It was noted that the bill will reduce the trustee role in local representation and budget oversight. Kevin MacKenzie emphasized that the role of trustee must continue to be focused on student achievement and well-being and be a democratic link to the parents of the board.

At the conclusion of his report, Kevin MacKenzie wished God's blessings on the staff and students of PVNC Catholic.

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:

- April is a moment for Lenten reflection when students reflect and contribute to the greater good in many ways.
- Students at St. Peter Catholic Secondary School were involved in many spring sports. The student council held a Spring Social featuring games and food. Events such as STEM Forum, Thinkfast, Service for Seniors and curricular excursions took place.
- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School French classes enjoyed a walk to McDonalds where they practiced their language skills by ordering in French. The spring sports teams held tryouts and practices and the preparations for the end of the year began with Gr 12 graduate meetings and Welcome to Gr 9 meetings.
- At Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, spring sports are underway with the wrap up of badminton and the beginning of lacrosse, track and field, and soccer. The girls hockey team celebrated their LOSSA win with a trip to OFSAA. SHSM excursions have taken place and the drama club looks forward to the production

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of the Addams Family. Planning is also underway for the annual Titanpalooza festival and other spring traditions, like Prom and the Graduation Retreat.

- Spring sports teams are going strong at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School as well. The dance team participated in a competition recently, placing third out of fifteen teams. Student Cabinet hosted the annual Spring Semi Formal and Autism Awareness Month. Training and certification programs have taken place for SHSM and the end of Lent was marked with a dramatic presentation of the Stations of the Cross.
- The students at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School held a balloon-animal hunt throughout the school where finders were rewarded with a prize. A mental health summit was held at the Cobourg Community Centre. The annual Spring Fling takes place during the day and students are looking forward to presenting their culture on May 6th with presentations, food, and traditional clothing.
- The Holy Cross Catholic Secondary students are showing their spirit with social justice initiatives and preparations for Asian heritage month. There are activities in which students can gain their community service hours. School sports are thriving with badminton, soccer, lacrosse, and track and field underway. The Special Olympics Floorball event was hosted, showing that sport is for all.
- This evening, at the Student Council Liaison Committee meeting, the new Junior Student Trustee was elected: Sophia Ender, from St. Mary Catholic Secondary School will be joining the board table in September. The six new liaisons representing their schools will join the SCLC for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.

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:

- The “Reconciling with the Land” Project was recently announced which includes a grant from the Trillium Foundation. The announcement took place at Curve Lake on March 27th and includes a partnership with Peterborough GreenUP, Camp Kawartha, the Indigenous Learning team and PVNC Catholic Elementary Schools.

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- Indigenous Awareness Day was held at St. Paul Catholic Elementary School in Norwood. The day included activities to enhance their learning of Indigenous teachings and culture, land-based games, and an Earth Day mural.
- Students at St. Mary Catholic Elementary School in Campbellford created Donut designs for local merchant, Dooher's Bakery. The students pitched their new recipe designs to the bakery owners, who considered the students' creations.
- The Central Junior Robotics competition was held demonstrating teamwork and innovation. The competitions were won by St. Anne CES, St. Alphonsus CES, and Monsignor Leo Cleary CES.
- PVNC Catholic's collective effort that raised over \$50,000 for the United Way Campaign resulted in the Champions of Change award from the Peterborough and District organization.
- A friendly basketball game was held at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School that pitted the Canes vs. Cops. The friendly competition further enhances the community police relationship at the school.

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

D. Presentations:

1. Outdoor Play Spaces at PVNC Catholic.

Kerri Riel, Early Years and Child Care Program Supervisor and Tom O'Grady, Manager of Facilities Services delivered a slide deck presentation about different types of school playground equipment and their uses, costs, benefits and limitations.

Tom O'Grady reviewed the costs of a typical equipment set-up and the restrictions of the equipment, including the restriction of play due to weather. He noted that often equipment is closed off for use for six months of the ten-month school year. The requirements for the installation of the equipment and the yearly inspections were noted as well as the annual cost of adding the surface material top-up ensuring that the playground surfaces are kept up to date and compliant with safety standards.

Kerri Riel reviewed evidence about the use of different types of playgrounds. Kerri noted the benefits of 'loose parts' playgrounds and the impact that the use of natural materials

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has on child development based on current research. The Board's Administrative Procedure 619, Playground Equipment Installation and Maintenance recommends the installation of natural play areas.

At the conclusion at the presentation, Kerri Riel and Tom O'Grady answered questions from the Trustees.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Jenny Leahy that Senior Administration and staff create a resource for parent councils that highlights the benefits of natural playgrounds, and that the document include information about resources and materials to be used.

Carried.

Kevin MacKenzie vacated the Chair and requested that the Vice-Chairperson, Jenny Leahy assume the role, which she did.

MOTION: Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Loretta Durst That the PVNCCDSB Board of Trustees request that the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association advocate to the Government of Ontario for a review of the current funding framework for elementary school playground and outdoor play space infrastructure, recognizing that playground equipment is not currently included in provincial education capital funding formulas.

That Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association further advocate for collaboration between the Ministry of Education and other relevant provincial ministries, including Health, Sport, Environment, and Infrastructure, to explore sustainable funding opportunities that support student wellbeing, physical activity, outdoor learning, and equitable access to safe outdoor play spaces for students and communities across Ontario. That PVNC

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Catholic request from OCSTA to advocate for outdoor play spaces for funding for elementary school playground and play structures.

Carried.

Kevin MacKenzie resumed the role of Chairperson for the remainder of the meeting.

2. Faith in Action in PVNC Catholic.

Superintendent Julie Selby introduced her presentation and noted that this information was presented at the recent Faith and Equity Committee meeting, where it was suggested by Trustees Durst and Martin that the presentation be given at the Board Meeting. Superintendent Selby thanked Jennifer Koch, Board Chaplain and Faith Animator for her work to compile the visual evidence and create the presentation.

Julie Selby reviewed various Religious Education and Faith events and curriculum initiatives that have taken place so far during this school year or are being planned for the coming months. Pictures from various elementary and secondary schools were viewed that demonstrated the engagement of students in many activities during Lent, such as participation in liturgies, re-enactments, social justice collections and community service.

At the end of the presentation, Superintendent Selby answered questions from the trustees.

E. Business, Finance and Governance:

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

Board Chairperson Kevin MacKenzie thanked the trustees who donated to the Toonies for Tuition gift basket arranged by Trustee Durst, which will be part of the OCSTA Fundraiser at the upcoming Annual General Meeting.

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

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2. Recommended Actions from the Committee-of-the-Whole, April 13, 2026: 2026-2027 Revised School Year Calendar, Interim Financial Report, School Naming Report.

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

that the Board rescind the February 24, 2026, approval of the 2026-2027 School Year Calendars; and,

that the revised 2026-2027 School Year Calendars be approved and submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval, as required.

Carried.

b) **MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Loretta Durst

that the Board receive the Interim Financial Report for February 2026.

Carried.

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

that the Board receive the School Naming Report as presented.

Carried.

3. Naming of the New Catholic Elementary School (Northglen), Bowmanville.

MOTION: Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay

that the Board approve the name of the new Catholic elementary school in Bowmanville as *St. Cecilia Catholic Elementary School*; and, that this name be submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval, as required.

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Carried.

F. Human Resources:

G. Policy Development:

1. Recommended Action from the Policy Development Committee Meeting, April 21, 2026.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Jenny Leahy
that the Board receive the reports and recommendations from the Policy Development Committee meeting dated April 21, 2026, for publication and implementation.

Carried.

H. Old Business:

I. New Business:

1. Reinforcement of Chair's Authority: Notice of Motion from the Regular Board Meeting, March 24, 2026.

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay

Whereas, the Board of Trustees is guided by its Multi-Year Strategic Plan, grounded in the pillars of Inspire, Thrive, and Connect, which collectively call for respectful, accountable, and faith-filled learning and governance environments;

Whereas, the Inspire pillar commits the Board to cultivating responsibility, accountability, and respectful engagement in all aspects of its work;

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Whereas, the Thrive pillar emphasizes the importance of safe, inclusive, and supportive environments where all participants feel valued and able to contribute meaningfully;

Whereas, the Connect pillar calls the Board to model relationships rooted in dignity, respect, and a strong sense of community; and

Whereas, the Board's Procedural By-laws establishes rules of order and decorum that are essential to achieving these strategic priorities;

Whereas, maintaining order and respectful conduct during meetings is fundamental to fulfilling the Board's mission of stewardship, accountability, and service to students, families, and the broader Catholic community;

Now therefore be it resolved that, the Board reaffirms the authority of the Chair to enforce the Procedural By-law and rules of order in a manner that reflects the principles of Inspire, Thrive, and Connect, including the authority to: call members to order; rule on points of order and decorum; require that all remarks be respectful, relevant, and directed through the Chair; ensure debate aligns with the matter under consideration and supports effective decision-making; and

That the Chair is authorized to take appropriate and proportionate action where conduct undermines these principles, including issuing warnings grounded in expectations of respect and accountability and refusing further recognition where rules are not followed; and

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That all trustees are expected to uphold the values of the Multi-Year Strategic Plan in their conduct and to comply with rulings of the Chair.

Carried.

2. Reinforcement of the Trustee Code of Conduct: Notice of Motion from the Regular Board Meeting, March 24, 2026.

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Jenny Leahy

Whereas, Trustees are required to uphold the Trustee Code of Conduct as established under the Education Act;

Whereas, the Multi-Year Strategic Plan affirms the Board's commitment to Inspire responsibility and accountability, Thrive through safe and supportive environments, and Connect through relationships grounded in dignity and respect;

Whereas, conduct that disrupts Board or committee meetings undermines these pillars and negatively impacts the Board's ability to govern effectively and model Catholic values;

Whereas, a clear, transparent, and fair process for addressing concerns related to trustee conduct is essential to maintaining public trust and confidence;

Whereas, the Board is committed to ensuring that its governance practices reflect its legislative requirements, strategic priorities and faith based learning;

Now therefore be it resolved that, the Board reaffirms its expectation that all trustees conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the Trustee Code of Conduct and the principles of Inspire, Thrive,

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and Connect, particularly during Board, Committee meetings and in the broader public domain; and

That conduct which disrupts the orderly proceedings of meetings, including but not limited to repeated interruptions, failure to comply with the Procedural By-law, repeated disrespectful behaviour and/or disregard for rulings of the Chair, may constitute a breach of the Code of Conduct; and

That trustees are expected to adhere to established rules of order and to model respectful, accountable behaviour in all Board proceedings; and

That concerns regarding trustee conduct be addressed through the Board's existing Code of Conduct complaint process, in accordance with the requirements of the Education Act and principles of procedural fairness.

Carried.

3. Fulfill the Appointment of a First Nations Trustee: Notice of Motion from the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting, April 13, 2026.

The motion was not presented and therefore failed for a lack of mover.

J. Bring Forward:

K. Information Items:

1. Trustee Committee Reports.
 - a. Special Education Advisory Committee, April 2, 2026.

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Trustee Kathleen Tanguay reported on the April 2nd Special Education Advisory Committee meeting, which focused on a presentation from Karen Spence, Principal of Special Education about the PVNC Catholic Special Education Plan which is reviewed by the committee before it is reported to the Ministry of Education.

b. Faith and Equity Committee, April 9, 2026.

Trustee Loretta Durst reported on the Faith and Equity Committee meeting which she and Trustee Mary Ann Martin attended. There were two presentations heard at the meeting. The Board Chaplain and Faith Animator reported on Faith Updates in the System and a representative from Development & Peace reported on their current initiatives and the ways in which they support Catholic schools.

c. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, April 23, 2026.

Trustee Mary Ann Martin reported on the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee meeting which she noted strengthens the relationship of home, school, and parish. A presentation from Julie Selby, Superintendent of Learning, about the Math Achievement Action Plan was heard by the committee. The skating events that were hosted in Port Hope and Bowmanville were discussed and there were planning discussions about future events.

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

- a. April 7, 2026 – Nominations Report.
- b. April 8, 2026 – Ontario Catholic Student Youth Day
- c. April 8, 2026 – Bill 98 – Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act, 2026.
- d. April 10, 2026 – Ministry of Colleges and Universities Announcement.
- e. April 13, 2026 – Putting Students Achievement First Act, 2026.
- f. April 14, 2026 – Ombudsman Report.
- g. April 17, 2026 – Buy Ontario Procurement Directive.
- h. April 21, 2026 – Episcopal Resignation and Appointment for the Diocese of London.

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3. Recognition of a Retiree of the Board

Jenny Leahy, Board Vice-Chairperson, took the opportunity to pay tribute to a former teacher of the board, Sister Shirley Tapp. Sister Shirley joined the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1944, and a short time later, became a teacher. She taught in Peterborough at Immaculate Conception, St. John, and St. Anne and also in Port Hope, where she was a teaching principal. She later taught at St. Peter Secondary School until 1974 and was the Head of Religious Education. She has celebrated 82 years of service with the congregation and recently celebrated her 100th birthday. The Board Vice-Chair acknowledged and thanked Sister Shirley for her contributions to the PVNC Catholic Community.

L. **Future Meetings and Events:**

1. Board Meetings:

- a. Regular Board Meeting Open Session, May 26, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)

2. Board Standing Committee Meetings:

- a. Chairperson's Committee, May 11, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
- b. Committee-of-the-Whole, May 11, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Policy Development Committee, June 16, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

3. Other Committee Meetings:

- a. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, April 30, 2026, 4:00 p.m.
- b. Accessibility for All Committee, May 7, 2026, 1:00 p.m.
- c. Special Education Advisory Committee, May 21, 2026, 1:00 p.m.
- d. Student Council Liaison Committee, May 26, 2026, 4:15 p.m.
- e. STSCO Governance Committee, June 3, 2026, 3:00 p.m.
- f. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, June 4, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
- g. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, June 9, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

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- h. Audit Committee, TBA.
- i. Faith and Equity Committee, TBA.
- j. SAL Committee, TBA.

4. Board Events:

- a. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Annual General Meeting, Windsor, ON.

M. Conclusion:

1. Report from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera Session, April 28, 2026.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Mary Ann Martin 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 for the approval of the agenda
- 3. No conflicts of interest were declared.
- 4. Approval of the minutes of the March 24, 2026, Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session.

D. Business Finance and Governance:

- 1. OCSTA In-camera session report.

E. Human Resources:

- 1. Approval of a motion to receive the Staffing Report.

I. Conclusion:

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

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer.

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Trustee John Connolly led the closing prayer to conclude the meeting.

3. Adjournment.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Mary Ann Martin
that the open session meeting adjourn at 8:34 p.m.

Carried.

Kevin MacKenzie
Board Chairperson

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