



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2021

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held electronically on Tuesday, February 9, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Vice-Chair Moody.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Trustee Fera

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chair Moody noted that all Trustees and Student Trustees were in attendance.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Rhianon Burkholder		✓		
Kathy Burtnik		✓		
Frank Fera		✓		
Larry Huibers		✓		
Daniel Moody		✓		
Leanne Prince		✓		
Dino Sicoli		✓		
Paul Turner		✓		
Student Trustees				
Luca DiPietro		✓		
Sydney Yott		✓		

The following staff were electronically in attendance:

Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education; **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Kimberly Kinney**, **Gino Pizzoferrato**, **Pat Rocca**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Clark Euale**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2021, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared by Trustees Fera, Huibers, and Moody with Item 4.3 of the In Camera Agenda. These trustees have family members who are teachers, or employees of the Board. They left the meeting during discussion of this item.

5. Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 12, 2021

Moved by Trustee Fera

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 12, 2021, as presented.

CARRIED

6. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Sicoli requested Item 6.1 be held. This item was moved to Committee and Staff Reports Section C6 of the agenda.

6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of January 26, 2021

Moved to Section C6

6.2 Approval of Policies

6.2.1 Accessibility Customer Service Policy (800.8.1)

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole approval of the Accessibility Customer Service Policy (800.8.1), as presented.

6.3 Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars 2021-2022

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for the 2021-2022 school year, as presented.

6.4 Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities

Presented for information.

6.5 Capital Projects Progress Report Update

Presented for information.

6.6 In Camera Items F1 and F3

Moved by Trustee

THAT the Committee of the Whole adopt consent agenda items.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Trustee Determination and Distribution

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services presented the Trustee Determination and Distribution report.

Director Cipriano and Superintendent Vetrone answered questions of Trustees.

Following discussions, the Board will reach out to the Niagara on the Lake and Pelham communities via Catholic School Councils to determine a need for Trustee redistribution to align with Niagara Catholic's Family of Schools.

2. Committee of the Whole System Priorities 2020-2021 Update

Director Cipriano presented Committee of the Whole System Priorities 2020-2021 Update.

3. Niagara Catholic Mental Health and Well Being Update 2021

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education provided background information on Niagara Catholics Mental Health and Well Being and introduced Andrea Bozza, Niagara Catholic's Mental Health Lead.

Ms. Bozza presented the Niagara Catholic Mental Health and Well Being Update 2021.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells and Ms. Bozza answered questions of Trustees.

4. Financial Investment Report as of December 31, 2020

Superintendent Vetrone presented the Financial Investment Report as of December 31, 2020.

5. Monthly Updates

5.1 Student Trustees' Update

Luca DiPietro and Sydney Yott, Student Trustees, presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

Student Trustees DiPietro and Yott answered questions of Trustees.

5.2 Senior Staff Good News Update

Senior Staff highlights included:

Superintendent Pizzoferrato

- Niagara Catholic has approximately 110 staff at 33 sites across the system providing in person service to over 75 of our most vulnerable students during this stay at home order. The numbers are attributed to the partnerships that exists, the trust that is in place between families, the commitment of our staff and the ability to prioritize the needs of our students.
- Niagara Catholic is in the process of finalizing an after school program for our students with autism that will focus on virtual service to expose them to coding and robotics. This will prove to be highly engaging.

Superintendent Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells

- St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School support staff have been able to accommodate 5 special needs students at school during the lock down, as well as many online. The EAs and the ERT have truly been outstanding with the flexibility of scheduling, and time allocated for one-to-one breakout sessions. Students are happy at school and are definitely benefitting, and parents are grateful for allowing this to happen. This is a shout out to all the EAs and ERT!
- Emails have been received by parents from both St. Ann and St. James Catholic Elementary Schools in St. Catharines praising the outstanding work of Principals and staff.
- Niagara Catholic is pleased to announce its partnership with Tools of Empowerment for Success Niagara, to launch *What They See Is What They Will BE*, a powerful mentorship program to support students in grades 6 to 12. A grant of \$25,000 from the Niagara Community Foundation will support the implementation of this program. Mentors will receive training in cultural competencies and racial nuances. This program will meet the needs of Black youth, addressing racial disparities and policy and program outcomes; such as data analysis, health, and mental health, education, literary and the performing arts, social impact and innovation and entrepreneurship.

Director Cipriano

- Virtual open houses are complete and Niagara Catholics registration are significantly higher than they have been in the last few years. A report will be brought to the February Board meeting.

6. Consent Agenda Item A6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of January 26, 2021

Director Cipriano answered questions of Trustees.

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of January 26, 2021, as presented.

CARRIED

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Calendar of Events – February 2021

Director Cipriano highlighted the February 2021 Calendar of Events.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

1.1 Growth and Retention Committee

Trustee Turner provided an update on the Growth and Retention Committee and noted the committee will be put on hold until the Multi-Year Strategic Plan comes to fruition.

- 1.2 Director Cipriano reminded Trustees that Premier Ford announced that the Stay at Home order will be lifted on February 16, 2021. The Board staff will be returning to work gradually and at partial capacity, and the February 23, 2021 Policy and Board meetings will be held at the Catholic Education Centre with Trustees, the Director and Recording Secretary in attendance and Senior Staff and members of the community will continue to attend virtually.

Director Cipriano answered questions of Trustees.

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Prince

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 Committee of the Whole Meeting at 7:56 p.m. and reconvened at 8:58 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Prince

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 9, 2021.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES INCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section A: Student Trustees Included) held on January 12, 2021, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section B: Student Trustees Excluded) held on January 12, 2021, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F3)

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the February 9, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **February 9, 2021.**

Approved on **March 9, 2021.**

Daniel Moody
Vice-Chair of the Board

Camillo Cipriano
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer