



The Niagara Catholic District School Board through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.

AGENDA AND MATERIAL

BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2012
7:00 P.M.**

FATHER KENNETH BURNS, C.S.C. BOARD ROOM
CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE, WELLAND, ONTARIO

8:00 p.m. Timed In Camera Item

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayers – Trustee O’Leary -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Minutes of the Board Meeting of April 24, 2012 A5

B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program C1
St. Ann Catholic Elementary School, St. Catharines
2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 8, 2012 C2
And Consideration of Recommendations
2.1 Playground Equipment Policy (702.1) C2.1
2.2 Capital Priorities Submission C2.2
2.3 Larkin Estate Admission Awards 2012-2013 C2.3
2.4 Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013 C2.4
3. Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting C3
of April 11, 2012 and Consideration of Recommendations
3.1 Letter to the Halton DSB C3.1
3.2 Letter to the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic DSB C3.2
4. Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Committee Approvals C4
5. Financial Reports
5.1 Monthly Banking Transactions for the Month of April 2012 C5.1
5.2 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at April 30, 2012 C5.2

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence
 - 1.1 Laurel Broten, Minister of Education – Letter to all Chairs of Boards – May 17, 2012 D1.1
2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended -
3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action -
4. Trustee Information -
 - 4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – May 8, 2012 D4.1
 - 4.2 Calendar of Events – June 2012 D4.2
 - 4.3 St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School Blessing – May 28, 2012 -
 - 4.4 2nd Annual Niagara Catholic Staff & Family Mass and Picnic – Sunday, June 3, 2012 -
 - 4.5 Annual Trustee and Senior Staff Retreat – October 16, 2012 -
5. Open Question Period -
(The purpose of the Open Question Period is to allow members of the Catholic school supporting public to ask about items on that night's public agenda or any previous agendas, and the Board to answer and react.)

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

G. REPORT ON IN CAMERA SESSION

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF
APRIL 24, 2012**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of April 24, 2012, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2012

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Burtnik.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee MacNeil.

2. Roll Call

Chairperson Burtnik noted that all Trustees and Student Trustees were in attendance.

Trustee	Present	Absent	Excused
Rhianon Burkholder	✓		
Kathy Burtnik	✓		
Maurice Charbonneau	✓		
Frank Fera	✓		
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓		
Ted O'Leary	✓		
Dino Sicoli	✓		
Student Trustees			
Ryan Creelman	✓		
Patrick Morris	✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Mario Ciccarelli**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **James Woods**, Controller of Plant; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of April 24, 2012, as amended:

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting of March 27, 2012

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of March 27, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED

B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program - Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School, Grimsby

Director Crocco provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education introduced Michael Hendrickse, Principal of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School, Grimsby.

Principal Hendrickse with the assistance of students and staff showcased Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

Chairperson Burtnik thanked Principal Hendrickse, the staff and students for their presentation.

2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 10, 2012 and Consideration of Recommendations

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 10, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 10, 2012:

2.1 Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee By-Laws

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee By-Laws, as presented.

CARRIED

2.2 Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars – 2012-2013

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars – 2012-201, as presented.

CARRIED

3. Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 7, 2012 and Consideration of Recommendations

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

Seconded by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 7, 2012, as presented for information.

CARRIED

**3.1 Change in Representation to the Special Education Advisory Committee
- Ontario Brain Injury Association**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

Seconded by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the change in representation for the Ontario Brain Injury Association to the Special Education Advisory Committee; Primary Representative: Katie Muirhead, Alternate Representative: Diane Dakiv, OBIA Address: PO Box 2338, St. Catharines, ON L2R 7R9.

CARRIED

4. Policy Committee Meeting of April 24, 2012 – Recommendations

Director Crocco informed Trustees that at the request of the Student Senate, the Student Senate Policy and the Student Trustees Policy are being recommended for consideration directly from the Policy Committee Meeting of April 24, 2012, to be in effect for the Student Leadership Symposium in May 2012.

4.1 Student Senate Policy (100.6)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Student Senate Policy (100.6), as presented.

CARRIED

4.2 Student Trustees Policy (10046)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Student Trustees Policy (100.4), as presented.

CARRIED

5. Vimy Ridge 2012 National Remembrance Tour: Beaches and Battlefields

Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Jackie Watson, Equity and Student Leadership Consultant, who presented the report on the Vimy Ridge 2012 National Remembrance Tour: Beaches and Battlefields. Ms. Watson stated that the Tour which honoured Canadian soldiers and commemorated the 95th Anniversary of Vimy Ridge was experienced by forty-seven (47) students from Niagara Catholic's secondary schools.

6. Catholic Education Week 2012

Superintendent Lefebvre presented the report on Catholic Education Week 2012, which carries the theme "*Walking in the Light of Christ*". He stated that Catholic Education Week underlines the relationship of Catholic Schools with the broader Church community, especially our parishes. Trustees were provided with a compilation of Catholic Education Week 2012 Planners for all of schools in the system.

Director Crocco informed Trustees that a letter will be sent to all families regarding Catholic Education Week, from the Bishop, Chair and the Director, on behalf of the Diocese and Board. He also stated that students, parents, staff members, and/or Principals/Vice-Principals will read a Catholic Education Week message following Mass on the Saturday and Sunday to commence Catholic Education Week.

7. Financial Reports

7.1 Monthly Banking Transactions

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of March 2012, as presented for information.

CARRIED

7.2 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at March 31, 2012, as presented for information.

CARRIED

7.3 March Revised Budget for the Year 2011-2012

Director Crocco introduced the report on the March Revised Budget for the Year 2011-2012 and stated that while the figures are unaudited and changes will continue to occur through August 2012, Senior Administrative Council will continue to identify opportunities to increase budget revenue and reduce budget expenditures as part of the continuous focus on reducing the funds from reserves to balance the budget.

Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services highlighted the key areas of the revised budget.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the report on the March Revised Budget for the year 2011-2012, as presented.

CARRIED

8. Niagara Catholic System Priorities and Annual Budget Timelines 2012-2013

Director Crocco presented the Niagara Catholic System Priorities and Annual Budget Timelines 2012-2013, pointing out that the draft Priorities and the Budget which will be submitted to the Board for consideration are in keeping with the Board approved Vision 2020 Strategic Plan; the Board approved System Priorities for 2012-2013; and funding from the Ministry of Education.

Moved by Trustee Fera
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic System Priorities and Annual Budget Timelines for the school year 2012-2013, pending any changes by the Government of Ontario and/or the Ministry of Education, as presented.

CARRIED

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

Director Crocco presented the following correspondence.

1.1 OFSSA – Thank You for Support of Tournament

1.2 OSAID – Volunteer Service Award

1.3 Public Sector Compensation

1.3.1 Ministry of Education - 2012 Budget Long-Term Plan

1.3.2 Ministry of Finance - Public Sector Compensation

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

Nil Report

3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

Nil Report

4. Trustee Information

4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – April 10, 2012

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – April 10, 2012 issue for Trustees' information.

4.2 Calendar of Events – May 2012

Director Crocco presented the Calendar of Events – May 2012 for Trustees' information

4.3 OCSTA AGM 2012 – April 25 to April 28, 2012

Director Crocco presented information on the OCSTA AGM.

4.4 Niagara Catholic Festival of Faith – May 1 and 2, 2012

Director Crocco presented information on the Niagara Catholic Festival of Faith for all Grade 7 students in Niagara Catholic takes place May 1 – 2, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Suites and Convention Centre in St. Catharines, featuring keynote speaker Fr. Tony Ricard from New Orleans.

Trustees were asked to inform Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications of their attendance.

4.5 Catch the Spirit 2012 – May 7, 2012

Director Crocco presented information on Catch the Spirit 2012 taking place May 7, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Paul Catholic High School.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications prior to May 7, 2012 in order to arrange for seating, the procession into the gym and award distribution.

4.6 Annual Trustee and Senior Staff Retreat – May 10, 2012

Director Crocco presented information on the Annual Trustee and Senior Staff Retreat scheduled for May 10, 2012, 4:30 p.m. at the Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre.

Trustees were asked to inform Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications of their attendance.

4.7 Niagara Catholic Graduation Celebration 2012 – May 17, 2012

Director Crocco presented information on the Niagara Catholic Graduation Celebration 2012 being held May 17, 2012, 10:00 a.m. at the Scotiabank Convention Centre. He noted that Bishop Bergie would be in attendance.

Trustees were asked to inform Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications of their attendance.

4.8 Partners in Catholic Education – May 17, 2012

Director Crocco presented information on Partners in Catholic Education taking place May 7, 2012, 1:00 p.m. at Denis Morris Catholic High School.

Trustees were asked to inform Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications of their attendance.

4.9 CCSTA AGM – June 7-9, 2012 – Sudbury

Director Crocco presented information on the CCSTA AGM being held June 7-9, 2012 in Sudbury.

Trustees were asked to inform Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications of their attendance.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting at 9:00 p.m. and reconvened at 11:15 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of April 24, 2012.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of March 27, 2012. 2012, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of April 10, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of March 27, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of April 10, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of April 10, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F11 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F6)

The following motion was passed at 11:00 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve that the Board Meeting be extended by fifteen (15) minutes.

CARRIED

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the April 24, 2012 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.
CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **April 24th, 2012.**

Approved on the **22nd** day of **May 2012.**

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM
ST. ANN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
Presented by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

**SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM
ST. ANN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ST. CATHARINES**

218 Main Street
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2N 4W1
ph 905.934.1755
fx 905.934.6870
st.ann.sc@ncdsb.com

Grades:
JK – 8

Principal:
Victoria Wegelin

Superintendent:
Yolanda Baldasaro

**Catholic School
Council Chair:**
Lynsey Gregoire

Parish:
Star of the Sea



In September 1993, St. Ann Catholic School opened its doors and welcomed the children in the Port Dalhousie ward of St. Catharines. St. Ann Catholic School was named in honour of St. Ann, the Mother of the most Holy Virgin Mary.

This vibrant, rejuvenated community has enjoyed a steady influx of new families moving in the area over the last 12 years with expectations for continued growth for the foreseeable future.

Total enrolment as of September 2011: 310

*Experience
the integration
of God's truth
and His life,
as revealed in Christ
through the Holy Spirit,
in the entire curriculum
and life of the school.*

- School Mission Statement

"The Spirit of Excellence"

- School Motto

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: May 22, 2012

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE MEETING OF MAY 8, 2012**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Minutes of May 8, 2012, as presented.

The following recommendations are being presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 8, 2012.

2.1 Playground Equipment Policy (702.1)

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Playground Equipment Policy (702.1), as presented.

2.2 Capital Priorities Submission

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Capital Priorities submission to the Ministry of Education as presented in this report.

2.3 Larkin Estate Admission Awards 2012-2013

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of scholarships for the Larkin Estate Admission Awards for 2012-2013, as noted in the report.

2.4 Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013, as amended.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2012

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Charbonneau.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chairperson Charbonneau noted that all Trustees were in attendance.

Trustee	Present	Absent	Excused
Rhianon Burkholder	✓		
Kathy Burtnik	✓		
Maurice Charbonneau	✓		
Frank Fera	✓		
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓		
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓		
Ted O'Leary	✓		
Dino Sicoli	✓		
Student Trustees			
Ryan Creelman	✓		
Patrick Morris	✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Mario Ciccarelli**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Larry Reich**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Khayyam Syne**, Administrator of Staff Development; Administrator of School Effectiveness; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 8, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED

4. **Disclosure of Interest**

A Disclosure of Interest was declared by Trustee Burkholder with Item C9.1 of the Public Agenda, as she has a family member who is associated with the Quartek Group.

5. **Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 10, 2012**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 10, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1.1 **VEX Robotics Competition 2012 - Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School**

Mario Ciccarelli, Family of Schools Superintendent of Education, welcomed Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School staff Principal Joe Zaroda, Vice-Principals Frances Brockenshire and Jay Lennox, along with teacher Jeff Maxwell, who presented the report on VEX Robotics Competition 2012 - Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School.

The Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School VEX Robotic Team competed at the World 2012 Competition in Anaheim, California, and presented a visual report on their participation in the World Competition.

Vice-Chairperson Charbonneau congratulated the students on their accomplishments and along with Chairperson Burtnik and Director Crocco presented them with Niagara Catholic "Excellence in Academics" Pins.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Policy Committee

1.1 Unapproved Minutes

Policy Committee Meeting – April 24, 2012

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of April 24, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED

1.2 Approval of Policies

1.2.1 Playground Equipment Policy (702.1)

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Playground Equipment Policy (702.1), as presented.

CARRIED

1.3 Policy Schedule

Director Crocco presented the Policy Schedule.

1.4 Policy Update

Director Crocco presented the Policy Update.

2. Festival of Faith 2012

Deborah McCaffery, Board Chaplaincy Leader, presented information on the First Annual Faith Festival for all Grade 7 students in Niagara Catholic held on May 1st and 2nd, 2012. She noted that the event which was emceed by Student Trustees Ryan Creelman and Patrick Morris, and featured facilitator Fr. Tony Ricard from New Orleans, was enthusiastically received by all 1,700 Grade 7 students in Niagara Catholic.

3. Capital Priorities Submission

Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services, presented information and a recommendation for the consideration of the Committee of the Whole on the Capital Priorities Submission. If approved by Committee of the Whole and at the May 22, 2012 Board Meeting, the report and business cases will be submitted to the Ministry of Education by May 31, 2012, for Capital Priority funding of the Board's most urgent needs by 2015-2016.

Moved by Trustee Fera

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Capital Priorities Submission to the Ministry of Education as presented in the report.

CARRIED

4. Larkin Estate Admission Awards 2012-2013

Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education, and Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services, presented the report and recommendation on the Larkin Estate Admission Awards 2012-2013.

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of scholarships for the Larkin Estate Admission Awards for 2012-2013, as noted in the report.

CARRIED

5. Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013

Director Crocco presented the report and recommendation on the Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013, which are based on the expectations and outcomes of the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, and builds on the 2011-2012 Niagara Catholic System Priorities.

Director Crocco informed Trustees that a Mid-Year Progress Review Report of the 2012-2013 System Priorities will be presented at the January 2013 Board Meeting with a Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2012-2013 Achievement Report presented at the September 2013 Board Meeting.

Director Crocco, Trustees and members of Senior Staff discussed various aspects of the proposed priorities in detail. Following discussion with Trustees, recommended amendments to the Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013 will be made and presented to the May Board Meeting.

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board the approval of the Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013, as amended.

CARRIED

6. Full Day Kindergarten Extended Day Programs - Update

Superintendent Lefebvre presented the Full Day Kindergarten Extended Day Programs Update. He explained how it relates to the Ministry of Education Regulatory Amendments Respecting Full-Day Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten and Extended Day and Third Party Programs, which included new information and regulatory requirements to comply with Ontario Regulation 221/11 – (Extended Day and Third Party Programs).

7. Speech and Language Services Demonstration Site Pilot Project - Year 2 Extension

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, presented the report on the Speech and Language Demonstration Site Pilot – Year 2 Extension, which currently includes St. Anthony, St. Denis, St. Thomas More and Father Hennepin Catholic Elementary Schools.

8. Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities

Khayyam Syne, Administrator of Staff Development, presented the report on the Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities for information.

9. Monthly Updates

9.1 Capital Projects Progress Report

Superintendent Reich presented the Capital Projects Progress Report.

9.2 Student Trustees' Update

Ryan Creelman and Patrick Morris, Student Trustees, presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

9.3 Senior Staff Good News Update

Senior Staff highlights included:

Superintendent Ciccarelli

- Grade 8 student Chelsea DerNederlanden, 2012 Catch the Spirit Award Recipient from St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School, and motivational speaker promoting self-esteem among young girls and women, has accepted a professional modeling contract with one of the leading modeling agencies in the world, Ford Model Agency.

Superintendent Lefebvre

- Two students from Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School received Gold Medals in the 2012 Skills Ontario Technology Competition in Waterloo will advance to the Canadian Nationals being held May 13–16, 2012 in Edmonton, Alberta.
- Two students from Niagara Catholic, Alicia Pinelli from Lakeshore Catholic and Thomas Mingle from St. Michael Catholic High Schools, have been selected to sit on the Minister of Education's Student Advisory Council.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells

- At the recent "Great Kids 2012" celebration hosted by the Welland Tribune, Niagara Catholic was well-represented with eleven (11) students recognized for their accomplishments at school and in their communities.

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – April 24, 2012

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – April 24, 2012 issue for Trustees' information.

1.2 Calendar of Events – May 2012

Director Crocco presented information on the Calendar of Events – May 2012.

1.3 Catholic Education Week 2012 Letter to Students and Families

Director Crocco presented the Catholic Education Week 2012 Letter which was copied and sent to all students and families in Niagara Catholic. The letter was signed by Bishop Bergie, Chair Burtnik and the Director.

1.4 Annual Trustee and Senior Staff Retreat

Director Crocco indicated that in consultation with the Bishop, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board, the Annual Trustee and Senior Staff Retreat has been rescheduled for September 20, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistance, Corporate Services & Communications.

1.5 May Policy Committee Meeting – May 22, 2012 – 2:00 p.m.

Director Crocco noted that the May 22nd Policy Committee Meeting will commence at 2:00 p.m. in order to have sufficient time to review the larger than normal quantity of policies being discussed at the May Policy Committee Meeting.

1.6 Graduation Dates

Director Crocco informed Trustees that the Class of 2012 Graduation Celebration is being held at the Scotiabank Convention Centre on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., with Bishop Bergie leading the prayer service.

Trustees were presented with copies of Elementary and Secondary Graduation dates, and asked to confirm their attendance in order to have Trustee representation at the graduation celebrations.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistance, Corporate Services & Communications.

1.7 Partners in Catholic Education

Trustees were invited to attend Partners in Catholic Education being held on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 7.00 p.m. at Saint Michael Catholic High School, featuring keynote speaker Brett Ullman, Director of Worlds Apart.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistance, Corporate Services & Communications.

1.8 2nd Annual Niagara Catholic Family Picnic

Trustees were invited to attend the 2nd Annual Niagara Catholic Family Picnic on June 3, 2012 at Queenston Heights. Bishop Bergie will celebrate Mass.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Sherry Morena, Administrative Assistance, Corporate Services & Communications.

1.9 2012-2013 School Year Calendar

Superintendent Iannantuono informed Trustees that the Ministry of Education has approved the Niagara Catholic 2012-2013 School Year Calendar. School communities and staff will be informed of the approval and the confirmed calendars will be placed on the Board website.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

- Director Crocco informed Trustees that the posting for Controller of Facilities Services will be posted in local newspapers on May 9 and 11, 2012 sent to OCSTA and OCSOA to publish and sent to the Professional Engineer and Architect Associations for them to post with their members. With a closing date of May 25, Senior Administrative Council plans to have the new Controller named by the June Board Meeting and in place by mid June.
- Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the Administrative Procedure for School Name Selection and that part of those procedures are specific to naming areas of a particular school. Director Crocco informed Trustees of the request from some parents of the Catholic School Council at St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School to re-name the gym. Following discussion with Trustees, and considering that the gym is currently named the Bishop Webster Hall after Fr. Webster the request will be denied as facilities are named in perpetuity. Director Crocco will contact the school Principal and the Chair of the St. Kevin Catholic School Council of this decision.

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee

THAT the Committee of the Whole move into the In Camera Session.

CARRIED

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Meeting at 9:55 p.m. and reconvened at 10:20 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 8, 2012.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section A: Student Trustees Present held on April 10, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - Section B: Student Trustees Excluded held on April 10, 2012, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F3)

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F4 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F4 (a))

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F4 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F4 (b))

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the May 8, 2012 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **May 8th 2012.**

Approved on the **12th** day of June **2012.**

Maurice Charbonneau
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT POLICY (702.1)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Playground Equipment Policy (702.1), as presented.

Prepared by: James Woods, Controller of Plant
Presented by: Policy Committee
Recommended by: Committee of the Whole
Date: May 22, 2012



Niagara Catholic District School Board

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT POLICY

Adopted: April 28, 1998

Policy No. 702.1

Revised:

STATEMENT OF POLICY

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Niagara Catholic District School Board recognizes that playground equipment on its school sites has been provided through the participation of school and community groups in raising funds for its purchase, installation, inspection and maintenance in accordance with the guidelines on playground equipment.

The Board also encourages the formation of community partnerships to assist in the purchase, installation and maintenance of playground equipment and surfaces in accordance with the guidelines on playground equipment.

The Board recognizes the appropriate use of playground equipment and adult supervision, as well as the fact that that playground equipment will be utilized by the community outside of the normal school day.

The Director of Education will issue Administrative Guidelines for the implementation of this Policy.

Reference Publications:

- *CAN/CSA-Z614-07 (Canadian Standard Association for Children's Playspaces and Equipment)*
- *ASTM F 1292-99 (American Society for Testing Materials-Standard Test Method for Shock-Absorbing Properties of Playing Surface Systems and Materials)*
- *Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange – Advisory Bulletins*



Niagara Catholic District School Board

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT POLICY

Adopted: April 28, 1998
Revised: October 21, 2004

Policy No. 702.1

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

Definition

For the purpose of this document, “Playground Equipment” is defined as a play structure, anchored to the ground, or two or more play structures that are attached or functionally linked that provide one or more play activity, and are for approved use in the play areas of Niagara Catholic Elementary Schools.

New Playground Equipment

1. All new installations of playground equipment must be reviewed and approved by the Controller of Plant in accordance with this Policy and Administrative Guidelines. The Controller of Plant and Plant Services staff will review items such as the age appropriateness of the proposed play structure, location, drainage, underground utilities (gas, water, telephone, cable, hydro, drainage pipes) and compliance with standards and regulations. As well, the resources allocated to the life-cycle maintenance of the equipment will be reviewed.
2. All equipment must comply with current working Standard: CAN/CSA Z614-07.
3. All playground equipment and installation must be purchased through Niagara Catholic Purchasing Services.
4. The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) compels School Boards to have their buildings, premises and structures accessible. Playgrounds are included in the Act. All new playground equipment installations must be AODA compliant (site to be accessible and equipment to include ground level accessible equipment for student enjoyment).
5. Effective September 2012, for all new playground installations, protective ground surfacing must be poured-in-place seamless chemical- binder/rubber-filler synthetic surface to a sufficient depth to achieve critical height protection per CAN/CSA Z614-2007. Loose fill surfacing is not acceptable.
6. Location of the equipment and construction/installation will take place under the direction and supervision of Plant Services.
7. All installed equipment becomes the property of the Board.
8. No equipment shall be installed without there being sufficient school generated funds for the ongoing inspection and maintenance of the equipment and grounds. (\$4,000 or more should be available every year for maintenance of the equipment or protective surfacing).

Existing Playground Equipment

1. Equipment that is deemed unsafe shall be put out of bounds to students pending repairs or removal. Equipment is to be removed from a school upon direction of the Controller of Plant, after consultation with the Principal, where repairs to the equipment to make it safe cannot be cost effectively implemented. Where playground equipment is removed or not installed at elementary schools, it will be the responsibility of the Board to provide active playground areas painted on the asphalt playground.

2. It is recommended that whenever possible preschool play facilities be separated from school-aged play facilities and the entire play area to be contained within a fenced perimeter. The inspection of such fenced play space for small children will be done by a qualified Playground Inspector appointed by the Daycare Provider. Any actions arising from the inspection report, renovations, repairs or replacements of equipment or surfacing material within this area will be the responsibility of the Daycare Provider.
3. To avoid skin contact on existing wood borders built with CCA pressure treated lumber, a cedar top cap must be secured to the existing border.
4. Principals shall maintain sufficient funds as determined by the Controller of Plant for the ongoing inspection and maintenance of the playground equipment and surfacing. (\$4,000 or more should be available every year for maintenance of the equipment or protective surfacing).

Playground Equipment Near Facilities Under Construction

1. Equipment that is within the construction site of a renovation or addition to the existing facility shall be put out of bounds to students until the construction is completed.
2. The playground equipment shall not be used until any disturbed protective surfacing has been restored according to the requirements of the current Standard and cleared for student use by Plant Services.

Playground Safety

Proper supervision is a key component to student safety on the playground.

The following steps, while not all encompassing, will assist staff in supervising students using playground equipment:

- ensure the equipment is used properly
- monitor and control the number of students who have access to the equipment
- enforce safety rules and sanction students not following the rules

Winter Use

The playground equipment is NOT safe for use if there is/are:

1. Freezing temperatures - at temperatures below 0 C, very few types of protective ground surfacing remain resilient enough to offer any degree of protection to a falling child - regardless of depth. Snow build-up - snow can cause two problems on a play structure - firstly, it can make play surfaces very slippery; secondly, it can create suffocation hazards if the openings at the end of tube slides or similar structures become closed in by drifting snow.
2. Ice or freezing rain - ice or freezing rain can make play surfaces, hand grips and stairways very slippery, increasing the risk of slip and fall injuries.

Playground equipment cannot be operated safely under the winter conditions as described above, schools should place this equipment "off limits" during these conditions.

Playground Risk Management Strategy

In determining what is the best course of action to maintain playground equipment, a prioritization system will be introduced. The three priority levels that are applied to each piece of equipment are:

- Priority #1 – Hazards which are life threatening or permanently disabling;
- Priority #2 – Hazards which are serious and may cause non-disabling injury;
- Priority #3 – Hazards that may cause slight injury, or equipment not in compliance with CSA Z614-07

The Risk Management Strategy shall be completed yearly by a playground inspector appointed by Plant Services.

Playground Monitoring and Maintenance

Monitoring should consist of retaining documentation of daily/weekly inspection reports by the custodian, with noted deficiencies and copies of completed work orders to validate that the deficiencies have been corrected. Custodians must maintain accurate logs to verify inspections of play equipment.

DAILY INSPECTION

A walk-through inspection must take place, each morning, prior to the students' arrival. The custodian must inspect for overnight vandalism to the structure itself, or harmful debris on and under the structure. This walk-through must be logged, and any action taken documented.

WEEKLY INSPECTION

A weekly inspection must be conducted by the custodian to check for loose bolts, wear, and the general security of the structure. Weekly inspections must be logged, and any action taken documented.

If a weakness is identified in a structure and it cannot be immediately repaired, the equipment must be removed from service until repairs can be made.

YEARLY INSPECTIONS

Every year a comprehensive written report must be prepared by a certified playground inspector appointed by Plant Services. These reports will be made available to the Principal in order to implement the necessary repairs.

Reported injuries that have occurred on the playground equipment must be recorded and immediately reported to the Principal, Family of School Superintendent and the Superintendent of Business & Finance with a copy to Plant Services

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: CAPITAL PRIORITIES SUBMISSION

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Capital Priorities submission to the Ministry of Education, as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Recommended by: Committee of the Whole
Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MAY 8, 2012

CAPITAL PRIORITIES SUBMISSION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On March 29, 2012 the Ministry of Education announced that up to \$350 million will be available for school board Capital Priorities that address *accommodation pressure, facility condition* and/or *school consolidation*, and needed by 2015-2016.

The Ministry is requesting that school boards submit their requests for Capital Priority funding with associated business cases, in order of highest and most urgent need, through the Ministry *School Facilities Inventory System* by May 31, 2012.

The following is a summary of proposed projects in order of priority for submission to the Ministry:

	Facility	Need	Project	Cost
1.	St. James	facility condition, school consolidation	addition and renovations	\$1,500,000
2.	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	facility condition, school consolidation	alterations and renovations	\$2,000,000
3.	Lakeshore Catholic	accommodation pressure	addition/alterations to eliminate portable classrooms	\$5,500,000

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Capital Priorities submission to the Ministry of Education as presented in this report.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education

Date: May 8, 2012

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: LARKIN ESTATE ADMISSION AWARDS 2012-2013

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of scholarships for the Larkin Estate Admission Awards for 2012-2013, as noted in the report.

Prepared by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education
Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education
Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

Recommended by: Committee of the Whole

Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MAY 8, 2012

LARKIN ESTATE ADMISSION AWARDS 2012-2013

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Larkin Estate Admission Awards are administered by the Board of Trustees of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Funding for the awards comes from a bequest from the estate of Maria Eveleen Larkin and Aimee Theresa Larkin. These awards have been administered annually since 1969 by the Board of Trustees of the former Lincoln County Roman Catholic District School Board.

The Larkin Estate Admission Award is available to graduates of a Catholic high school situated in the jurisdiction of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Candidates must be enrolled in St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, or a school of nursing, social service work or a college or university offering such course.

The applicants have been made aware that they must provide proof that they have registered in the eligible courses and/or school in order to receive the award. This proof is in the form of an official letter from the registrar of either St. Michael's College or a school of nursing, social service work or a college or university offering such course. Candidates are also obliged to submit evidence of successful completion of their year's study in order to qualify for a renewal of the award.

According to the terms of the bequest, the undistributed earnings may be paid to eligible students who are approved by the Board. The Larkin Estate Admission Award is a four-year renewal program.

Based on the current account balance of \$6,001.41 and the projected interest revenue, we recommend that the Board approve the payment of the following scholarships on a go forward basis:

- 1) \$1,000 – 8 scholarships of \$125 for year 1 applicants
- 2) \$2,250 – 9 scholarships of \$250 for year 2 applicants
- 3) \$1,000 – 7 scholarships of \$500 for year 3 applicants
- 4) \$500 – 1 scholarship of \$500 for a year 4 applicant

A list of applicants for years 2, 3 and 4, previously approved by the Board, is hereby enclosed as appendix A.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of scholarships for the Larkin Estate Admission Awards for 2012-2013, as noted in the report.

PREPARED BY: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education
Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

PRESENTED BY: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education
Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

RECOMMENDED BY: John Crocco, Director of Education

DATE: May 8, 2012

LARKIN ESTATE AWARDS 2012-2013

Renewal Applicants

Applicant Name & College or University	Year	Degree/Diploma	Graduate of
Ashley Litalien Niagara College	2	Nursing	Notre Dame College School
Courtney Kovacich University of Toronto	2	Humanities - BA	Lakeshore Catholic High School
Benjamin Courtney McMaster University	2	Nursing - BScN	Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School
Alysha Ducharme Niagara College	2	Social Service Worker	Notre Dame College School
Melaney Turner McMaster University	2	Nursing - BScN	Notre Dame College School
Angela Laramée-Marchio Fleming College	2	Child & Youth Worker	Notre Dame College School
Lindsay Paquette Lambton College	2	Child and Youth Worker	Notre Dame College School
Katie Lynn McLean McMaster University	2	Nursing	Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School
Michael Favero McMaster University	2	Nursing (BScN)	Denis Morris Catholic High School
Elizabeth Marie Toner Brock University	3	Child and Youth Studies	Holy Cross Secondary School
Amanda Lefleur Niagara College	3	Child and Youth Worker	Notre Dame College School
Hilary Nolle McMaster University	3	Nursing	Notre Dame College School
Samantha Symonds Western University	3	Social Science (Linguistics)	Notre Dame College School
Erika Rogers Brock University	3	Nursing – B. SC.	Notre Dame College School
Olivia Hunter Trent University	3	Nursing	Notre Dame College School
Ashley Cascanette McMaster University	3	Nursing – B. SC.	Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School
Ariana Visentin Brock University	4	Nursing - BSN	Denis Morris Catholic High School

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: NIAGARA CATHOLIC STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SYSTEM
PRIORITIES 2012-2013**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013, as amended.

Prepared by: Senior Administrative Council
Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Recommended by: Committee of the Whole
Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MAY 8, 2012

NIAGARA CATHOLIC STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SYSTEM PRIORITIES 2012-2013

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In compliance with the April 24th, 2012 Board Motion approving the timeline for the submission of the Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities for 2012-2013 and the Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, the Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013 are presented for the Board's consideration. (Appendix A)

Based on the expectations and outcomes of the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, the recommended Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013 builds on the 2011-2012 Niagara Catholic System Priorities. Rooted in the Board approved Vision 2020 Strategic Directions and Enabling Strategies, the specific priorities are intended to provide the framework to measure the progress in achieving the two (2) Strategic Directions and the seven (7) Enabling Priorities within Vision 2020.

Senior Administrative Council continues to refine the proposed System Priorities 2012-2013 following consultation and input through discussions with Principals and staff through Director's Meetings, Student Senate, department staff at the Catholic Education Centre, Student Achievement Councils, Special Education Advisory Council and the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, Senior Administrative Council will utilize the System Priorities as the focus in designing the Annual Board Budget for 2012-2013.

Once approved by the Board, a copy of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2012-2013 will be sent to all Principals, Vice-Principals, Managers, Bishop Bergie and the Diocese of St. Catharines, Catholic School Councils, the Special Education Advisory Committee and the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee. A poster size copy of the 2012-2013 Strategic Directions System Priorities will be placed in a public location in all schools, Board sites and the Catholic Education Centre for review by students, staff, parents and guests to Niagara Catholic. A copy will also be placed on the Board web and Facebook sites.

A Mid-Year Progress Review Report of the 2012-2013 System Priorities will be presented at the January 2013 Board Meeting with a Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2012-2013 Achievement Report presented at the September 2013 Board Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board the approval of the Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013, as amended.

Prepared by: Senior Administrative Council
Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 8, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

NIAGARA CATHOLIC STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SYSTEM PRIORITIES 2012-2013

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Build Strong Catholic Identity and Community to Nurture the Distinctiveness of Catholic Education

- To conduct a Niagara Catholic elementary and secondary Student Conference 2013 focusing on the theme of Growing in Wisdom by April 2013.
- To enhance our distinctive Catholic educational system by implementing the first year of the Niagara Catholic Faith Formation program, *Growing in Wisdom to Worship and Witness* by June 2013.
- To enhance our Elementary Chaplaincy Leader program in elementary schools through the addition of Elementary Chaplaincy Leaders who, through Family of Schools, will implement the Niagara Catholic Faith Formation Program and the Journey Retreat Program in all elementary schools by June 2013.
- To enhance local, national and international social justice experiences for elementary and secondary students by June 2013.

Advance Student Achievement for All

- To continue to support all students who are six years of age in the development of literacy skills, particularly in learning to read by June 2013.
- To continue to develop and implement specific literacy and numeracy strategies to support all students from early learning kindergarten programs to graduation by June 2013.
- To develop a school-based inquiry process focusing on mathematical processes, problem solving and communication with all secondary mathematics teachers by June 2013.
- To consolidate an inquiry based model of teaching and learning in all elementary and secondary schools by June 2013.
- To expand language acquisition for elementary and secondary students through the introduction of French Immersion at designated sites and specific international languages to meet the needs of students by June 2013.
- To nurture global citizenship of our students through enhanced national and international educational travel opportunities for students and staff by June 2013.
- To enhance e-Learning initiatives in Niagara Catholic by June 2013.
- To continue with system implementation of the Ministry of Education “Growing Success Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting in Ontario Schools” and the Niagara Catholic Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting K-12 for all schools in the Board by June 2013.

- To continue to advance student achievement with Ministry of Education, Board and School teaching and learning initiatives on the Provincial EQAO Primary and Junior Assessments, the EQAO Secondary Mathematics Assessment, the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) and classroom assessments to close the achievement gap by June 2013.
- To align and design initiatives to achieve the target of 85% graduation rate of 2012-2013 Grade 12 students by June 2013.
- To continue to advance student achievement using the Learning for All, K-12 (Draft 2011) resource as an integrated process of assessment and instruction in all elementary and secondary schools in the Board by June 2013.
- To continue to advance student achievement, through the development and implementation of the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA), and School Improvement Plans (SIP), for every elementary and secondary school focusing on the pillars of Catholic Faith, Community, Culture and Caring, Literacy, Numeracy, and Pathways in all schools by June 2013.

ENABLING STRATEGIES

Provide Supports for Success

- To design, implement and assess the model of intervention strategies, programs and services within the Niagara Catholic Mental Health and Addictions Plan by June 2013.
- To implement the Social Workers in Schools protocol in cooperation with Pathstone Mental Health and Contact Niagara to continue to address the need for increased supports for children and youth mental health by June 2013.
- To promote and design programs and supports for healthy lifestyles of students and staff by June 2013.
- To provide continued supports and coordinate training on Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) instructional methods and resources to increase capacity of school and Board staff to use ABA methods by June 2013.

Enhance Technology for Optimal Learning

- To implement the Course Planner component of the Career Cruising platform in all secondary schools by October 2012.
- To design a technology refresh program for the Niagara Catholic Data Center by November 2012.
- To design and implement a Smart Technology Training Program for staff by December 2012.
- To design and implement a Niagara Catholic Technology Security Program by January 2013.
- To conduct Niagara Catholic Technology Conferences for staff to engage in selected technology training delivered by Board approved companies by April 2013.
- To increase the number of technological devices for optimal learning in schools by June 2013.
- To research, select and train all administrators on a student achievement software program by June 2013.

Building Partnerships and Schools as Hubs

- To continue to build capacity with Trustees, the Diocese of St. Catharines, Parishes, administrators, staff, the Student Senate, Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, Catholic School Councils, Special Education Advisory Council and parents/guardians by

providing information and opportunities for dialogue on Catholic education for all students in the Niagara Catholic District School Board by June 2013.

- To develop and implement programs through the engagement of community groups and the community use of schools program to address the needs of children and families including nutrition, physical activity and literacy by June 2013.
- To continue to expand educational-based research projects in the Board, by sharing current research, and by extending research partnerships with outside agencies by June 2013.

Strengthen Human Resource Practices and Develop Transformational Leadership

- To implement the Niagara Catholic Attendance Support Program for staff of Niagara Catholic by September 2012.
- To further enhance the knowledge and skills of staff to achieve the annual system priorities of the Board, Human Resources will identify, design and support focused Professional Development opportunities for staff through the implementation of an electronic Professional Development Program by October 2012.
- To develop a consistent tool for the scoring, assessment and evaluation component of the interview process for all job classes within the Niagara Catholic District School Board by January 2013.
- To develop within the Employee Hiring and Selection specific Administrative Guidelines for designated non-teaching job classes by March 2013.
- To continue with the development and implementation of the second year of the Niagara Catholic Human Resources Certificate Program for all Principals, Vice-Principals and Senior Administrators by May 2013.

Create Equity and Accessibility of Resources

- To increase the knowledge, awareness and acceptance of equity and diversity initiatives with all staff and students by June 2013.
- To implement the strategies supporting equity, diversity and accessibility as identified under Catholic Faith, Community, Culture and Caring within the 2012-2013 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement by June 2013.
- To implement a plan to identify and remove barriers to individuals with disabilities in Board facilities as identified in the 2012-2013 Niagara Catholic Accessibility Plan and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation by August 31, 2013.

Ensure Responsible Fiscal and Operational Management

- To ensure that all Catholic Education Centre departments develop Operational Plans and review cycles, which align with the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan by October 2012.
- To consolidate key risks and mitigate budget factors into a single risk plan in connection with the annual budget for 2012-2013 by October 2012.
- To ensure that the School Generated Funds and related Procedures Manual are finalized by November 2012 and that school administration staff are trained to implement the Policy and Administrative Guidelines by March 2013.
- To initiate the upgrading of the Budgetary Accounting System Computer Program in collaboration with other school Boards through the Educational Computer Network of Ontario by June 2013.

- To continue to develop, implement and monitor the day cleaning program in all school facilities by June 2013.
- To develop and implement measurement systems for the reduction of energy consumption, diversion of waste from landfill, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and school ground greening through the Green Niagara Catholic program by June 2013.
- To comply with Ministry of Education requirements for fiscal financial management by presenting to the Board a balanced budget for 2012-2013 by June 2013.
- To ensure that the Internal Audit Plans are presented to the Audit Committee as required throughout 2012-2013.
- To ensure that the External Audit Plans are presented to the Audit Committee as required throughout 2012-2013.

Address Changing Demographics

- To develop a report on school capacities, enrolment, attendance area boundaries and building utilization with recommendations to address changing demographics within Niagara Catholic by January 31, 2013.

Revised Version May 22, 2012

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2012
AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of April 11, 2012, as presented for information.

The following recommendations are being presented for the Board's consideration from the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of April 11, 2012.

3.1 Letter to the Halton DSB

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the letter from the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Halton District School Board regarding Special Education.

3.2 Letter to the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic DSB

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the letter from the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board regarding the Special Education survey.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2012

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held on Wednesday, April 11, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Racine.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Chair Racine.

2. Roll Call

Members	Affiliations	Present	Excused	Absent
Anna Racine	The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario	✓		
Kim Rosati	VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	✓		
Connie Parry	Association for Bright Children		✓	
Kerry Thomas	Community Living-Welland/Pelham	✓		
Sarina Labonte	Community Living-Grimsby, Lincoln & West Lincoln	✓		
Rob Lavorato	Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara)		✓	
Mike Gowan	Autism Ontario	✓		
Jim Wells	John Howard Society of Niagara	✓		
Diane Dakiv	Ontario Brain Injury Association	✓		
Sarah Farrell	Learning Disabilities Association – Niagara	✓		
Bill Helmeczi	Pathstone Mental Health	✓		
Trustees				
Father Paul MacNeil		✓		
Rhianon Burkholder		✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education; **Terry Antoniou**, Principal – Elementary; **David O'Rourke**, Coordinator – Special Education; **Tina DiFrancesco**, Recording Secretary

Introductions

Chair Racine introduced Kerry Thomas, new Primary SEAC Representative from Community Living Welland/Pelham.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Sarina Labonte
Seconded by Bill Helmeczi

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of April 11, 2012.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the agenda.

5. Approval of Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 7, 2012

Moved by Trustee Burkholder
Seconded by Jim Wells

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 7, 2012, as amended to change the school name under Staff Reports 1. Carla Bianco, Principal Elementary from Loretto to St. Andrew.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Mental Health Support Workers

David O'Rourke, Coordinator Special Education presented information related to initiatives to support students and District School Boards to improve services and supports for children and youth with mental health and addiction needs. A ***Social Workers in Schools Protocol*** between Contact Niagara, Pathstone Mental Health and the Niagara Catholic School Board was built to dovetail our Board's current Special Education Problem Solving Model. The protocol outlines the referral process and the necessary consents to be able to access service. Questions were asked and answered during the presentation.

C. VISIONING

1. Goals and Vision for 2011/2012

1.1 EA Survey Update

The deadline to respond was March 31st, 2012. An update was given on the number of responses. The data will be collated and presented at a future meeting.

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 7, 2012

1. **Learner Advocacy**
2. **Parent Outreach**
3. **Program and Service Recommendations**
4. **Special Education Budget**
5. **Annual Review, Special Education Plan**

Staff have completed the review of the Special Education Plan. The final copy will be posted on the Board website by September 1st, 2012.

6. **Other Related Items**

- 6.1 Special Education Funding Discussion**

A discussion was held in regards to Special Education funding. Superintendent Baldasaro informed the members that final details of the current budget are not available at this time.

- 6.2 Update on the Letter to the Minister of Education regarding Special Education**

The letter to the Minister of Education was approved at the March 27th Board meeting. A copy of the letter will also be mailed out to all SEAC Chairs in Ontario Catholic and Public district school boards.

7. **Policy Review**

- 7.1** The following Policies and Administrative Guidelines were sent to electronically to the members for review; *Bottled Water Policy, Diabetes Management Policy, Employee Hiring and Selection Policy, Dress Code Policy – Safe Schools, Employee Code of Conduct & Ethics Policy, Christian Community Services Policy, Electronic Communications Systems Policy (Employees), Electronic Communications Systems Policy (Students), Fundraising Policy, Educational-Based Research Policy and Educational Field Trips Policy*. A brief review of the policies was held. The deadline to respond is May 4th, 2012.

Superintendent Baldasaro presented the *Student Senate Policy* and *Student Trustees Policy* for review. A discussion was held in regards to the addition of a Student Representative to the Special Education Advisory Committee as Niagara Catholic recognizes the benefits accrued when students have an opportunity to share and represent the perspective from their various school populations.

Approval of the addition of a Student Representative to the Special Education Advisory Committee

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

Seconded by Jim Wells

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the addition of a Student Representative to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

Chair Racine will respond on behalf of the SEAC. Individual responses are also welcome. The deadline to respond is April 19th, 2012.

E. AGENCY REPORTS

1. VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children – Kim Rosati

- **REMINDERS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY**

May 4th Dress Loud Day 2012

May 4th VOICE Professional Development Workshop - Guelph, ON

May 5th VOICE 20th Annual Conference “I Believe” – Guelph, ON

For more information and registration details please visit www.voicefordeafkids.com

- **VOICE Recent News and Articles**

VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children supports the recommended changes to the Disability Tax Credit Criteria as tabled in BILL C-246 by MP Peter Julian in the House in June.

Please see attached Press Release and Position Statement, or visit

www.voicefordeafkids.com

2. Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Rob Lavorato

- Nil Report

3. Community Living – Welland/Pelham – Kerry Thomas

- May is Community Living Month, and we are going to be featuring in the media stores about people who are naturally connected.
- Nominations are open for the Community Living Inclusion Award. To download the Nomination form, please go to www.cl-wellandpelham.ca.

4. Association for Bright Children – Connie Parry

- Nil Report

5. Community Living – Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln – Sarina Labonte

- Our agency hosted several information sessions for families who will be affected with the transition of Special Services at Home program to a new model of individualized funding. The Developmental Services Ontario Hamilton/Niagara regional office presented information on these changes which have come into effect April 1, 2012.
- The Transitional Aged Youth Protocol will soon be released to service providers in the Niagara Region. It is anticipated that by the end of April 2012, this new protocol will be in place to help facilitate planning for youth who will require adult services once they turn 18 years of age.
- Our Regional Children's Respite Program provided a number of events including day and overnight respite experiences for upwards to 40 children during March break.

6. Autism Ontario – Mike Gowan

- Summer camps are forthcoming, running for 6 weeks.
- The 14th Annual Autism Niagara Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, May 25th at Rolling Meadows Golf and Country Club.
- Cycle for Autism will be held on Saturday, June 2nd at Merritt Island in Welland.

7. The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario – Anna Racine

- The annual bowling event was held during the March break.

8. John Howard Society of Niagara – Jim Wells

- The John Howard Society has been re-approved for summer jobs for students this year.

9. Ontario Brain Injury Association – Diane Dakiv

- Upcoming trainings:
Level 2: Neurobehavioural Disorders: Their Origin, Nature and Rehabilitation - June 25th and 26th, 2012
Level 2: Neuropsychological Assessments: Beyond Testing – September 19th -21st, 2012
Children and Youth with Acquired Brain Injury – November 2nd and 3rd, 2012
Brain Basics – Contact Diane Dakiv for training dates and locations or see our website.
- Peer Mentoring Program
16 yrs and up for people living with an ABI
The service is for both survivors and caregivers
A mentor is linked with a partner based on similar experiences, demographics and personal interests
The program runs all over Ontario
Flyers available for those who are interested
- OBIA is holding a strategic planning day next week Tuesday in Toronto. The day has been coordinated to address the SABS changes to auto insurance and the Catastrophic definition. Representative from several organizations will sit down to a strategic planning session for groups and individuals advocating for persons seriously injured in automobile collisions.

10. Learning Disabilities Association (Niagara) – Sarah Farrell

- LDANR's Annual Appreciation Event took place on Friday, March 30th, 2012, which was a successful, fun-filled evening to celebrate and appreciate all (staff, volunteers, facilitators, funders, community partners) those involved towards the success of our agency this past year!
- Spring 2012 programs (Reading Rocks, BEST, STEPS) will be starting up in a few weeks. BEST and STEPS will be running every Wednesday evenings starting April 25th – June 13th, 2012 and Reading Rocks will be running from May 2nd – 30th.
- Dates and locations for our summer program called Sunshine, Learning, Achievement and More (SLAM) have been confirmed. SLAM will be running in St. Catharines, Welland and Niagara Falls during the months of July and August, where children ages 6-12 with learning disabilities/ADHD (diagnosis not required) will spend half the day on literacy, numeracy and social skills and the other half of the day on recreational activities, sports and crafts. Ashley Short (ED) will be speaking at local libraries to provide more information on SLAM and the importance of the program. Please refer to the flyer for the summer talk dates and locations.
- We will be holding a BBQ fundraiser at Walmart on Vansickle Road in St. Catharines (4th Avenue) on Saturday, April 14th, 2012 from 10:00a.m.-4:00p.m. Information and brochures on the LDANR will be available. All are welcome!

11. Pathstone Mental Health – Bill Helmeczi

- Nil Report

F. STAFF REPORTS

**1. Dean Stunt-Principal, Elementary
ST. MARTIN CATHOLIC**

- At St. Martin we are very proud of our processes to identify (through teacher, parent, student) areas in learning that are not progressing to their intended target. Through the use of the Niagara Catholic District School Board Problem Solving Model, analysis of data, observation and parent contact we have been successful in many areas but are especially pleased with the results from tackling issues with student mental health.
- We have participated with the SNAP program for the past three years. This joint initiative with The John Howard Society, Pathstone Mental Health, school and Board personnel we have successfully run SNAP programs for approximately a third of the student body. With the great collaboration of all stakeholders (Classroom Teacher, Educational Resource Teacher, Behaviour Resource Teacher, Principal, John Howard Society, Pathstone Mental Health, Big Brothers Big Sisters) we have been able to refer 22 students for individual and intense in-school therapy. As a result we are observing students making positive strides towards academic, social and emotional welfare. We are currently in the process of referring 5 more students and have had positive feedback from parents, students and staff of all organizations.

2. Ted Farrell – Principal, Secondary

Report submitted

BLESSED TRINITY

- The OSSLT has been completed, with Special Education students attempting the test to the best of their ability. We were impressed with the focus and determination the students exhibited during the test, indicating that they recognize the importance of the test and giving it their all. One of our resource teachers is currently scoring the OSSLT and his first hand insight into the test will be welcome upon his return.
- We are proud to report on the accomplishments of Andrew McClory, a student in the Special Education Class. He won a gold medal at SOSSA for swimming (the only sport that allows special education students to participate against all students). Andrew won the Athlete of the Month award at Blessed Trinity. He was also featured in a full page write-up in West Niagara News, our local paper. Andrew's interview conveyed how much he loves swimming and is enjoying his Grade 9 year at Blessed Trinity!
- Transition and IPRC meetings have begun. Resource staff are pleased to be part these crucial information sharing sessions with the feeder schools. The information shared at these sessions enables us to match all students with a kind, caring adult which makes the transition to secondary school very smooth, helping to alleviate initial anxiety of students and parents.
- The Special Education Cheerleading Team, the Thundercats and Coach Laura Sgambato (EA) will be recognized by the Town of Grimsby on April 18th when they will receive a *Grimsby Civic Recognition Certificate* for winning the **Spirit and Sportsmanship Awarded** at the Cheer Evolution National Championship.
- Thanks to amazing community spirit and the relationships that have been developed, Co-Op placements for students in the Special Education class have already been lined up for next year. We will continue working with Giant Tiger; the goal is to have next year's graduates' transition into post-secondary placements there. Placements will also continue at the Grimsby Library with the same goals. In addition, placements have been secured at a pet store and garden center for September.

DENIS MORRIS

- Some of our students from the Special Education Class performed in the "Stations of the Cross" presented to our Denis Morris audience on Holy Thursday. We are very proud of their moving presentation and participation.
- On Wednesday, April 11th many of the Special Education Teachers will take part in Professional Development at Holy Cross. The first session will begin with a presentation by Carole Haynes from the Developmental Services Ontario. The afternoon session will consist of discussion/sharing of resources and strategies, best practices, assistive devices and communication systems.

HOLY CROSS

- **March Break:** Staff and students are settling back into routine nicely. Everyone is well rested and ready to work hard.
- **Spring is here!** We having been trying to get outside and enjoy the sunshine as much as possible. A breath of fresh air does wonders for everyone! We can't wait to see what our garden will grow!
- **Therapy Tails:** March has been a great month for Therapy Tails. Students have really connected with the 2 miniature poodles who have been sharing their talents and companionship with us. We hope that the poodles are able to continue their visits in April.
- **Special Events:** Most recently we attended the Hurray for Hollywood event at Lakeshore Catholic. A big "thanks" goes out to staff and students at Lakeshore Catholic for your warm hospitality! Watching movies in the theater and eating popcorn was great! Staff and students had a wonderful time. Thank you for bringing our photos to life!

- **Peer Tutors:** We have a wonderful group of Peers Tutors this semester. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication. You are truly appreciated in the Special Education Department!
- **Beach Volleyball:** We are off and running with the planning for the Beach Volleyball event at Holy Cross on April 13th. We can only hope that students enjoy this event as much as they have enjoyed the others! Looking forward to seeing you all!
- **Thank you!!!** Holy Cross would like to take this opportunity to thank the local businesses and organizations that have so generously donated to our upcoming Beach Volleyball event. Thank you to Grantham Lions Club and O'Hara Trucking & Excavating for their generous donation and to Tim Horton's, Grantham Plaza for their donation of Timbits and Coffee.
- **Looking Ahead ...** Special Education Classroom Teachers will meet for Self-Directed Professional Development at Holy Cross on April 11th.

NOTRE DAME COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

- **Re:ACTION 4 Inclusion / Youth Leadership Conference:** On the weekend of March 2nd to 4th, four Notre Dame students attended an exciting leadership conference in Orillia, ON. Participants included youth leaders, with a variety of abilities, who came together to address the issue of inclusion. Conference Committee Member and Notre Dame student Michael Jacques felt it was important to show other students that having a disability should not hold people back. Michael had the opportunity to address the entire conference when he delivered a speech about his own achievements and struggles as he lives with Autism. Action for inclusion brought students from all over Ontario together in a safe environment that allowed everyone to be accepted and have fun. Activities included guest speakers, a drum café, campfire and a midnight dance.
- **All Aboard for Anything Goes:** A large group of Notre Dame students are preparing for the school musical which runs from April 19th to 21st. This group is very diverse and includes many students who are typically supported by the Special Education Department. Tickets are available through the main office.
- **Transitions to Post-secondary Education:** The Educational Resource Teachers at Notre Dame recently participated in a self-directed Professional Development experience that focused on students who will be transitioning to post-secondary education in the next few years. Visits to Niagara College and Brock University provided Educational Resource Teachers with firsthand knowledge of what supports will be available to students when they leave high school. This information is being made available to parents and students as we help them liaise with colleges and universities.
- **In-coming Grade 9's:** The transition process is well underway for students who will be entering Grade 9 in the fall of 2012. Students, who need additional transition time, are being accommodated individually in order to ensure a smooth transition to high school.

SAINT MICHAEL

- Continuing with transition meetings and visits for student entering Grade 9 next year.
- High School second semester IEP's and IPRC's are complete.
- Course selections for students with IEP's are currently being reviewed to ensure appropriate levels and pathways.
- Formation of class lists for GLE10 and GLE2AT courses taking place.
- Supporting our students for 2012 OSSLT now complete.
- Transfer of Information Meetings with Elementary Schools being scheduled.
- Utilization of new Mental Health Screeners to access Pathstone social workers in schools has started.
- Working with Grade 8 teachers to schedule IPRC's for incoming students.
- BMS Training for Educational Resource Teachers is taking place soon.
- Transitioning students who are graduating from Special Education class.

SAINT PAUL

- The big event that our Special Class students are looking forward to is our May 2nd excursion to the Rogers Centre to see the Blue Jays beat the Texas Rangers. Students were given a choice of several outings and the ball game was the "hands down" winner. We had a very enjoyable experience at a Jays' game last year. A number of life skills will be used in this trip. Students will manage money; behave appropriately on a scheduled motor coach, order meals and snacks, etc.

ST. FRANCIS

- Special Education Class Teacher is meeting with 6 of the other 7 Special Education Class Teachers tomorrow in order to share ideas and have a presentation from "Disabilities Services Ontario". This is for the "Special Professional Development" opportunity we all have been given.
- Staff are going to Trillium Demonstration School in Milton for our Special Professional Development opportunity on Thursday of this week.

3. Yolanda Baldasaro – Superintendent of Education

- A delegation of 54 students, staff and family chaperones from seven Niagara Catholic secondary schools gathered at the Catholic Education Centre in Welland on April 4th for the first leg of their Beaches and Battlefields National Student Remembrance Tour. The trip is designed to remember the battles fought in Europe during the First and Second World Wars and coincides with the 95th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.
- Correspondence was received from Barry Finlay in regards to an Individual Education Plan Review Committee. Superintendent Baldasaro asked the SEAC members if anyone was interested in joining the Committee. Kim Rosati volunteered to participate.

4. David O'Rourke – Coordinator Special Education

- The Community Pathways event will be held on Thursday, May 24th at the Catholic Education Centre. Invitations were given to all SEAC members.

G. TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. Father Paul MacNeil – Trustee

- Technology High Skills Major program was held at the Seaway Mall on March 6th: Twenty-three Niagara Catholic students will represent the Board in 17 divisions at the Skills Ontario competition at RIM Park in Waterloo in April. The students were selected following various Niagara Catholic Technology Skills Competitions, including the day-long event at Seaway Mall on March 6th, 2012. The Gold Metal winners in the following categories have each earned berths at the provincial competition:
 - 3D Computer Animation, Architectural Technology and Design, Auto Service, Baking, Cabinet Making, Carpentry (Team), Electronics, Electrical Wiring, Graphic Design, Hairstyling, Home Building, Landscape Gardening, Mechanical CADD, Photography, Plumbing, Precision Machining, Website Development.
 - Another 21 students, recipients of gold, silver and bronze medals in the 2D Computer Animation, Carpentry (Individual), Culinary Arts, TV and Video Production and Welding categories, will compete at a regional qualifier at Niagara College on April 14th, to determine who will advance to Skills Ontario.

- Policy vetting on the proposed new dress code policy is continuing:
As part of Niagara Catholic's open and transparent decision making process, Niagara Catholic is extending an invitation to its students, parents and guardians to attend your Family of School's presentation and consultation evening on the proposed revisions to the current Niagara Catholic Dress Code Policy. The draft proposal includes the introduction of an elementary uniform for Niagara Catholic students commencing September 2013. A letter to all families will be sent home with students in advance of the designated Family of School's evenings. Consult the website for more information.

2. **Rhianon Burkholder – Trustee**

- Nil Report

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Learner Advocacy**

2. **Parent Outreach**

3. **Program and Service Recommendations**

4. **Special Education Budget**

5. **Annual Review, Special Education Plan**

6. **Other Related Items**

7. **Policy Review**

I. CORRESPONDENCE

1. **Letters from other SEAC's**

The draft response letters addressed to the Halton District School Board and the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic School Board were included in the April agenda package for members to review. Chair Racine will revise the letters based on the suggestions of the SEAC members and present them at the May meeting.

2. **A letter was received from the Ontario Brain Injury Association for a change in representation on the Special Education Advisory Committee.**

Approval for recommendation for change in representation for the Ontario Brain Injury Association to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Moved by Mike Gowan

Seconded by Jim Wells

Recommendation

That the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the change in representation for the Ontario Brain Injury Association to the Special Education Advisory Committee;
Primary Representative: Katie Muirhead, Alternate Representative: Diane Dakiv; OBIA
Address: PO Box 2338, St. Catharines, ON L2R 7R9

CARRIED

3. Correspondence was received from the Canadian Hearing Society, enclosed with a batch of postcards that introduce the “Youth Transition” website for youth with hearing loss. These postcards will be circulated at our Secondary schools.

J. QUESTION PERIOD

K. NOTICES OF MOTION

L. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

1. **Mental Health Initiatives**
2. **Contact Niagara**
3. **Agency Presentations**
4. **Presentation on supports/plans for Post Secondary Graduates**
5. **Niagara Catholic District School Board Secondary Exam Schedules**
6. **Niagara Student Transportation Services (NSTS) – Possible presentation in May.**

M. INFORMATION ITEMS

N. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, May 2, 2012 at 7:00p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre

O. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Kim Rosati

THAT the April 11, 2012 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:00p.m.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: LETTER TO THE HALTON DSB

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the letter from the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Halton District School Board regarding Special Education.

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
Presented by: SEAC
Recommended by: SEAC
Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE BOARD
MEETING OF MAY 22, 2012**

**LETTER FROM THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TO THE HALTON DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the letter from the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Halton District School Board regarding Special Education.

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: SEAC

Recommended by: SEAC

Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

"The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ."

May 2, 2012

Amy McKenzie
SEAC Chair
Halton District School Board
JWS Centre
2050 Guelph Line
Burlington, ON L7P 5A8

Dear Amy:

The SEAC of Niagara Catholic District School Board acknowledges receipt of a copy of your letter to the Ministry of Education dated June 21, 2011 in support of our letter dated May 5, 2011.

In regards to your recommendations that Administrators, Educational Resource Teachers (ERT) and Teachers of self contained classrooms be required to at least obtain their minimum qualifications listed below. We are pleased to advise that in the fall of 2011 the Niagara Catholic District School Board had already implemented the requirement for Administration, Educational Resource Teachers (ERT) and Special Education Teachers to obtain the following:

- 1) Educational Resource Teachers (ERT) – Preferred Qualification – Special Education Part II
- 2) Program Chair of Special Education – Qualifications – Special Education Specialist
- 3) Special Education Class Teachers – Preferred Qualifications – Special Education Part II
- 4) Principals – Qualifications – Special Education Part II
- 5) Vice-Principals – Qualifications – Special Education Part I

To give you an update, we received a response back from the Ministry of Education dated July 5, 2011, and are currently in the process of drafting a letter back to the Minister of Education for further clarification. *Attached is a copy of the letter from the Minister of Education.*

We thank you for your support and ask that you keep us informed of any future developments.

Sincerely,

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson
Niagara Catholic District School Board

Anna Racine
Special Education Advisory Committee Chair
Niagara Catholic District School Board

Minister

Ministre

Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Telephone (416) 325-2600
Facsimile (416) 325-2608

Édifice Mowat
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Téléphone (416) 325-2600
Télécopieur (416) 325-2608



July 5, 2011

Ms. Kathy Burnik
Chairperson
Ms. Anna Racine
Special Education Advisory Committee Chair
Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road
Welland ON L3C 7C1

Dear Ms. Burnik and Ms. Racine,

Thank you for your letter about special education training for teachers in Ontario's publicly funded school system. I am pleased to respond.

I appreciate your concerns about the very real challenges facing Ontario's teachers in their day-to-day work with students of differing ages and abilities. Our government recognizes teachers as the single most important factor in improving student achievement. We are committed to supporting teachers in every way possible.

The Ministry of Education continues to focus on improving the achievement of all students, including those with special education needs. Almost 81 percent of the students in Ontario's publicly funded schools who receive special education programs and services are placed in regular classrooms for more than half the instruction day. My ministry supports school boards' efforts to enhance the skills and knowledge of classroom teachers in topics such as assessing achievement in alternative areas, differentiated instruction, the development and implementation of effective Individual Education Plans and communicating effectively with parents.

The ministry has also developed resource documents to support classroom teachers. Examples include:

- *Education for All: The Report of the Expert Panel on Literacy and Numeracy Instruction for Students With Special Education Needs, Kindergarten to Grade 6*
- *Draft Learning for All, K-12*
- *Effective Educational Practices for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder*
- *Caring and Safe Schools in Ontario: Supporting Students with Special Education Needs Through Progressive Discipline, Kindergarten to Grade 12.*

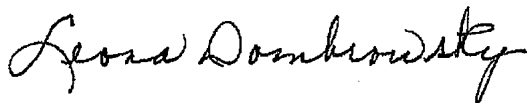
These resources recommend research-based practices that allow Ontario teachers, using an inclusive approach, to manage students with varying abilities in their classrooms, including students with special education needs. These documents may be accessed through the ministry's website at www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/speced.html or www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/teachers/buildingfutures/resources.html.

The ministry supports district school boards in their implementation of dedicated professional activity days to help assist classroom teachers working with students with special education needs. These resources are found on the Council of Ontario Directors of Education website at www.ontariodirectors.ca. Many challenges remain, but my ministry continues to work closely with school boards, teachers and parents to provide the relevant information and practices to help students with special education needs.

The ministry also collaborates with the Ontario College of Teachers to set guidelines for the provision of special education training at the various faculties of education in the province. Training is offered through pre-service teacher training programs, as well as Additional Qualification Courses for teachers employed in school boards. In 2006, as part of *Preparing Teachers for Tomorrow*, the Ontario College of Teachers consulted with stakeholders regarding its teacher qualifications regulations. The College made a number of recommendations, including identifying special education as a required component within the program of professional education. The ministry continues to work with the College on these recommendations.

I trust that you will find this information helpful. Thank you again for your ongoing work to support the teaching profession.

Sincerely,



Leona Dombrowsky
Minister of Education



Halton District School Board

David Euale, *Director of Education*

Don Vrooman, *Chair of the Board*

June 21, 2011

The Honourable Leona Dombrowsky
Ministry of Education
Mowat Block, 18th Floor
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON, M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Dombrowsky,

Halton District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee has determined through consultation with our community and our member associations that one of the major deficits in our education system is professional development in the area of Special Education for Teachers, SERTS and Administrators. These professionals, who work daily with students with special education needs, are labouring without some basic tools. These tools would enhance the students' ability to access the curriculum as well as the ability of teachers to effectively deliver their services to the students.

Our SEAC participated in the O.C.T. review for Special Education A.Q.s and we look forward to the result of that extensive survey as implemented changes filter down into meaningful experiences for special education students across the province.

We would like to ask the Ministry to change the necessary regulations to require new teachers to complete Special Education Part I as a mandatory qualification for receiving their Certificate of Qualification and Registration (in this we also support Niagara Catholic District School Board's letter of May 3rd). Indeed, Part I should be contained in the main body of the certification.

We also believe that Administrators and SERTS set the tone for the entire school in their service to students with special education needs. Many of our members were shocked to learn that administrators currently have no requirement for Special Education A.Q.s. We believe that new Administrators should have at least Part I and that SERTS and teachers of self-contained classrooms should have Part I as a minimum with the intent to receive "Specialist" over a period of five years.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Amy McKenzie, Chair, for the SEAC, HDSB
JWS Centre,
2050 Guelph Line
Burlington, L7P 5A8

CC: All Ontario SEACs, Ontario College of Teachers; MPPs for Halton, PAAC on SEAC

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: LETTER TO THE PETERBOROUGH VICTORIA
NORTHUMBERLAND AND CLARINGTON CATHOLIC DSB**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the letter from the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board regarding the Special Education survey.

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: SEAC

Recommended by: SEAC

Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

**LETTER FROM THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TO THE PETERBOROUGH VICTORIA NORTHUMBERLAND AND
CLARINGTON
CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the letter from the Special Education Advisory Committee to the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board regarding the Special Education survey.

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
Presented by: SEAC
Recommended by: SEAC
Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

"The Niagara Catholic District School Board, through the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership, nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ."

May 2, 2012

Camille Parent
SEAC Chair
Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and
Clarington Catholic District School Board
1355 Lansdowne St. West
Peterborough, ON K9J 7M3

Dear Camille:

The SEAC of Niagara Catholic District School Board acknowledges receipt of your letter to the Minister of Education dated March 2, 2011 with regards to the Special Education survey. We are requesting further clarification from you as follows:

- What specific information are you trying to gather from the survey?
- How would this information be used to help educators improve the delivery of services to students with special needs?
- How will you approach the questions to the students given their various ages and exceptionalities?

The SEAC of Niagara Catholic District School Board endorses support of your letter to the Minister of Education dated March 2, 2011. We feel that the development of a Special Education survey by the Ministry of Education would be a valuable tool and resource.

We would like to advise that we have worked with our Board and developed an Educational Resource Teacher (ERT) survey that was conducted in the 2010/2011 school year. The topics we addressed were Communication, Resources and Professional Development. The Board used the results to improve program services for the Educational Resource Teachers (ERT). In March 2012 we also conducted an electronic Educational Assistant (EA) survey for the same topics. We are currently awaiting the results.

For your reference we have attached a copy of both the Educational Resource Teacher (ERT) and the Educational Assistant (EA) survey.

Communication between SEAC's may help in creating changes at a school board level as well as at a Ministry level.

We look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Burtnik
Chairperson
Niagara Catholic District School Board

Anna Racine
Special Education Advisory Committee Chair
Niagara Catholic District School Board

SEAC QUESTIONNAIRE

ERT Survey

1) Communication

- a) Describe your “best practices” when communicating with parents regarding students with special needs.
- b) What strategies would assist you in communicating more effectively with parents?

2) Professional Development (PD)

- a) What Professional Development have you received that you have found extremely beneficial?
- b) What Professional Development would you like to have in order to best serve students with special needs?

3) Resources (Print or Assistive Technology)

- a) What resources do you currently have access to that you find useful when working with students with special needs?
- b) What resources would you like to have that would help you in your role as an ERT?

SEAC QUESTIONNAIRE FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS

1) Communication

- a) Describe what is working well when communicating with the classroom teachers/resource team regarding exceptional students.
- b) What strategies would assist you in communicating more effectively with classroom teachers/resource team?

2) Professional Development

- a) What Professional Development have you received that you have found extremely beneficial?
- b) What type of Professional Development would you like to have in order to best serve the needs of exceptional students?

3) Resources

- a) What resources do you currently have access to that you find useful when working with exceptional students?
- b) What resources would you like to have that would help you in your role as Educational Assistant?

NOTES: -survey to be voluntary
-survey to be anonymous
-survey to be completed on-line within a timeframe provided



Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board

PETER L. ROACH
CATHOLIC
EDUCATION
CENTRE

March 2, 2011

The Honourable Leona Dombrowsky
Minister of Education
900 Bay St., Mowat Block
Toronto, ONT
M7A 1N3

**DSB ONE SOUTH
RECEIVED**

APR - 7 2011

ACTION	REF	FILE

RE: SPECIAL EDUCATION SURVEY FOR CAREGIVERS

Dear Madame Minister,

The Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board's Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) believes in providing a voice for our parents/caregivers regarding special education services. The purpose of this letter is to formally request that the Ministry of Education create a province-wide special education survey for use by parents, students and other stakeholders.

It is a goal for the Ministry to enable parents and other caregivers to have their voices heard regarding special education; to be *part* of the team. Special education services in Ontario have seen many changes and reforms over the past ten years. We believe that the time has come to implement a consistent process which allows parents to provide detailed feedback regarding the special education services being delivered to children in their school board. An online survey tool would be an effective way to accomplish that goal.

In 2009 your Ministry made an important step forward in developing the online School Climate Survey which allows parents and other stakeholders to provide input toward the goal of creating safer schools and communities. We believe that an equally successful survey can be developed for the parents, guardians and educators of special needs students. Like the School Climate Survey, a version of the special education survey could also be developed which would allow students to have a voice regarding the programming they receive.

Once completed, school boards, educators and SEAC's would be able to review survey results in order to assist with planning new initiatives, validating existing best practices, and finding out about the issues and concerns of parents, caregivers and students.

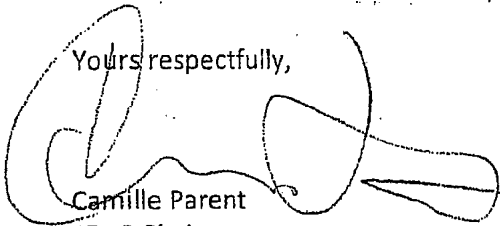
A standard survey developed by the Ministry would have several important benefits: a consistent format used across the province, individual survey items could be easily revised and updated to reflect current issues and Ministry initiatives and, it would be far more cost effective to have one survey developed by the Ministry rather than to have individual school boards attempt to take on this challenging task. The result would be a high quality, state-of-the-art web-based tool which would allow for parent engagement and the opportunity for student voices to be heard while avoiding needless expenditure of precious education funding on a task which would be beyond the capacity of many small to medium sized school boards.

..... / 2

..... / 2

It is our sincere hope that you will consider this request and provide the province with an online survey tool to assist parents and educators in more effectively working together to improve the achievement outcomes for all our special needs students.

Yours respectfully,



Camille Parent
SEAC Chair

Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and
Clarington Catholic School Board

CP/sm

cc: SEAC Chairs, Ontario Catholic School Boards
SEAC Chairs, Ontario Public School Boards
PVNC CDSB Board of Trustees

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: EXTENDED OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP, EXCURSION
AND EXCHANGE APPROVAL COMMITTEE**

The report on the Extended Overnight Field Trip,
Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee
is presented for information.

Prepared by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education
Presented by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING MAY 22, 2012

EXTENDED OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP, EXCURSION AND EXCHANGE APPROVAL COMMITTEE – 2011-2012

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee continues to review proposals for 2011-2012 extended overnight field trips, excursions and exchanges as submitted to date. The composition of the approval Committee is as follows:

1 Supervisory Officer	-	Mark Lefebvre
1 Secondary School Principal	-	Jeff Smith
1 Secondary School Vice-Principal	-	Andrew Bartley
1 Education Services Member	-	Mike Sheahan

As defined in the Niagara Catholic Educational Field Trip Policy (400.2) Administrative Guidelines, an Extended Overnight Field Trip is:

- “Any school/board sponsored and supervised activity, on scheduled instructional days, beyond the school property that requires four or five more night lodgings”
or
- “Requiring an individual flight ticket of \$600.00 or more.” (Part II, A.4)

An Excursion is defined as follows:

- “A trip not directly linked to specific subject curriculum expectations, but provided to enrich a student’s overall Catholic education. An excursion is a trip that is planned and arranged for secondary school students that would be held during the year when the students are not normally expected to be attending classes and that does not adhere to all guidelines and procedures relating to Educational Field Trips.” (Part II, A.5)

Attached to this information report is an Executive Summary of a 2011-2012 Extended Overnight Field Trip as submitted on Tuesday, May 22, 2012 (Appendix A).

The report on the Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion
and Exchange Approval Committee is presented for information.

Prepared by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education
Presented by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education
Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 22, 2012

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Appendix A

Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Committee Approvals – 2011-2012

School	Type	Approval Required	Destination	Curriculum Unit/Theme	Education Value	Date	Number of Students, Staff & Chaperones on Trip	Duration	Cost (Approx)	Transportation
Approved May, 2012										
Lakeshore Catholic High School	Extended Overnight Field Trip	Superintendent and Extended Overnight Field Trip Committee	London, England & Paris, France	Historical perspective. Experience cultures rich in tradition	To provide students the opportunity to learn about history, art, language (French) culture of two (2) great European capitals.	March 9 to March 16, 2013	20-30 students 2 or 3 staff/ chaperones	8 days 7 nights	\$3,130.00 per person - tour, air travel, two (2) meals/day, some tours, airbus gratuity, insurance	Air/Coach
Niagara Catholic District School Board - Continuing Education	Credit Program Extended Overnight Field Trip	Superintendent and Extended Overnight Field Trip Committee	Italy – Rome, Florence, Venice, Siena, Assisi, Verona, Padova	IDC-30 Italy Travel Credit Course	To reinforce the course expectations and learn to communicate in the target language. Experience first hand the geography, history, art, architecture, culture and daily life in Italy	March 2 to March 15, 2013	20-25 students 3 staff/ chaperones	14 days 13 nights 5 School days	\$3,500.00 per person – airfare, hotels, breakfast, lunch & dinner, guided tours, entrance fees, transfer fees, tour director, bus transportation, boat transportation, portorage, headphones, airport fees,	Air/Coach

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORTS
MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS
APRIL 2012**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of April 2012, as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE BOARD
MAY 22, 2012**

**MONTHLY BANKING TRANSACTIONS
FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2012**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the Monthly Banking Transactions for the Niagara Catholic District School Board for the month of April 2012.

As required by the Policy, a monthly list of payments is available in the Holy Cross Community Room for the Trustees to review at their convenience.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Report on the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of April 2012 as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 22, 2012

Appendix A

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON BANKING TRANSACTIONS	
SUMMARY OF BANK TRANSACTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF: APRIL, 2012	
DESCRIPTION OF ITEMS	BANK ACCOUNT
CASH BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF MONTH	(A) 32,326,948
OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS FOR THE MONTH	
1. GENERAL LEGISLATIVE GRANTS	16,362,406
2. OTHER GRANTS (EPO, O.E.Y.C.)	691,463
3. INTEREST REVENUE	43,718
4. MUNICIPAL TAXES	0
5. TUITION FEES REVENUE - A.C.E. & OTHER	131,176
6. CHARITABLE DONATIONS	0
7. GOVERNMENT REBATES (GST 66% REBATE ON TAXABLE PURCHASES)	317,900
8. RECOVERY OF COSTS (LTD, WCB, BENEFITS, OTHER REIMBURSEMENTS))	167,662
9. OTHER CASH RECEIPTS	
- Reimbursements of Employee Benefits	19,397
- Donations Collected from Employees - Other	0
- Other	0
10. TRANSFER IN FROM SINKING FUNDS	0
11. PROCEEDS FROM DEBENTURE ISSUE (NET)	0
12. CAPITAL LOAN PRINCIPAL ADVANCES	0
TOTAL OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS AND LOAN ADVANCE	(B) 18,023,724
OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE MONTH	
1. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (NET OF CANCELLED CHEQUES AND DEBT REPAYMENTS)	(19,117,431)
2. TEACHER PENSION DEDUCTIONS	(1,173,696)
3. O.M.E.R.S. PENSION DEDUCTIONS	(631,806)
4. CANADA SAVINGS BONDS DEDUCTIONS	(128,935)
5. TRANSFER TO 4 OVER 5 TRUST ACCOUNTS	(64,500)
6. OTHER DEBITS	(37,141)
7. TRANSFER TO SINKING FUNDS	0
8. INTEREST PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT	(767,969)
9. PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL DEBT	(361,201)
TOTAL OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS	(C) (22,182,289)
CASH BALANCE AT END OF MONTH	(D) 28,168,382
A + B - C = D	

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD REPORT ON LOAN BALANCES				
SUMMARY OF LOAN BALANCES AS AT: APRIL, 2012				
The Debentures & Capital Loans are made up as follows:				
Loan Description	Opening Balance	Loan Advances	Loan Repayments	Ending Balance
1. OFA - GPL1 Loan 26 YR.	(12,303,672.35)			(12,303,672.35)
2. OFA - GPL2 Loan 26 YR.	(9,527,451.58)			(9,527,451.58)
3. OFA - GPL3 Loan 26 YR.	(4,429,663.12)			(4,429,663.12)
4. OFA - 2010-11 DEBENTURE - GPL 3	(1,304,854.00)			(1,304,854.00)
5. OFA - 2010-11 DEBENTURE - PCS 1	(3,233,607.00)			(3,233,607.00)
6. OFA - PTR - Completed 2010/11	(8,090,847.35)			(8,090,847.35)
7. OFA - 2001-A1 Debenture	(2,409,181.00)			(2,409,181.00)
8. Debenture (Niagara Region)	(1,521,000.00)			(1,521,000.00)
9. Debenture (Niagara Region)	(2,750,000.00)			(2,750,000.00)
10. Capital Projects - Completed 2001	(14,039,294.59)		282,182.30	(13,757,112.29)
11. Capital Projects - Completed 2002/03	(20,669,482.80)			(20,669,482.80)
12. Capital Projects - Completed 2004/05	(8,721,808.22)		79,018.63	(8,642,789.59)
13. Capital Projects - Completed 2005/06	(7,568,578.03)			(7,568,578.03)
Total Debentures & Capital Loans	(96,569,340.04)	0.00	361,200.93	(96,208,139.11)

PREPARED BY: William Tumath
PRESENTED BY: Larry Reich

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORTS
STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES
APRIL 30, 2012**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at April 30, 2012, as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 22, 2012



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**REPORT TO THE BOARD
MAY 22, 2012**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
AS AT APRIL 30, 2012**

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, we are pleased to enclose the summarized Statement of Revenue and Expenditures by Department as at April 30, 2012. (See Appendix A)

As required by the Policy, a copy of the Financial Statement is available in the Holy Cross Community Room for the Trustees to review at their convenience.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Report on the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures as at April 30, 2012 as presented.

Prepared by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Presented by: Larry Reich, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education
Date: May 22, 2012

Appendix A

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES - CLOSED
SUMMARY STATEMENT
AS AT APRIL 30, 2012**

ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	THIS YEAR			CHANGES	LAST YEAR		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT		EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT
REVENUE							
REVENUE	-171,667,155	-250,504,359	31.5%		-165,371,487	240,139,674	168.9%
TOTAL REVENUE	-171,667,155	-250,504,359	31.5%		-165,371,487	240,139,674	168.9%
EXPENDITURES							
BOARD ADMINISTRATION	5,598,204	8,010,826	30.1%		5,212,217	7,428,758	29.8%
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	83,190,592	122,343,045	32.0%		80,272,705	115,294,976	30.4%
SECONDARY SCHOOLS	46,856,066	68,803,010	31.9%		46,408,442	66,850,146	30.6%
CONTINUING EDUCATION	3,788,455	6,131,132	38.2%		3,675,504	5,706,458	35.6%
PLANT OPERATIONS	11,764,123	17,997,907	34.6%		12,361,623	17,770,648	30.4%
PLANT MAINTENANCE	2,143,239	3,390,846	36.8%		2,310,191	3,275,833	29.5%
TRANSPORTATION	7,144,652	10,102,839	29.3%		6,902,327	10,371,090	33.4%
CAPITAL AND OTHER EXPENDITURES	4,116,036	13,724,754	70.0%		8,593,573	13,441,765	36.1%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	164,601,367	250,504,359	34.3%		165,736,582	240,139,674	31.0%

PREPARED BY : William Tumath
Finance Department

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
UPDATED UNAUDITED EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - CLOSED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED: APRIL 30, 2012
BOARD ADMINISTRATION

Page :

ACCOUNT	THIS YEAR TO DATE			LAST YEAR TO DATE			
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT	CHANGES	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT
SALARY & BEN - TRUSTEES	178,417	215,744	17.3		190,773	213,359	10.6
SALARY & BEN - SENIOR STAFF	1,080,247	1,498,161	27.9		874,835	1,142,749	23.4
SALARY & BEN - MANAGERS	1,002,017	1,578,425	36.5		1,021,174	1,545,693	33.9
SALARY & BEN - TECHNICAL	254,070	361,068	29.6		212,689	372,143	42.9
SALARY & BEN - CLERICAL	1,520,667	2,368,107	35.5		1,406,209	2,277,578	38.3
TEMPORARY STAFF	48,752	64,321	24.2		82,927	64,236	29.1-
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	42,152	60,000	29.8		44,222	60,000	26.3
SUPPLIES - ADMINISTRATION	412,968	487,500	15.3		453,904	465,500	2.5
SUPPLIES - HUMAN RESOURCES	10,946	20,000	45.3		11,758	30,000	60.8
SUPPLIES - COMPUTER SERVICE	79,886	62,500	27.8-		70,304	62,500	12.5-
SUPPLIES - PLANT OPERATIONS	269,821	380,000	29.0		267,971	405,000	33.8
SUPPLIES - BUILDING MAINTENANCE	54,302	50,000	8.6-		35,067	75,000	53.2
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	133,826	155,000	13.7		13,315	10,000	33.2-
FEES & CONTRACTS	501,871	675,000	25.7		515,560	665,000	22.5
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURES	8,262	45,000	81.6		11,509	40,000	71.2
TOTAL - BOARD ADMINISTRATION	5,598,204	8,010,826	30.1	 	5,212,217	7,428,758	29.8

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
UPDATED UNAUDITED EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - CLOSED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED: APRIL 30, 2012
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Page :

ACCOUNT	THIS YEAR TO DATE				LAST YEAR TO DATE		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT	CHANGES	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT
CLASSROOM TEACHERS	55,771,499	83,122,056	32.9		53,426,535	78,995,247	32.4
OCCASSIONAL TEACHERS	2,350,278	3,592,748	34.6		2,985,239	2,721,566	9.7-
TEACHER ASSISTANTS	11,540,887	15,294,372	24.5		10,413,975	13,610,720	23.5
PROFESSIONAL STAFF	2,001,312	2,579,397	22.4		1,764,298	2,197,520	19.7
LIBRARY TECHNICIANS	1,430,126	2,055,961	30.4		1,394,042	1,918,532	27.3
PRINCIPALS & V.PS.	5,044,144	7,222,285	30.2		4,703,683	7,069,937	33.5
SCHOOL SECRETARIES	1,800,220	2,496,710	27.9		1,681,262	2,379,206	29.3
TEACHER CONSULTANTS	704,772	994,429	29.1		1,167,336	1,541,742	24.3
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	133,268	430,000	69.0		104,969	330,000	68.2
PROGRAM CLASSROOM RESOURCE	601,167	1,110,000	45.8		854,159	1,433,200	40.4
CLASSROOM SUPPLIES	894,500	1,490,196	40.0		876,241	1,542,707	43.2
PROGRAM SUPPLIES	94,200	205,000	54.1		90,343	189,091	52.2
SCHOOL ADMIN. SUPPLIES	254,476	400,000	36.4		234,600	430,000	45.4
COMPUTERS - CLASSROOM	354,473	653,147	45.7		380,370	593,082	35.9
COMPUTERS - NON CLASSROOM	0	49,956	100.0		4,238	0	0.0
F & E - CLASSROOM	200,063	604,658	66.9		173,687	300,365	42.2
F & E - NON CLASSROOM	15,207	42,130	63.9		17,728	42,061	57.9
TOTAL - ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	83,190,592	122,343,045	32.0	 	80,272,705	115,294,976	30.4

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
UPDATED UNAUDITED EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - CLOSED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED: APRIL 30, 2012
SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Page :

ACCOUNT	THIS YEAR TO DATE				LAST YEAR TO DATE		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT	CHANGES	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT
CLASSROOM TEACHERS	32,826,344	48,394,318	32.2		32,693,473	47,490,900	31.2
OCCASSIONAL TEACHERS	1,446,761	2,157,811	33.0		1,156,574	1,613,364	28.3
TEACHER ASSISTANTS	3,534,218	4,574,629	22.7		3,561,264	4,571,239	22.1
PROFESSIONAL STAFF	839,074	1,433,411	41.5		767,385	1,365,470	43.8
LIBRARY TECHNICIANS	300,608	404,382	25.7		307,200	386,749	20.6
PRINCIPALS & V.PS.	2,030,186	3,031,525	33.0		1,964,055	2,910,397	32.5
SCHOOL SECRETARIES	1,487,747	2,026,523	26.6		1,425,736	1,904,534	25.1
TEACHER CONSULTANTS	466,908	897,114	48.0		469,927	672,455	30.1
LIBRARY & GUIDANCE - TEACHING	1,528,822	1,912,692	20.1		1,657,728	1,831,679	9.5
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	50,563	120,000	57.9		53,394	120,000	55.5
PROGRAM CLASSROOM RESOURCE	1,097,722	1,670,966	34.3		1,039,111	1,814,193	42.7
CLASSROOM SUPPLIES	874,358	1,430,666	38.9		938,284	1,487,436	36.9
PROGRAM SUPPLIES	17,970	71,000	74.7		25,847	76,000	66.0
SCHOOL ADMIN. SUPPLIES	118,115	205,000	42.4		107,526	225,000	52.2
COMPUTERS - CLASSROOM	119,160	303,060	60.7		112,793	200,000	43.6
COMPUTERS - NON CLASSROOM	0	25,000	100.0		16,046	26,687	39.9
F & E - CLASSROOM	32,210	52,212	38.3		29,099	60,000	51.5
F & E - NON CLASSROOM	0	20,701	100.0		0	22,043	100.0
FEES & CONTRACTS	85,300	72,000	18.5-		83,000	72,000	15.3-
TOTAL - SECONDARY SCHOOLS	46,856,066	68,803,010	31.9 	 	46,408,442	66,850,146	30.6

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
UPDATED UNAUDITED EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - CLOSED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED: APRIL 30, 2012
CONTINUING EDUCATION

Page :

ACCOUNT	THIS YEAR TO DATE				LAST YEAR TO DATE		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT	CHANGES	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT
TEACHER ASSISTANTS	22,675	30,800	26.4		18,343	40,405	54.6
PROFESSIONAL STAFF	69,707	105,440	33.9		67,502	83,832	19.5
PRINCIPALS & V.PS.	345,992	490,884	29.5		269,688	397,847	32.2
SCHOOL SECRETARIES	235,200	399,032	41.1		248,145	354,489	30.0
TEMPORARY STAFF	18,109	38,157	52.5		14,940	50,186	70.2
GRANT OFFICERS	19,998	70,540	71.7		68-	0	0.0
A.E. TEACHERS / INSTRUCTORS	2,541,929	4,056,207	37.3		2,508,581	3,746,794	33.1
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	11,110	14,750	24.7		11,414	23,200	50.8
PROGRAM CLASSROOM RESOURCE	211,320	386,680	45.4		229,233	366,608	37.5
CLASSROOM SUPPLIES	308,206	532,642	42.1		289,856	617,397	53.1
COMPUTERS - CLASSROOM	3,751	4,000	6.2		16,046	20,000	19.8
F & E - CLASSROOM	458	0	0.0		0	0	0.0
FEES & CONTRACTS	0	2,000	100.0		1,824	5,700	68.0
TOTAL - CONTINUING EDUCATION	3,788,455	6,131,132	38.2	 	3,675,504	5,706,458	35.6

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
UPDATED UNAUDITED EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - CLOSED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED: APRIL 30, 2012
PLANT OPERATIONS

Page :

ACCOUNT	THIS YEAR TO DATE				LAST YEAR TO DATE		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT	CHANGES	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT
SALARY & BEN - MANAGERS	515,231	883,674	41.7		331,876	606,165	45.3
SALARY & BEN - CARETAKERS	3,507,446	5,466,685	35.8		3,328,023	4,847,377	31.3
SALARY & BEN - CLEANERS	2,751,209	4,268,355	35.5		3,138,782	5,090,599	38.3
SALARY & BEN - CLERICAL	72,879	200,193	63.6		68,694	187,507	63.4
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	8,290	10,000	17.1		3,631	10,000	63.7
SUPPLIES - UTILITIES	3,023,515	4,600,000	34.3		2,919,052	4,350,000	32.9
SUPPLIES - PLANT OPERATIONS	602,833	712,500	15.4		600,984	697,500	13.8
SUPPLIES - GROUNDS	365,101	770,000	52.6		1,023,621	845,000	21.1-
F & E - PLANT OPERATIONS	353,601	526,500	32.8		386,323	576,500	33.0
FEES & CONTRACTS	564,018	560,000	0.7-		560,637	560,000	0.1-
TOTAL - PLANT OPERATIONS	11,764,123	17,997,907	34.6	 	12,361,623	17,770,648	30.4

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
UPDATED UNAUDITED EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - CLOSED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED: APRIL 30, 2012
PLANT MAINTENANCE

Page :

ACCOUNT	THIS YEAR TO DATE			CHANGES	LAST YEAR TO DATE		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT		EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT
SALARY & BEN - MANAGERS	329,631	505,303	34.8		371,986	573,283	35.1
SALARY & BEN - TECHNICAL	665,631	1,064,020	37.4		658,869	865,843	23.9
SALARY & BEN - CLERICAL	66,397	78,172	15.1		63,063	77,239	18.4
TEMPORARY STAFF	14,793	5,351	176.5-		8,363	21,468	61.0
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	648	7,500	91.4		1,119	7,500	85.1
SUPPLIES - PLANT OPERATIONS	195,519	400,000	51.1		295,403	350,000	15.6
SUPPLIES - GROUNDS	71,335	180,000	60.4		113,977	200,000	43.0
SUPPLIES - PLANT MAINTENANCE	103,367	159,000	35.0		109,367	169,000	35.3
SUPPLIES - BUILDING MAINTENANCE	624,632	880,000	29.0		634,654	905,000	29.9
F & E - PLANT MAINTENANCE	10,261	36,500	71.9		6,003	31,500	80.9
FEES & CONTRACTS	61,025	75,000	18.6		47,387	75,000	36.8
TOTAL - PLANT MAINTENANCE	2,143,239	3,390,846	36.8		2,310,191	3,275,833	29.5

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
UPDATED UNAUDITED EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - CLOSED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED: APRIL 30, 2012
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Page :

ACCOUNT	THIS YEAR TO DATE			LAST YEAR TO DATE		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT CHANGES	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT
SALARY & BEN - MANAGERS	53,119	117,590	54.8	80,385	111,069	27.6
SALARY & BEN - TECHNICAL	44,538	176,514	74.8	88,617	162,103	45.3
SALARY & BEN - CLERICAL	0	23,508	100.0	9,101	47,204	80.7
SUPPLIES - ADMINISTRATION	166	74,278	99.8	102,223	69,823	46.4
FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	0	12,675	100.0	11,265	0	0.0
FEES & CONTRACTS	7,046,829	9,698,274	27.3	6,610,736	9,980,891	33.8
TOTAL - TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT	7,144,652	10,102,839	29.3 	6,902,327	10,371,090	33.5

NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
UPDATED UNAUDITED EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - CLOSED
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED: APRIL 30, 2012
CAPITAL AND OTHER EXPENDITURES

Page :

ACCOUNT	THIS YEAR TO DATE			LAST YEAR TO DATE			
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT	CHANGES	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% LEFT
GOOD PLACES TO LEARN	837,513	1,688,284	50.4		651,600	1,294,887	49.7
FACILITY RENEWAL PROJECTS	0	733,751	100.0		240,324	841,417	71.4
DEBT CHARGES BEFORE MAY, 1998	260,943	376,880	30.8		195,179	405,406	51.9
DEBT CHARGES AFTER MAY, 1998	0	117,487	100.0		0	117,487	100.0
NEW PUPIL PLACES	3,017,580	2,465,060	22.4		2,449,063	3,435,058	28.7
AMORTIZATION & NET LOSS DISPOSALS	0	8,343,292	100.0		5,057,407	7,347,510	31.2
TOTAL - CAPITAL AND OTHER EXPENDITUR	4,116,036	13,724,754	70.0		8,593,573	13,441,765	36.1

**NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
 UPDATED UNAUDITED EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - CLOSED
 FOR THE PERIOD ENDED: APRIL 30, 2012**

Page :

ACCOUNT	THIS YEAR TO DATE				LAST YEAR TO DATE		
	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% Left	CHANGES	EXPENDED	BUDGET	% Left
GRAND TOTAL-	164,601,367	250,504,359	34.3		165,736,582	240,139,674	31.0

**Prepared by : William Tumath
 Finance Department**

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE
LAUREL BROTEN, MINISTER OF EDUCATION
LETTER TO ALL CHAIRS OF BOARDS – MAY 17, 2012**

Ministry of Education

Minister

Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Telephone 416 325-2600
Facsimile 416 325-2608

Ministère de l'Éducation

Ministre

Édifice Mowat
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2
Téléphone 416 325-2600
Télécopieur 416 325-2608



May 17, 2012

Dear Chair,

I am writing to invite all school board Chairs and Directors of Education to participate in a conference call to begin a consultation on school boards restructuring and amalgamation with a view to the long-term sustainability of our publicly funded education system. As you know, the 2012 Ontario Budget indicated that following consultation, the Ministry of Education will work with boards and their communities to ensure that student needs are put first in any amalgamation.

I will be chairing this teleconference with Deputy Minister George Zegarac on Tuesday, May 29 at 3:30 p.m.

In light of our shared fiscal reality, the Ministry of Education, like all other ministries, has had to find areas of significant savings. Our choice is to protect the gains we have made together in student achievement and in the classroom experience. This includes the rollout of full-day kindergarten, smaller class sizes and preserving 20,000 teaching and support staff jobs.

Finding greater efficiencies in how we deliver education will help to achieve our fiscal targets. We have an opportunity to be creative and innovative as we work together to ensure that student needs are met.

Before I outline the process moving forward, I want to make it clear that at no point are we looking to merge separate and public boards or French and English boards. Also, it is important that this approach be different from the last time the Ministry of Education amalgamated boards in the late 1990s. On our teleconference, I welcome the opportunity to discuss the lessons learned from previous amalgamation efforts, and talk about how we can work together to develop our plan moving forward.

Some of you may know that in my previous role as Minister of Children and Youth Services, I worked closely with Deputy Zegarac and our partners in the child welfare sector to find opportunities and efficiencies. Children's Aid Societies worked to find creative partnerships and innovative approaches that not only saved money, but meant better care for kids. That is the approach we would like to take here.

.../2

The 2012 Ontario Budget included a target of \$10.5 million in system savings for fiscal 2013-14 and \$16.7 million for fiscal 2014-15. By working together, we can develop a plan that meets these savings while considering ideas and sharing insights on best practice for the future sustainability of our education system.

We need to move quickly to meet the 2013-14 target but it is equally important to involve you in the process and to get it right. As such, I have asked Deputy Zegarac and ministry staff to begin sector consultations with your board staff in June. Your staff will receive more information regarding these discussions under a separate cover. As well, more detailed discussions with board chairs, trustees, teacher federations and other partners will follow throughout the summer.

Our intent is to develop a strategy based on what we learn through consultation and bring the strategy back to you for your consideration before the end of September 2012. The goal is to finalize the restructuring plans no later than early in 2013.

While I have been clear that we have no intention of restructuring across the existing boundaries of faith or language, I still encourage you to continue the work you have been doing to find efficiencies in consolidating back-office activities. This work is also critical because it helps ensure the best value for every dollar spent in education.

I know that by working together in the same spirit of partnership that has served us well in the past we can find the efficiencies we need for the long term, while continuing to meet student needs and strengthen publicly funded education in Ontario. We owe it to the students to continue to put their interests first as we work together.

Yours truly,



Laurel Broten
Minister

c: Directors of Education
Council of Ontario Directors of Education

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC – MAY 8, 2012**



Spotlight

on

NIAGARA CATHOLIC

Nurturing Souls & Building Minds

www.niagaracatholic.ca

May 7, 2012



Inaugural Grade 7 Niagara Catholic Festival of Faith a Success

In alignment with our Vision 2020 Strategic Plan goal to enhance and enrich faith experiences for students, Niagara Catholic hosted the First Annual Festival of Faith for all Grade 7 students on May 1st and 2nd, 2012.

Emceed by Student Senate Co-Chairs Ryan Creelman and Patrick Morris, this half-day event was facilitated by Fr. Tony Ricard, Pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in New Orleans, La.

Fr. Tony infused his Creation story with humour, truly bringing to light the message of God's great love for each of us. Fr. Tony also shared some of the lessons he learned from his parents growing up, such as "Remember who you are," and "Don't be stupid."

Students also enjoyed musical presentations from Saint Paul Catholic High School and Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School, and a dramatic prayer service by students from St. Francis Catholic Secondary School.



During his week-long visit to Niagara Catholic, Fr. Tony Ricard led a Mass for CEC staff, addressed students in the Student Success program and was the keynote speaker for Family Faith Night. He was also the keynote speaker for the Inaugural Festival of Faith for all Grade 7 students. (top and bottom right).

Trustees Review Strategic Directions

Niagara Catholic Trustees have received Senior Staff's recommended Strategic Directions System Priorities for 2012-2013 during the May 8th meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

The Strategic Directions System Priorities were submitted in compliance with the April 24th Board Motion approving the timeline for the submission of the Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities for 2012-2013 and the Annual Budget 2012-2013.

Based on the expectations of the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, the recommended Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2012-2013 builds upon the 2011-2012 Niagara Catholic System Priorities. Rooted in the Board-approved Vision 2020 Strategic Directions and Enabling Strategies, the specific priorities are intended to provide the framework to measure the progress in achieving the two Strategic Directions and seven Enabling Priorities within Vision 2020.

The Strategic Directions Priority Indicators will be presented to the Board at the May 22nd Board Meeting. The report is available online at niagaracatholic.ca.

Trustees Congratulate Holy Cross's Vex Robotics Team



Members of Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School's Vex Robotics Team, which competed at the World Vex Robotics Championships in Anaheim, California, in April, were recognized by Trustees during the May 8th Committee of the Whole Meeting. The 27-member team had two robots registered for competition and worked with students from New Zealand, Hawaii, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, China, Mexico and Brazil. Representing the team at the Committee of the Whole Meeting, from left, were: Holy Cross Vice Principal Frances Brockenshire; teacher Jeffery Maxwell; Vex Robotics team members Filipp Kumanovsky, Josef Rousal-Crichton and Ashley Mazurkiewicz; Holy Cross Principal Joseph Zaroda and Vice-Principal Jay Lennox.

2012 Larkin Estate Award Renewals Approved

The Larkin Estate Awards are administered by the Board of Trustees of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, using funds from the estate of Maria Eveleen Larkin and Aimee Theresa Larkin. These awards have been administered annually since 1969 to students enrolled at St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto, or a school of nursing, social service work or a university offering such a course.

Eight first-year students will each receive \$125 toward the cost of their

studies. Nine scholarships of \$250 will be presented to second-year students, seven scholarships of \$500 apiece will be presented to third-year students and one scholarship of \$500 will be presented to a fourth-year student in one of the approved programs.

The names of the first year recipients have not yet been announced. The list of second, third and fourth-year recipients can be found in the CW agenda at niagaracatholic.ca.

Niagara Catholic Celebrates Great Kids

Every year, the Welland Tribune shines the spotlight on students from Welland, Pelham, Port Colborne and Wainfleet who are making a difference in the lives of others in their school, their family or the community through its "Great Kids of South Niagara" program.

Each year, many students are nominated for their good deeds. Students are recognized in two age groups (6-12 and 13-18) in three categories: Cool to be Kind, Personal Best and Against the Odds. Superintendent of Education Lee-Ann Forsyth-Sells shared the good news during the May 8th Committee of the Whole Meeting.

This year, Niagara Catholic is extremely proud to congratulate nine current students and one graduate who were honoured at the Great Kids Gala on April 29th.

Jaevin Spero, an 11-year-old student at Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary School and co-founder of the charity Wonderful Wishes, which provides birthday gifts to children in need, was named the finalist in his age group in the Cool to be Kind category.

Anastasia Groch, a Grade 7 student at St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School, was a finalist in the Personal Best category for children aged 6-12. She was described as a "born leader, a positive role model and an exceptional member of the St. Alexander and Fonthill community."

Breton Lalama, a Grade 11 student at Notre Dame College School, was a finalist in the Personal Best category for ages 13-18 for her maintaining a 98 per cent average at school while keeping up a busy schedule performing in school and community theatrical productions and remaining active in her school and parish community.

The following students were named semi-finalists in their respective categories:

- Nolan Lynds, St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School, Cool to be Kind 6-12
- Zachary Mayer - St. Kevin Catholic Elementary School, Cool to be Kind 13-18
- Jasmine Theriault - St. Andrew Catholic Elementary School, Cool to be Kind, 13-18
- Kayla Bevacqua, Holy Name Catholic Elementary School, Personal Best 6-12
- Sabrina D'Angelo - Graduate Notre Dame College School, Personal Best 13-18
- Phoebe Kirkup - Notre Dame College School, Personal Best 13-18
- Ryan Boros - St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School, Against the Odds, 13-18

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
MAY 22, 2012**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
CALENDAR OF EVENTS – JUNE 2012**

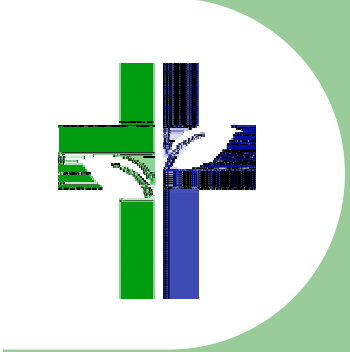
June 2012

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

Celebrate Canada
 An eleven-day celebration which takes place from June 21 to July 1.



				1	2	
3 Niagara Catholic Staff, Family Mass & Picnic	4	5 CW Meeting	6 SEAC Meeting	7	8 Elem PA Day	9
10	11	12 BD Meeting	13	14	15	16
17 - Father's Day	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Graduation: - Saint Paul	26 Graduation: - Denis Morris - Holy Cross - Notre Dame	27 Graduation: - Blessed Trinity - St Francis	Secondary Exams ...		30
... Secondary Exams				28 Sec PA Day Graduation: - Saint Michael	29 Elem & Sec PA Day Graduation: - Lakeshore Catholic	



Niagara Catholic
 District School Board

Events posted at
niagaracatholic.ca