BOARD MEETING MARCH 23, 2021

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE

WHOLE MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2021

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 9, 2021, as presented.



MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in the Holy Father Kenneth Burns c.s.c. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Policy Committee Chair Prince.

1. Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Trustee Burkholder.

2. Attendance

Committee Members	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Leanne Prince (Committee Chair)	✓			
Rhianon Burkholder				
Larry Huibers	√			

Student Trustees:

Luca DiPietro Sydney Yott

Staff:

Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education Kimberly Kinney, Superintendent of Education Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Anna Pisano, Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services/Recording Secretary

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Huibers

THAT the March 23, 2021 Policy Committee Agenda be approved, as presented.

APPROVED

4. <u>Declaration of Conflict of Interest</u>

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

5. Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of February 23, 2021

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Policy Committee approve the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of February 23, 2021, as presented.

APPROVED

6. Governance Policies

ACTION REQUIRED

GOVERNANCE POLICIES - FOR RECOMMENDATION TO APRIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

6.1 <u>Complaint Resolution Policy (800.3)</u>

Director Cipriano highlighted recommended amendments to the Complaint Resolution Policy (800.3) following legal advice.

Following discussion, the Policy Committee recommended the following additional amendments:

• No amendment

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the April Committee of the Whole Meeting to approve the revisions to the Complaint Resolution Policy (800.3), as presented.

APPROVED

6.2 Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (302.6.8)

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education presented feedback received from the vetting process and highlighted recommended amendments to the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (302.6.8) following the vetting process.

Following discussion, the Policy Committee recommended the following additional amendments:

• No amendment

Moved by Trustee Huibers

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the April Committee of the Whole Meeting to approve the revisions to the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (302.6.8),as presented.

APPROVED

6.3 Student Expulsion Policy (302.6.5)

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells presented feedback received from the vetting process and highlighted recommended amendments to the Student Expulsion Policy (302.6.5) following the vetting process.

Following discussion, the Policy Committee recommended the following additional amendments:

No amendment

Moved by Trustee Huibers

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the April Committee of the Whole Meeting to approve the revisions to the Student Expulsion Policy (302.6.5), as presented.

APPROVED

6.4 Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7)

Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education presented feedback received from the vetting process and highlighted recommended amendments to the Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7) following the vetting process.

Following discussion, the Policy Committee recommended the following additional amendments:

• No amendment

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the April Committee of the Whole Meeting to approve the revisions to the Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7), as presented.

APPROVED

6.5 Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11)

Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education presented feedback received from the vetting process and highlighted recommended amendments to the Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11) following the vetting process.

Following discussion, the Policy Committee recommended the following additional amendments:

• No amendment

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the April Committee of the Whole Meeting to approve the revisions to the Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11), as presented.

APPROVED

GOVERNANCE POLICIES - PRIOR TO VETTING

Nil

INFORMATION

6.6 Governance Policies Currently Being Vetted to March 31, 2021

- Board By-Laws Policy (100.1)
- Occupational Health and Safety Policy (201.6)
- Student Exclusion From School or Class Policy (NEW)

6.7 Governance Policy Review 2020-2021 Schedule

Director Cipriano presented the Governance Policy Review 2020-2021 Schedule.

7. Date of Next Meeting

April 27, 2021 – 4:30 p.m.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2021

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: APPROVAL OF POLICIES

COMPLAINT RESOLUTION POLICY (800.3)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Complaint Resolution Policy (800.3), as presented

Prepared by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Presented by: Policy Committee

Recommended by: Policy Committee



COMPLAINT RESOLUTION POLICY

STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE POLICY

800 - Schools and Community Councils

Policy No. 800.3

Adopted Date: April 28, 1998

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: October 24, 2017

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board (the "Board"), the Board is committed to open and transparent communication with its students, parents/guardians, employees, Catholic ratepayers and all educational partners through effective system and school-based communication procedures.

This purpose of this policy is to supports the Board's commitment and dedication to serving our educational partners by fostering encouraging—a culture of transparency and trust. that fosters a sense of comfort, without fear of reprisal. This Board recognizes the importance of input, and this policy encourages the resolution of conflict within a process that is accountable, transparent and respectful of the roles of the complainant and the Board, and in resolving conflict is in the best interest of everyone students and employees involved. This policy also Therefore, This Policy is a framework an avenue for the submission of complaints, and provides the Board with a protocol staff with protocols for handling same complaints in a fair and consistent manner, in accordance with the Education Act and Catholic Social Teachings.

If a dispute can not be resolved at the level of the point of conflict, then a complainant shall, if they wish to proceed, submit a written request to the individual's supervisor, outlining the nature of the dispute or complaint. Investigations shall be conducted fairly, justly and respect all parties involved. Anonymous complaints or complaints submitted under a pseudonym, except for complaints related to any illegal, abusive or protection matter, will not be investigated.

In addition to any internal investigation conducted by the Board, complaints of any illegal, abusive or protection matters will be referred to the appropriate investigative party, such as Niagara Regional Police, or Family and Children's Services, as required by *Child and Family Services Act*.

In consultation with an employee's supervisor, anonymous or pseudonymous complaints or material of an illegal, abusive or protection matter will be referred to the appropriate party or parties such as the police and/or Family and Children Services. Any person who has reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection, shall promptly report the suspicion and the information upon which it is based to the Niagara Family and Children's Services. Subsection 72(1) of the *Child and Family Services Act* sets out the circumstances that must be reported.

A complaint is defined as any oral or written communication expressing dissatisfaction or concern with the application of policies, procedures, programs, services or actions of an employee, or the Niagara Catholic District School Board (the "Board"). Those expressing an oral complaint will be required to put the complaint in writing, dating and signing the complaint to facilitate an investigation.

The Board offers its assurances that any complaint brought forward in good faith against a member of Niagara Catholic staff will be fully and fairly investigated. The Board prohibits harassment and retaliation against individuals who make a complaint or provide information in good faith.

The Board prohibits reprisals against complainants or individuals who provide information and who act in good faith. The Board shall make every effort to ensure that an individual, who in good faith reports under this policy, is protected from harassment, retaliation or, in the case of an employee, adverse employment consequences. A reprisal includes, but is not limited to, harassment, retaliation, threat or punishment. Individuals that engage in any form of reprisal may be subject to discipline. A false and frivolous accusation or complaint is a serious offence because of the negative consequences for a respondent.

A complaint or accusation that is false, frivolous, vexatious or malicious intent or otherwise made in bad faith may be subject to discipline.

Anonymous or pseudonymous complaints or material, unless it is believed that such complaint or material references an illegal, abusive or protection matter or is otherwise required to be investigated at law, will not be considered, copied, distributed, repeated, responded to or entertained by the Board. Anonymous or pseudonymous written complaints received by staff, excluding those which it is believed refer to an illegal, abusive or protection matter will be destroyed.

The Board of Trustees and employees of the Board will cooperate to ensure that all complaints are dealt with in a fair, consistent, transparent and reasonable manner. It is expected that common courtesy and Christian charity will be used to obtain a prompt resolution and an opportunity for reconciliation between the parties.

Niagara Catholic will respect the confidentiality of all complaints and complaintants as much as possible. However, the Board's legal responsibilities may take priority over privacy in certain complaint matters.

Confidentiality of all complaints shall be maintained to the extent practicable and appropriate, given the circumstances between the complainant and Board employees directly involved and the Board's requirement at law.

This Policy and Administrative Operational Procedures provides the process to resolve complaints in accordance with the *Education Act* and its regulations and all applicable laws and statutes, the Mission Statement of the Board, and the social teaching of the Catholic Church on subsidiarity.

The Director of Education will issue *Administrative Operational Procedures* in support of this policy.

References

- o Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2
- o Child and Family Services Act
- o Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
- Teaching Profession Act

Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures/Documents

- o Board By-Laws Policy (100.1)
- o Trustee Code of Conduct Policy (100.12)
- o Family and Children Services Protocol
- o Ombudsman Act

Adopted Date:

April 28, 1998

Revision History:

June 15, 2010 March 29, 2011 October 24, 2017

COMPLAINT RESOLUTION POLICY

STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE POLICY

800 - Schools and Community Councils

Policy No. 800.3

Adopted Date: April 28, 1998

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: October 24, 2017

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board (the "Board"), the Board is committed to open and transparent communication with its students, parents/guardians, employees, Catholic ratepayers and all educational partners through effective system and school-based communication procedures.

This policy supports the Board's commitment and dedication to serving our educational partners by fostering a culture of transparency and trust. a. This policy encourages the resolution of conflict within a process that is accountable, transparent and respectful of the roles of the complainant and the Board, and is in the best interest of everyone involved. This policy also provides the Board with a protocol handling same complaints in a fair and consistent manner, in accordance with the *Education Act* and Catholic Social Teachings.

If a dispute can not be resolved at the level of the point of conflict, then a complainant shall, if they wish to proceed, submit a written request to the individual's supervisor, outlining the nature of the dispute or complaint. Investigations shall be conducted fairly, justly and respect all parties involved. Anonymous complaints or complaints submitted under a pseudonym, except for complaints related to any illegal, abusive or protection matter, will not be investigated.

In addition to any internal investigation conducted by the Board, complaints of any illegal, abusive or protection matters will be referred to the appropriate investigative party, such as Niagara Regional Police, or Family and Children's Services, as required by *Child and Family Services Act*.

The Board offers its assurances that any complaint brought forward in good faith against a member of Niagara Catholic staff will be fully and fairly investigated. The Board prohibits harassment and retaliation against individuals who make a complaint or provide information in good faith.

Niagara Catholic will respect the confidentiality of all complaints and complaintants as much as possible. However, the Board's legal responsibilities may take priority over privacy in certain complaint matters.

The Director of Education will issue <u>Administrative Operational Procedures</u> in support of this policy.

References

- o Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2
- o Child and Family Services Act
- o Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
- o <u>Teaching Profession Act</u>

Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures/Documents

- o Board By-Laws Policy (100.1)
- o Trustee Code of Conduct Policy (100.12)
- o Family and Children Services Protocol
- o Ombudsman Act

Adopted Date:

April 28, 1998

Revision History:

June 15, 2010 March 29, 2011 October 24, 2017

BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2021

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: APPROVAL OF POLICIES

BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION POLICY

(302.6.8)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (302.6.8), as presented

Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Policy Committee

Recommended by: Policy Committee



BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION POLICY

STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE POLICY

300 – Schools/Students Policy No 302.6.8

Adopted Date: November 25, 2003

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: June 18, 2019

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Board is committed to creating and sustaining schools and workplaces that are Christ-centred, healthy, safe, and inclusive, where all members are accepted and welcomed in safe teaching, learning and working environments, free from any form of bullying. The principles of equity and inclusive education are embedded in teaching and learning environments to support a positive school climate and a culture of mutual respect.

The Board promotes and supports positive behaviours that reflect Catholic Gospel values, the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, and the provincial, and Board and School Codes of Conduct.

The Board acknowledges that any form of bullying including cyber-bullying adversely affects a student's well-being and ability to learn, adversely affects the school climate, including healthy relationships. Any form of bullying , and will not be accepted on school property and sites, transportation, at school-related activities, or in any other circumstances (e.g., online) where engaging in bullying will have a negative impact on the school climate.

Therefore, in accordance with the Accepting Schools Act, the Ministry of Education PPM 144 (2018), and the provincial, Board and School Codes of Conduct, all members of the school community, staff, students, parents/guardians and visitors, are expected to will be respectful to one another at all times and are responsible to create and maintain, safe, inclusive and accepting school environments and work environments free from bullying.

When establishing the Board Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan, the Board will engage students, teachers, Principals, and other staff of the Board, volunteers working in the schools, parents/guardians of students, and Catholic School Councils. The Board will also consult with Student Senates, the Special Education Advisory Committee, the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, and the Indigenous Education Advisory Council. The Board Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan has been developed in consultation with stakeholders and is available to the public through on the Board and school websites.

Niagara Catholic schools will implement the Board's Plan and include a specified bullying prevention and intervention statement in their School Code of Conduct to be included in Student Handbooks.

The Director of Education will issue <u>Administrative Operational Procedures</u> for the implementation of this Policy.

References

- Accepting Schools Act
- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005
- Caring and Safe Schools in Ontario
- Child & Family Services Review Board
- Child, Youth and Family Services Act 2017
- Education Act and Regulations
- Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
- Ontario Catholic School Graduation Expectations
- Ontario Human Rights Code
- Ontario Student Record (OSR) Guideline, 2000 (Revised 2020)

- •
- Policy/Program Memorandum 120: Reporting Violent Incidents to the Ministry of Education
- Policy/Program Memorandum 128: The Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct-Issued October 17, 2018
- <u>Policy/Program Memorandum 144: Bullying Prevention and Intervention-Issued October 17, 2018</u>
- <u>Policy/Program Memorandum 145: Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour Issued October 17, 2018</u>
- Provincial Code of Conduct
- Regulation 472/07: Behaviour, Discipline and Safety of Pupils
- Smoke-Free Ontario Act 2017

Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures/Documents

- Access to Board Premises (302.6.3) AOP
- Accessibility Standards Policy (800.8)
- Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (302.6.8)
- Catholic School Councils (800.1) AOP
- Code of Conduct Policy (302.6.2)
- Complaint Resolution Policy (800.3)
- Criminal Background Check (302.6.7) AOP
- <u>Dress Code Secondary Uniform Policy (302.6.6)</u>
- Electronic Communications System (Students) (301.5) AOP
- Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy-Safe Schools (302.6.10)
- Equity and Inclusive Education Policy (100.10)
- Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Policy (800.7)
- Ontario Student Record (301.7) AOP
- Opening or Closing Exercises (302.6.1) AOP
- Progressive Student Discipline (302.6.9) AOP
- *Privacy Policy* (600.6)
- Records and Information Management Policy (600.2)
- Safe Arrival (302.6) AOP
- Safe Physical Intervention with Students (301.8) AOP
- Safe and Accepting Schools Policy (302.6)
- Student Expulsion Policy (302.6.5)
- Student Suspension (302.6.4) AOP
- Student Transportation Policy (500.2)
- Volunteering in Catholic Schools (800.9) AOP
- Pope Francis Centre Alternative Learning Manual: Niagara Catholic Fresh Start Program
- Protocol between Niagara Catholic District School Board and Family and Children's Services Niagara
- Protocol Between the Niagara Regional Police Service and the Niagara Catholic District School Board

Adopted Date:

November 25, 2003

Revision History:

February 1, 2008 June 17, 2008 September 18, 2008 January 26, 2010 April 27, 2010 February 26, 2013 October 28, 2014 June 18, 2019



BULLYING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION POLICY

STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE POLICY

300 – Schools/Students Policy No 302.6.8

Adopted Date: November 25, 2003

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: June 18, 2019

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Board is committed to creating and sustaining schools and workplaces that are Christ-centred, healthy, safe, and inclusive, where all members are accepted and welcomed in safe teaching, learning and working environments, free from any form of bullying. The principles of equity and inclusive education are embedded in teaching and learning environments to support a positive school climate and a culture of mutual respect.

The Board promotes and supports positive behaviours that reflect Catholic Gospel values, the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, and the provincial and Board Codes of Conduct.

The Board acknowledges that any form of bullying including cyber-bullying adversely affects a student's well-being and ability to learn, adversely affects the school climate, including healthy relationships. Any form of bullying will not be accepted on school property and sites, transportation, at school-related activities, or in any other circumstances where engaging in bullying will have a negative impact on the school climate.

Therefore, all members of the school community, staff, students, parents/guardians and visitors, are expected to be respectful to one another at all times and are responsible to create and maintain, safe, inclusive and accepting school environments and work environments free from bullying.

The Board Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan has been developed in consultation with stakeholders and is available on Board and school websites.

The Director of Education will issue <u>Administrative Operational Procedures</u> for the implementation of this Policy.

References

- Accepting Schools Act
- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005
- Caring and Safe Schools in Ontario
- Child & Family Services Review Board
- Child, Youth and Family Services Act 2017
- Education Act and Regulations
- Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
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- Policy/Program Memorandum 145: Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour –Issued October 17, 2018
- Provincial Code of Conduct

- Regulation 472/07: Behaviour, Discipline and Safety of Pupils
- Smoke-Free Ontario Act 2017

Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures/Documents

- Access to Board Premises (302.6.3) AOP
- Accessibility Standards Policy (800.8)
- Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (302.6.8)
- Catholic School Councils (800.1) AOP
- Code of Conduct Policy (302.6.2)
- Complaint Resolution Policy (800.3)
- Criminal Background Check (302.6.7) AOP
- Dress Code Secondary Uniform Policy (302.6.6)
- Electronic Communications System (Students) (301.5) AOP
- Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy-Safe Schools (302.6.10)
- Equity and Inclusive Education Policy (100.10)
- Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Policy (800.7)
- Ontario Student Record (301.7) AOP
- Opening or Closing Exercises (302.6.1) AOP
- Progressive Student Discipline (302.6.9) AOP
- *Privacy Policy (600.6)*
- Records and Information Management Policy (600.2)
- Safe Arrival (302.6) AOP
- Safe Physical Intervention with Students (301.8) AOP
- Safe and Accepting Schools Policy (302.6)
- Student Expulsion Policy (302.6.5)
- Student Suspension (302.6.4) AOP
- Student Transportation Policy (500.2)
- Volunteering in Catholic Schools (800.9) AOP
- Protocol between Niagara Catholic District School Board and Family and Children's Services Niagara
- Protocol Between the Niagara Regional Police Service and the Niagara Catholic District School Board

Adopted Date: November 25, 2003

Revision History: February 1, 2008
June 17, 2008
September 18, 2008
January 26, 2010
April 27, 2010
February 26, 2013
October 28, 2014
June 18, 2019

BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2021

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: APPROVAL OF POLICIES

STUDENT EXPULSION POLICY (302.6.5)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Student Expulsion Policy (302.6.5), as presented

Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Policy Committee

Recommended by: Policy Committee



STUDENT EXPULSION POLICY

STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE POLICY

300 - Schools/Students

Policy No 302.6.5

Adopted Date: June 26, 2001

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: May 28, 2019

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Board is committed to promoting and supporting appropriate student behaviour that contributes to a positive school climate and sustaining a caring, safe, inclusive, and accepting learning and teaching environment for all students to reach their full academic, and spiritual potential and become living witnesses of Christ.

A positive school climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, included, and accepted, by actively promoting responsibility, respect, civility, and academic excellence in all Niagara Catholic schools/sites.

The conduct of students as members of the Catholic school community is expected to be modelled upon our Catholic faith, the traditions of Catholic education, and the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations and shall adhere to all applicable Board Governance Policies and Administrative Operational Procedures.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board acknowledges that should a student in Grades 4 to 12 act inappropriately or impedes the rights of others, the consequences may lead to expulsion from a school or all schools of the Board.

The Director of Education will issue <u>Administrative Operational Procedures</u> for the implementation of this policy.

References

- Accepting Schools Act
- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005
- Caring and Safe Schools in Ontario
- Child & Family Services Review Board
- Child, Youth and Family Services Act 2017
- Education Act and Regulations
- Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
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- Provincial Code of Conduct
- Regulation 472/07: Behaviour, Discipline and Safety of Pupils
- Smoke-Free Ontario Act 2017

Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures/Documents

- o Access to Board Premises (302.6.3) AOP
- Accessibility Standards Policy (800.8)
- o **Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (302.6.8)**
- o Catholic School Councils (800.1) AOP
- o Code of Conduct Policy (302.6.2)
- o Complaint Resolution Policy (800.3)
- o Criminal Background Check (302.6.7) AOP
- Dress Code Secondary Uniform Policy (302.6.6)
- o Electronic Communications System (Students) (301.5) AOP
- o Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy-Safe Schools (302.6.10)
- o Equity and Inclusive Education Policy (100.10)
- o Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Policy (800.7)
- o Ontario Student Record (301.7) AOP
- o Opening or Closing Exercises (302.6.1) AOP
- o Progressive Student Discipline (302.6.9) AOP
- o Privacy Policy (600.6)
- o Records and Information Management Policy (600.2)
- o Safe Arrival (302.6) AOP
- o Safe Physical Intervention with Students (301.8) AOP
- o Safe and Accepting Schools Policy (302.6)
- o Student Expulsion Policy (302.6.5)
- Student Suspension (302.6.4) AOP
- Student Transportation Policy (500.2)
- o Volunteering in Catholic Schools (800.9) AOP
- Pope Francis Centre Alternative Learning Manual: Niagara Catholic Fresh Start Program
- Protocol between Niagara Catholic District School Board and Family and Children's Services Niagara
- Protocol Between the Niagara Regional Police Service and the Niagara Catholic District School Board

Adopted Date: June 26, 2001

Revision History: May 28, 2002

February 1, 2008 June 17, 2008 September 18, 2008 June 16, 2009 December 17, 2013 May 26, 2015 February 28, 2017 May 28, 2019



STUDENT EXPULSION POLICY

STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE POLICY

300 - Schools/Students

Policy No 302.6.5

Adopted Date: June 26, 2001

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: May 28, 2019

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Board is committed to promoting and supporting appropriate student behaviour that contributes to a positive school climate and sustaining a caring, safe, inclusive, and accepting learning and teaching environment for all students to reach their full academic, and spiritual potential and become living witnesses of Christ.

A positive school climate exists when all members of the school community feel safe, included, and accepted, by actively promoting responsibility, respect, civility, and academic excellence in all Niagara Catholic schools/sites.

The conduct of students as members of the Catholic school community is expected to be modelled upon our Catholic faith, the traditions of Catholic education, and the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations and shall adhere to all applicable Board Governance Policies and Administrative Operational Procedures.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board acknowledges that should a student in Grades 4 to 12 act inappropriately or impedes the rights of others, the consequences may lead to expulsion from a school or all schools of the Board.

The Director of Education will issue <u>Administrative Operational Procedures</u> for the implementation of this policy.

References

- Accepting Schools Act
- Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005
- Caring and Safe Schools in Ontario
- Child & Family Services Review Board
- Child, Youth and Family Services Act 2017
- Education Act and Regulations
- Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
- Ontario Catholic School Graduation Expectations
- Ontario Human Rights Code
- Ontario Student Record (OSR) Guideline, 2000 (Revised 2020)
- Policy/Program Memorandum 120: Reporting Violent Incidents to the Ministry of Education
- Policy/Program Memorandum 128: The Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct-Issued October 17, 2018
- <u>Policy/Program Memorandum 144: Bullying Prevention and Intervention-Issued October 17, 2018</u>
- Policy/Program Memorandum 145: Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive Student Behaviour –Issued October 17, 2018
- Provincial Code of Conduct
- Regulation 472/07: Behaviour, Discipline and Safety of Pupils
- Smoke-Free Ontario Act 2017

Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures/Documents

- o Access to Board Premises (302.6.3) AOP
- Accessibility Standards Policy (800.8)
- o **Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (302.6.8)**
- o Catholic School Councils (800.1) AOP
- o Code of Conduct Policy (302.6.2)
- o Complaint Resolution Policy (800.3)
- o Criminal Background Check (302.6.7) AOP
- o Dress Code Secondary Uniform Policy (302.6.6)
- o Electronic Communications System (Students) (301.5) AOP
- o Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy-Safe Schools (302.6.10)
- o Equity and Inclusive Education Policy (100.10)
- o Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Policy (800.7)
- o Ontario Student Record (301.7) AOP
- o Opening or Closing Exercises (302.6.1) AOP
- o <u>Progressive Student Discipline (302.6.9) AOP</u>
- o Privacy Policy (600.6)
- o Records and Information Management Policy (600.2)
- o Safe Arrival (302.6) AOP
- o Safe Physical Intervention with Students (301.8) AOP
- o Safe and Accepting Schools Policy (302.6)
- o Student Expulsion Policy (302.6.5)
- Student Suspension (302.6.4) AOP
- Student Transportation Policy (500.2)
- o Volunteering in Catholic Schools (800.9) AOP
- Protocol between Niagara Catholic District School Board and Family and Children's Services Niagara
- Protocol Between the Niagara Regional Police Service and the Niagara Catholic District School Board

Adopted Date:

June 26, 2001 May 28, 2002

Revision History:

February 1, 2008 June 17, 2008 September 18, 2008 June 16, 2009 December 17, 2013 May 26, 2015 February 28, 2017 May 28, 2019

BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2021

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: APPROVAL OF POLICIES

EMPLOYEE WORKPLACE HARASSMENT POLICY (201.7)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7), as presented

Prepared by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education/Human Resources

Presented by: Policy Committee

Recommended by: Policy Committee



EMPLOYEE WORKPLACE HARASSMENT POLICY

STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE POLICY

200 - Human Resources

Policy No 201.7

Adopted Date: March 26, 2002

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: October 22, 2019

In keeping with the Mission, Vision, and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the Niagara Catholic District School Board is committed to providing a safe working environment in which all Employees are treated with consideration, dignity, respect, and equity and in accordance with the Gospel values of Jesus Christ, as well as the Mission, Vision and Values of the Board.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board will not tolerate discrimination or harassment, including sexual and ethnocultural harassment in any workplace of the Board.

Niagara Catholic District School Board recognizes Workplace Harassment to mean; engaging in a course of vexatious comment or conduct against a worker in a workplace that is known or ought reasonably to be known as unwelcome.

Workplace Harassment includes sexual harassment, defined as;

Engaging in a course of vexatious comment, in any form, or conduct against a worker in a workplace because of sex[1], gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, where the course of comment of conduct is known or ought reasonably to be known as unwelcome or;

Making a sexual solicitation or advance, in any form, where the person making the solicitation or advance is in a position to confer, grant or deny a benefit of advancement to the worker and the person knows or ought reasonably to know that the solicitation or advance is unwelcome.

Workplace Harassment also includes ethnocultural harassment, defined as;

One or a series of unwanted, unsolicited remarks, behaviours or communications, in any form, directed toward an individual or members of an identifiable group because of a prohibited ground of discrimination.

The Board believes that the eradication of harassment in the school/workplace is the joint obligation of the employer and the employee. Therefore, any employee who becomes aware of a harassment situation between employees has a responsibility to draw appropriate attention to it. Any failure to take measures to address harassment in the workplace has legal implications for the employer under the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Where the occasion of a complaint of harassment arises, the Board may achieve resolution through a formal or informal process. During the process all information gathered is to be kept confidential.

It is the intention of the policy and the resulting procedures to attempt to protect both the complainant and the accused respondent. The Board will endeavour to protect the dignity, respect and privacy of all those involved. Therefore, Each party has equal rights at all steps throughout the process.

The Board will review this policy on an annual basis, and will post this policy in the workplace along with any applicable procedures and/or related programs.

The Director of Education will issue <u>Administrative Operational Procedures</u> for the implementation of this policy.

References:

- Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
- Occupational Health & Safety Act (December 2009) Bill 13
- Bill 132: Sexual Violence and Harassment Action Plan Act
- Ontario Human Rights Code 1990
- Teaching Profession Act
- Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures
 - Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11)
 - o Trustee Code of Conduct Policy (100.12)
 - o Complaint Resolution Policy (800.3)
 - Protocol Between Niagara Region Police Service and the Niagara Catholic District School Board
 - o Employee Code of Conduct & Ethics Policy (201.17)
 - Privacy Policy (600.6)
 - o Records and Information Management Policy (600.2)

Adopted Date:	March 26, 2002
Revision History:	February 23, 2010 February 28, 2012 November 26, 2013 February 24, 2015 June 21, 2016 May 23, 2017 November 27, 2018 July 10, 2019 October 22, 2019



EMPLOYEE WORKPLACE HARASSMENT POLICY

STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE POLICY

200 - Human Resources

Policy No 201.7

Adopted Date: March 26, 2002

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: October 22, 2019

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Making a sexual solicitation or advance, in any form, where the person making the solicitation or advance is in a position to confer, grant or deny a benefit of advancement to the worker and the person knows or ought reasonably to know that the solicitation or advance is unwelcome.

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Where the occasion of a complaint of harassment arises, the Board may achieve resolution through a formal or informal process. During the process all information gathered is to be kept confidential.

It is the intention of the policy and the resulting procedures to attempt to protect both the complainant and the respondent. The Board will endeavour to protect the dignity, respect and privacy of all those involved. Each party has equal rights at all steps throughout the process.

The Board will review this policy on an annual basis, and will post this policy in the workplace along with any applicable procedures and/or related programs.

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 - o Records and Information Management Policy (600.2)

Adopted Date:	March 26, 2002
Revision History:	February 23, 2010 February 28, 2012 November 26, 2013 February 24, 2015 June 21, 2016 May 23, 2017 November 27, 2018 July 10, 2019 October 22, 2019

BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2021

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: APPROVAL OF POLICIES

EMPLOYEE WORKPLACE VIOLENCE POLICY (201.11)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11), as presented

Prepared by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education/Human Resources

Presented by: Policy Committee

Recommended by: Policy Committee

EMPLOYEE WORKPLACE VIOLENCE POLICY

STATEMENT OF GOVERNANCE POLICY

200 - Human Resources

Policy No 201.11

Adopted Date: March 26, 2002

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: November 27, 2018

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The Board believes that the eradication of workplace violence in the school/workplace is the joint responsibility of the employer and the employee. Therefore, any employee who becomes aware of a potential workplace violence situation has a responsibility to draw appropriate attention to it.

Workplace Violence will not be tolerated while an employee is conducting company business, or work related functions.

If the employee believes they are at risk of violence in the workplace including domestic violence they must advise the employer and the employer will take appropriate steps which may include seeking the assistance of the local police.

Where the occasion of workplace violence arises, the Board will achieve resolution through a formal process. During the process all information gathered is to be kept confidential.

In accordance with current legislation in the Province of Ontario, the Board will assess the risks of workplace violence (Appendix A) that may arise from the nature of the workplace, and provide relevant training, information and instruction to the employees.

This Policy is to be applied in conjunction with the following other Board Policies dealing with employee behaviour, progressive discipline, conflict resolution and school safety: Code of Conduct, Access to School Premises, Criminal Background Check, Police and School Board Protocol, Occupational Health and Safety, Employee Workplace Harassment) as well as the Police and School Board Protocol.

The Board will review this policy with respect to workplace violence, on an annual basis, and will post this policy in the workplace along with any applicable procedures and/or related programs.

The Director of Education will issue <u>Administrative Operational Procedures</u> for the implementation of this policy.

References

- <u>Bill 168: Occupational Health and Safety Amendment Act (Violence and Harassment in the Workplace) 2009</u>
- Human Rights Code
- Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
- Occupational Health & Safety Act (December 2009)
- Workplace Violence in School Boards: A Guide to the Law
- Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures
 - Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7)
 - o Privacy Policy (600.6)

Adopted Date: April 23, 2002

Revision History: June 15, 2010

November 23, 2010 December 20, 2011 November 26, 2013 February 24, 2015 June 21, 2016 May 23, 2017 November 27, 2018

EMPLOYEE WORKPLACE VIOLENCE POLICY

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Where the occasion of workplace violence arises, the Board will achieve resolution through a formal process. During the process all information gathered is to be kept confidential.

In accordance with current legislation in the Province of Ontario, the Board will assess the risks of workplace violence (Appendix A) that may arise from the nature of the workplace, and provide relevant training, information and instruction to the employees.

This Policy is to be applied in conjunction with the following Board Policies dealing with employee behaviour, progressive discipline, conflict resolution and school safety: Code of Conduct, Access to School Premises, Criminal Background Check, Occupational Health and Safety, Employee Workplace Harassment as well as the Police and School Board Protocol.

The Board will review this policy with respect to workplace violence, on an annual basis, and will post this policy in the workplace along with any applicable procedures and/or related programs.

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 - o Privacy Policy (600.6)

Adopted Date: April 23, 2002

Revision History: June 15, 2010

November 23, 2010 December 20, 2011 November 26, 2013 February 24, 2015 June 21, 2016 May 23, 2017 November 27, 2018

BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2021

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL

DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Report on Staff Development Department: Professional Development Opportunities is presented for information.

Prepared by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer



REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2021

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In alignment with the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and Annual System Priorities, the Department of Staff Development, as an integral aspect of its mandate, acts as the point of co-ordination among various departments. Thus ensuring that all professional development opportunities for staff, both teaching and non-teaching, occur in a seamless fashion to minimize disruptions to the myriad services provided within our Niagara Catholic community. The following is a listing of activities occurring during the period April 13, 2021 through May 11, 2021.

Spring 2021 - Various Dates

Maplewood and Reporting – Weekly Virtual Sessions

- To continue to support ongoing communication about Maplewood (edsembli) and reporting updates and requirements, the Student Information and Administrative Services and Research, Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting Departments (Diane van der Veldt and Christine Battagli) will host weekly virtual sessions via Zoom.
- Each session will begin with a brief overview of items being presented. Each session will continue to be an opportunity for staff to ask questions and seek clarifications about any issues. Some sessions will include new learning opportunities to support staff in their respective roles.
- Elementary every Tuesday (10:30 to 11:30 a.m.) Dates: April 6, 20, 27; May 4, 11, 18, 25; June 1, 8, 15, 22
- Secondary every Thursday (9:00 to 9:30 a.m.)
 Dates: April 8, 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20, 27; June 3, 10, 17, 24

April 19 - 23, 2021

Support for Remote Learning Mini-Sessions (Grades K – 12)

- A series of subject-specific learning sessions are being offered during the school day.
- The sessions will provide an opportunity to explore some of the resources that are available to support remote learning.
- All are welcome to attend any of the sessions.
- Students may be working asynchronously while teachers engage in any of the 30-minute sessions.
- See table below for details:

Tuesday, April 20	Wednesday, April 21	Thursday, April 22	Friday, April 23
9:00-10:30 am	9:30-10:00 am	9:30-10:00 am	8:30-9:00 am
Technology Support (Jeff Maxwell)	Intermediate/Secondary Literacy	Social Studies for Grades 1-8	Math Support- Introduction to Knowledgehook
https://g.co/meet/DLTL ive	https://meet.google.com/ zxb-zkme-ctc	meet.google.com/nok- nrtj-dou	https://g.co/meet/mathle arning
10:30-11:00 am	9:30-10:00 am	2:00-3:00 pm	9:30-10:00 am
Core French (Mary Vetere) https://g.co/fsl1234	Science for Primary/Junior	Kindergarten Support (Rose Gentilcore)	Science for Intermediate/Secondary
	meet.google.com/nok- nrtj-dou	https://meet.google.co m/gpt-gfbb-pqy	https://meet.google.com/nag-hjwf-euq
11:00-11:30 am	10:00-10:30 am	2:30-3:30 pm	9:30-10:00 am
Religion and Family Life (Lidia Di Lorenzo)	Life Life (Jeff Maxwe (Lidia Di Lorenzo)		Literacy for Grades 1- 6 meet.google.com/ozr-
meet.google.com/vxr- skcp-wwx	meet.google.com/uur- mehq-cqs	https://g.co/meet/DLT <u>Live</u>	<u>uyop-zgg</u>
11:00-11:30 am	10:00-10:30 am	3:45-4:30 pm	
Math Support K-3 (Laura Cronshaw)	The Arts P/J/I (Teri Cristelli)	Health and Physical Education (Chris McLean)	
https://g.co/meet/mathlearning	https://meet.google.com/ mmm-dkvc-gvp	https://meet.google.co m/myn-yyfb-vis	
11:30 am-12:00 pm	10:30-11:00 am		
Math Support Gr. 4-8 (Laura Cronshaw) https://g.co/meet/mathl	Health and Physical Education (Chris McLean)		
earning earning	https://meet.google.com/ san-qqrb-tnb		

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

DreamBox Learning Session #4: Teacher Tools and Teaching with DreamBox

- This session will explore the teacher tools and ways to use DreamBox in your classroom to support student learning in mathematics.

Thursday, April 29, 2021

Focusing on Fractions - A Two-Part Series

- This is a two-part series focusing on the development of students' understanding of fractions.
- Part 1: Representing, Comparing, Ordering Fractions and Equivalence
 - o Thursday April 29th, 2021- 3:45-4:30 p.m.
- Part 2: Operations with Fractions
 - o Monday May 10th, 2021 3:45-4:30 p.m.

The Report on Staff Development: Professional Development Opportunities are presented for information.

Prepared by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2021

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORT UPDATE

The Capital Projects Progress Report Update is presented for information.

Prepared by: Clark Euale, Controller of Facilities Services

Presented by: Clark Euale, Controller of Facilities Services

Approved by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer



REPORT TO THE BOARD APRIL 27, 2021

CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORT UPDATE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Individual progress reports for capital projects are presented as follows:

IN PROGRESS

Appendix A Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School

New Child Care

Appendix B Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School –

Consolidated Monsignor Clancy/St. Charles Catholic

Elementary School and New Child Care

The Capital Projects Progress Report Update is presented for information.

Prepared by: Clark Euale, Controller of Facilities Services
Presented by: Clark Euale, Controller of Facilities Services

Approved by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: April 27, 2021



NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD CAPITAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT APRIL 27, 2021

APPENDIX A

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Scope of Project: Design and construction of 3 child care room addition.

<u>Current Status:</u> Steel deck installed; floor poured for the new addition; roofing work to start soon; electrical switch gear on site ready for installation first week of July. Library and Music room flooring installed, painting to be completed this week; waiting for millwork delivery. Masonry one week behind schedule due to crew members positive COVID testing.

Project Information:

New Area to be Constructed 4,865 sq. ft. Child Care Spaces Added 49 spaces



Project Funding:		Project Costs:	Budget	Paid
Child Care	2,254,668	Construction Contract	1,733,666	\$796,150
		Fees & Disbursements	197,691	\$223,978
		Other Project Costs	323,311	\$70,143
	\$2,254,668	<u>-</u>	\$2,254,668	\$1,090,271

Project Timelines:	Scheduled Completion	Actual Completion
Funding Approval	December 21, 2017	December 21, 2017
Ministry Approval (space)	March 2018	July 15, 2020
Architect Selection	July 17, 2018	July 17, 2018
Design Development	January 2019	September 24, 2019
Contract Documents		September 15, 2020
Tender & Approvals		July 2020
Ministry Approval (cost)		September 17, 2019
Ground Breaking Date	TBD	
Construction Start		October 01, 2020
Occupancy Official Opening & Blessing	September 2021	

Project Team:

Architect Whiteline Architects Inc.
General Contractor Bromac Construction
Project Manager Tunde Labbancz
Superintendent Gino Pizzoferrato
Principal Domenic Massi











NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD **CAPITAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT APRIL 27, 2021**

MONSIGNOR CLANCY CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Scope of Project: Design and construction of a consolidated Monsignor Clancy/St. Charles Catholic Elementary School and New Child Care.

Current Status: Underground utility installation completed in new addition; masonry work continues for exterior walls and steel joists are being fabricated; rooftop units will be delivered first week of July, curbs being installed on the existing roof; rainwater leaders were rerouted. Child care renovation to start in August.

Project Information:

New Area to be Constructed Pupil Places Added New Facility Capacity Child Care Places Added

10,268 sq. ft. 104 students 677 students 49 places

Project Funding:	
Capital Priorities	3,482,495
Additional Capital Priorities	91,000
Child Care	1 557 887

\$5,131,382

Project Costs:
Construction Contract
Fees & Disbursements
Other Project Costs

\$5,131,382	\$1,250,691
50,000	91223
430,000	393193
4,651,382	766,275
Budget	Paid

Project Timelines:	Scheduled Completion	Actual Completion
Funding Approval	March 13, 2018	March 13, 2018
Ministry Approval (space)		July 2020
Architect Selection	July 19, 2018	July 2018
Design Development	September 25, 2018	September 2019
Contract Documents		September 15, 2020
Tender & Approvals		July 2020
Ministry Approval (cost)		August 29, 2019
Ground Breaking Date	TBD	_
Construction Start		October 05, 2020
Occupancy	January 01, 2022	September 06, 2022
Official Opening & Blessing	-	-

Project Team:

Architect Whiteline Architect Inc. **Bromac Construction** General Contractor Project Manager Tunde Labbancz Superintendent Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells Principal **Dan Trainor**









TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

BOARD MEETING APRIL 27, 2021

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY

COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEETING OF MARCH 3, 2021

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of March 3, 2021, as presented for information.



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2021

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee held on <u>Wednesday, March 3, 2021</u>, at 6:30 pm Electronic Meeting in Compliance with Education Act Section 207 and Ontario Regulation 463/97 Section 5.1 (2) Public Access Phone Number: 1-647-749-124 (Tolls), Conference ID # 745 739 256

Chair Racine called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayers

- Chair Racine led with opening prayers.
- Chair Racine offered special intentions in memory of Kristin Baker who recently passed away.
 Kristin was an Applied Behaviour Analysis Lead for Niagara Catholic. She will be especially missed by the Student Support Department and the many families that she served at Niagara Catholic.
- Kelly Majka offered special intentions in memory of Carter Keith, a Special Education Grade 11 student from Notre Dame College who recently passed away.
- Carter will be especially missed by staff and students from Notre Dame College and Holy Name Catholic Elementary School.
- Niagara Catholic mourns the passing of Kristin and Carter.

2. Roll Call

Members	Affiliations	Yes	Excused
Harvey, Dorothy	Niagara Children's Centre	✓	
Huxley, Kelsey	Indigenous Community Member	✓	
Kelly, Tara	Pathstone Mental Health	✓	
Murphy, Karen	Autism Ontario Niagara Region Chapter	✓	
Palombo, Pina	Down Syndrome Niagara	✓	
Racine, Anna	Community Member	✓	
Smith, Lorraine	Mainstream	✓	
Smith, Rita	Community Living Port Colborne/Wainfleet	✓	
Thomas, Kerry	Community Living Welland/Pelham	✓	
Wilson, Wendy	Indigenous Community Member	✓	

Zoelman, Madeline	Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region	✓	
Burtnik, Kathy	Trustee of the Board	✓	
Huibers, Larry	Chair of the Board	✓	
Butera, Serena	Student Senate Representative	✓	
Kerho, Chris	Principal, Elementary	✓	
Majka, Kelly	Vice-Principal, Secondary	✓	

Christalla (Chris) Kouroushis was an observer from NCPIC that evening. The following staff members were in attendance: **Gino Pizzoferrato**, Superintendent of Education, **Camillo Cipriano**, Director of Education, **Jim Di Gioia** - Coordinator of Student Support, **Vincent Mancuso**, Behaviour Resource Teacher, and **Jennifer Lanese**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant to Superintendent Pizzoferrato.

3. Approval of the Agenda

- Moved by Dorothy Harvey
- Seconded by Madeline Zoelman

THAT THE Special Education Advisory Committee approves the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of <u>March 3, 2021.</u>

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 of February 3, 2021

- Moved by Karen Murphy
- Seconded by Pina Palombo

THAT THE Special Education Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of <u>February 3, 2021</u> as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1.1 Complaint Process – Director of Education Cipriano

From our Complaint Resolution Policy (800.3)

- A complaint of a Trustee will be referred directly to the Chair of the Board and heard in the In-Camera Meeting of the Board.
- A complaint involving a Trustee will be pursued under the Trustee Code of Conduct Policy (100.12).

From our Trustee Code of Conduct Policy (100.12)

 A Trustee or a supporter of Catholic education who is eligible to participate in the election of a Niagara Catholic trustee who has reasonable grounds to believe that a Trustee(s) has breached this Code of Conduct may bring the alleged breach, in writing,

- to the attention of the Board through the Chair of the Board, or the Vice-Chair, if the alleged breach is with the Chair of the Board or the Chair of the Board is unavailable.
- o If a Trustee has reasonable grounds to believe that another Trustee has breached this Code of Conduct, he or she must bring the alleged breach forward as soon as reasonably possible. The Board may choose not to deal with an alleged breach should the alleged breach come to the Board's attention after: (a) one year after the incident to which the alleged breach relates; or (b) if there are a series of incidents, after one year after the last in the series. A Trustee may apply to the Board for an extension of this time limit, and the Board may grant such an extension if the Board is satisfied that the delay in bringing the alleged breach forward was incurred in good faith and no substantial prejudice will result to any person affected by the delay.
- o If an alleged breach is brought to the attention of the Board, the document setting out the breach together with any other materials will be provided to the Director of Education in the Director's role as Secretary to the Board. The Director of Education will place the matter in the Trustee and Director Only section of the next *In-Camera* Board Meeting.
- At the *In-Camera* Board Meeting where the alleged breach of the Code of Conduct is presented, legal counsel to the Board will be present to advise the Board concerning legal matters related to relevant legislation and the Code of Conduct process as set out in the Code of Conduct. In compliance with Sections 198 and 283.1 of the *Education Act*, for the Board to meet, the Director of Education will be present as Secretary to the Board to take minutes. All other staff who attend meetings of the Board will be excused from the Trustee and the Director of the *In-Camera* portion of the meeting of the Board where the Code of Conduct complaint is presented.
- At the *In-Camera* meeting of the Board at which the alleged breach is presented, the Board will direct Board legal counsel to oversee an independent investigation conducted by an external investigator as selected by Board legal counsel. The results of the external investigation will be presented to the Board by Board legal counsel and the external investigator upon completion. Based on the results of the external investigation, the Board will determine whether there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct.
- If the Board determines that a Trustee has not breached the Code of Conduct, the Board may impose sanctions or consequences on the relevant individual(s), which includes a Trustee or Trustees, who have brought the complaint forward. The sanctions or consequences will be determined in consultation with Board legal counsel.
- If the Board determines that a Trustee has breached the Code of Conduct, the Board may impose one or more of the following sanctions:
 - Censure of the Trustee.
 - Barring the Trustee from attending all or part of a meeting of the Board or a meeting of a committee of the Board.
 - Barring the Trustee from sitting on one or more committees of the Board, for the period of time specified by the Board.

1.2 Budget Update – Superintendent Vetrone

- Superintendent Vetrone shared a PowerPoint presentation to the Committee Members outlining the Special Education Budget.
- Superintendent Vetrone later opened the floor for a question period.
- Discussion followed.

2. Student Support Department – Jim Di Gioia, Coordinator of Student Support

- Jim DiGioia, Student Support Coordinator updated the Committee Members on the Special Education Plan. All Committee Members were provided with a copy of the SEAC Draft Special Education Plan (Parts 1-3).
- The Committee Members were provided with a link to submit feedback on Parts 1 3.
- All submitted feedback will be discussed at the next SEAC meeting.

C. AGENDA ITEMS

1. May Presentation – Dr. Sheila Bennett

- Superintendent Pizzoferrato has confirmed with Dr. Bennett that she will present at May's SEAC Meeting.
- o Discussion followed regarding Dr. Bennett's topic and length of presentation.
- o Superintendent Pizzoferrato will provide an update at April's Meeting.

2. Policy Review

- The following Policies and Administrative Guidelines are currently being reviewed as part of the cyclical Policy and Administrative Guidelines Review process.
- To be considered, all submissions must identify the specific policy and include your name, phone number, address and affiliation with Niagara Catholic.
- Anonymous or pseudonymous submissions will not be considered
 - Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy (302.6.8)
 - Student Expulsion Policy (302.6.5)
 - Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7)
 - Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11)
- Please submit your feedback to jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com by March 8, 2021 at 12:00 pm.
- Jennifer Lanese, Recording Secretary uploaded the policies that were currently under review to the Microsoft Teams Chat.
- Chair of the Board, Huibers explained to the Committee Members the process of how policies are reviewed. He encouraged all Committee Members to submit feedback on those policies under review.
- The Committee Members were reminded of the due date to submit feedback to Jennifer Pellegrini.

3. SEAC Sub Committee Updates

- The Lead from each of the Sub Committees provided an update to the group.
- Discussion and questions followed.

D. AGENCY REPORTS

- 1. <u>Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region Madeline Zoelman</u>
- NIL Report
- 2. Niagara Children's Centre Dorothy Harvey
- NIL Report
- 3. <u>Indigenous Community Member Kelsey Huxley</u>
- The Métis Nation of Ontario Post-Secondary Education Support Program
 - MNO citizens can now apply to receive funding to access post-secondary education and reach their highest potential. The application period for 2021-2022 is now open and closes on <u>Friday</u>, <u>April 30th</u>. To apply, kindly click on the attached link: https://www.metisnation.org/programs-and-services/education-training/post-secondary-education-support-program/.
- The Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Extra-Curricular Reimbursement Program
 - Through this Program, the MNO supports Métis families with young children by having their child's extracurricular fees and/or extra-curricular equipment covered by the Métis Nation of Ontario. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - March Break Camps
 - Summer Camps
 - o Early Learning Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Programs
 - o Early Learning Arts (Music, Visual Arts, Dance, Drama) and Language courses
 - o Sports and Skills development
 - Community Programs including Scouting and Girl Guides Virtual/Online programs
 - Additional information can be found at: https://www.metisnation.org/programs-and-services/education-training/early-learning-and-child-care/enhanced-extra-curricular-reimbursement-program/.

4. Autism Ontario Niagara Region – Karen Murphy

- Just a reminder that the deadline to register for "Raise the Flag" is Wednesday, March 10th.
- For additional information, please contact Dawn, Chapter Manager at **905-682-2776 x 201** or chaptermgr.niagara@autismontario.com.
- World Autism Day is <u>Tuesday, April 6th</u> and Blue Shirt Day. Please support **World Autism Day** and wear a blue shirt on the 6th!

5. Down Syndrome Niagara – Pina Palombo

Sunday, March 21st is World Down Syndrome Day. Staff and students across Niagara Catholic will be observing World Down Syndrome Day on <u>Friday, March 19th</u> by participating in "Rock Your Socks".

6. Community Living Welland/Pelham – Kerry Thomas

NIL Report

7. Mainstream – Lorraine Smith

- Mainstream will be offering a virtual speaker series in May 2021.
- Information will be shared from the following community agencies.
 - Developmental Services Ontario
 - o Contact Hamilton / Passport
 - Literacy and Basic Skill Program
 - Gateway
- The information sessions will be offered every <u>Wednesday</u> from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm during May.
- Please watch for a flyer for the Speaker Series to follow at a later date.

8. Community Living Port Colborne / Wainfleet - Rita Smith

NIL Report

9. Pathstone Mental Health – Kelly Tara

- NIL Report

E. STAFF REPORTS

1. Elementary Principals – Chris Kerho

NIL Report

2. <u>Secondary Principals – Kelly Majka</u>

- Kelly Majka share the following updates from our Secondary Schools:

Notre Dame College School

- Our Notre Dame Special Education Classroom Teacher Laura Sparkman has passionately been working on developing a state-of the-art NCVLE Classroom for her students and families and has also shared it with many of her colleagues across the other 7 Catholic Secondary Schools. When staff embraces what technology can offer, it certainly spills into the lives of the students and their families exponentially. Mrs. Sparkman has taken screenshots to capture what her NCVLE looks like.
- o The screenshots were shared with the Committee Members that evening.

Blessed Trinity

Since the Special Education Department at Blessed Trinity re-opened, they have been busy implementing a variety of programming for their students which include educational, physical fitness, and life skills goals. Specifically in this programming, they have implemented daily obstacle course activities in the gym where our students have the opportunity to perform various physical tasks on different forms of apparatus. Each morning they also provide virtual field trips for their students which include tours of Disneyworld. The parents and students at their school were so happy to have their children return in person!

Holy Cross

- The Holy Cross Special Education Class has been thoroughly enjoying their time together in Cohort C. They had a very successful lunch-making program that took place in their culinary kitchen. They used Boardmaker to create recipes and will be making cookbooks as gifts for their families.
- They also had been able to use the cosmetology class regularly. Each interested student had their own mannequin head and workstation. The students were learning to shampoo, brush, and style their mannequin's head. These experiences inspired students to consider future co-op placements in these areas.
- Fitness is a very important part of each day. They enjoyed the beautiful weather with daily walks and now have the small gym at their disposal to play games, dance, and use personalized equipment.
- The highlight of their program continues to be music therapy with Mendelt. Although
 the sessions were virtual, the impact was the same. They had Mendelt on the big screen
 in the library and both in-person and virtual learners took place. The joy was evident on
 the students' faces as they danced along and made requests for their favourite songs.

Virtual High School

- For their virtual social group, Mrs. Penny Macklem, the Educational Resource Teacher decided to introduce the "Wheel of Names". It is an application that will choose a random name based on a pre-populated list, so the teacher is not always the one picking the order of students for their turn to contribute. It is a fun visual experience for these students as they wait in anticipation for their name to come up on the screen as the "Winner".
- o Penny also wanted to share the following success story. In September when she started teaching Virtual Special Education, she met a young man in grade 9. He was lovely, well-spoken, participated fully, but never wanted to be on camera. Granted, some students are just like that. As time went on, he opened up a little more and shared that he had a job. She was so happy to hear this. Along came Term 3 and the Special Education students were going back to be serviced at their home school. There was something about this young man that had her thinking he was way more capable than was described in his IEP and that she had not witnessed any of the 'behaviour' outlined on his IEP.
- She got in touch with the Special Education teacher at the home school and explained that this student should be entitled to receive a school credit for his progress/work and participation. Later, the teacher discussed this with the student's parent. Fast forward to today and this young man is sitting at 93% in Grade 11 Math and is going to attempt more credit courses in Semester 2. With the right supports in place this young man could achieve his Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).
- Superintendent Pizzoferrato will be joining Mrs. Macklem's classroom tomorrow to observe and meet her students.

3. <u>Superintendent of Education – Gino Pizzoferrato</u>

- NIL Report

4. Student Support Department – Jim Di Gioia

- LEARNstyle is a software company that currently runs several online platforms Niagara Catholic school staff use regularly, such as the IEP Engine, the SEA-it Portal for managing SEA equipment purchases, and eLite, on which we recently launched our electronic Request for Support processes.
- Niagara Catholic recently initiated a partnership with LEARNstyle as they enter the development stage of a new platform they're calling RISE. RISE is best described as an all-in-one IEP solution tool that LEARNstyle hopes will be released widely within a year after initial beta testing is complete. As a partner, Niagara Catholic staff have been invited to participate in testing and offering feedback on various aspects of the program through a 5-15 minute per week commitment.
- LEARNstyle recently retired the IEP Engine platform, which means that they are continuing to support and run the service for School Boards who continue to use it, but we hope that as a development partner on RISE, we will be part of the first wave of School Boards who will migrate to the new system.

5. <u>Director of Education – Camillo Cipriano</u>

- Director of Education Cipriano thanked everyone for their input and feedback.

F. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Chair of the Board Huibers

- Chair of the Board, Huibers shared with the group that the Board and Trustees were not provided with any input or allowed to provide input to the change in the March Break schedule. Chair of the Board Huibers told the group that they learn about this change about 10 minutes before it was publicly announced by the Ministry of Education.
- He stressed to the group if this change has changed major stress relative to providing support to
 the families that the Committee Members support, he encouraged them to share that
 information with the Ministry. The Ministry should be made aware of the impact of their
 "simple decision" may not be so "simple" for those families.
- He also spoke about the online streaming process for the general public to observe Board meetings. Interested individuals can able to join in by Zoom and hopefully by next month, individuals can watch later this month, but by March, you can watch it live-streamed. Therefore individuals don't have to dedicate an entire evening but the availability of live streaming would allow greater participation and encourages participants to stay engaged actively.

Trustee Burtnik

- Trustee Burtnik thanked the Chair of the Board Huibers for his comments.
- She reminded the group of the upcoming Multi-Years Strategic Planning process that is upcoming. This process will ensure that the Board is supporting the direction and recommendations of the Committee Members.
- She thanked the group for being active servants for the students of Niagara Catholic. Specifically, students whose names that our Committee Members don't even know.
- She complimented the group's dedication, insight and willingness to support all of Niagara Catholic's students and concluded by saying that she was proud to be a member of SEAC.

STUDENT REPORT

- This past month, Student Senate and Student Councils across Niagara Catholic have participated in a variety of initiatives to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. This was done in a fun and unique way. As well, all Councils are preparing for their Elections and the appointment of the new Senators.
- Previously, the Senate had completed *Lead Out Loud*; an initiative for the Elementary Senate. This included Nick Foley as a guest speaker and a workshop period for the Senators to learn more about Inclusion in their communities and what they can do to encourage it in their own schools. This event was an overwhelming success and they received positive feedback from the participating Elementary Senators.
- As well, The Senate held Mental Health Morning, an event for secondary school students to participate and learn more about mental health through trivia, presentations and videos. There were over 200 participants and an 80% attendance average. Students who actively participated earned 2 Christian Community Service hours for their time. Many students enjoyed this event and it received positive feedback from the attendees and across the School Board.
- Overall the Senate is very pleased with the initiatives executed in this past year and the Senate is very excited for what is to come in the future.

G. NCPIC REPORT

NIL Report

H. FUTURE MEETINGS / INFORMATION ITEMS

Presentation to discuss the Multi-Year Strategic Planning Process will take place next month.

I. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND REFLECTION

- Chair Racine offered a moment of silence and reflection. She asked the Committee Members to keep Adele Filice in their prayers. She also offered reflection for the upcoming Easter season.
- The Committee Members exchanged Easter greetings.

J. NEXT MEETING

- **Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 6:30 pm -** format to be determined based on current COVID-19 restrictions. The Committee Members would be notified by email of the format of the meeting.

K. ADJOURNMENT

- Moved by Madeline Zoelman
- Seconded by Kelsey Huxley

THAT the **March 3, 2021** meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned.

CARRIED

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.