



# MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 in the Father Kenneth Burns c.s.c. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

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

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Trustee Burkholder.

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chair Burkholder noted that Trustee Benoit and Trustee Huibers have been excused, and Trustee Bruzzese joined electronically.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Natalia Benoit				✓
Joseph Bruzzese		✓		
Rhianon Burkholder	✓			
Danny Di Lorenzo	✓			
Larry Huibers				✓
Doug Joyner	✓			
Jim Marino	✓			
Paul Turner	✓			
<b>Student Trustees</b>				
Charlotte Johnstone	✓			
Emilio Geremia	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

**Camillo Cipriano**, Director of Education; **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Kimberly Kinney**, **Gino Pizzoferrato**, **Domenic Massi**, **Joseph Zaroda**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Clark Euale**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Julia Tiessen**, Executive Officer of Human Resources; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Joyner

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 13, 2024, as presented.

**CARRIED**

4. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared with any items on the Agenda.

5. **Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 16, 2024**

Moved by Trustee Marino

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 16, 2024, as presented.

**CARRIED**

6. **Consent Agenda Items**

6.1 **Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars**

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Elementary and Secondary School Year Calendars for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented.

6.2 **Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities**

Presented for information.

6.3 **Capital Projects Progress Report Update**

Presented for information.

Moved by Trustee Di Lorenzo

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole adopt consent agenda items.

**CARRIED**

## **B. PRESENTATIONS**

## **C. GOVERNANCE POLICIES**

### **1. Governance Policies for Recommendation to the Board**

#### **1.1. Employee Hospitality Policy (201.14)**

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services, presented feedback received from the vetting process and highlighted recommended amendments to the Employee Hospitality Policy (201.14), following the vetting process.

Following discussion, the Committee of the Whole recommended the following additional amendments:

- Paragraph 6 – change to “*To be approved, all expenditures shall be appropriate and made available upon request through the Freedom and Information (FOI) process.*”

Moved by Trustee Joyner

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Employee Hospitality Policy (201.14), as amended.

**APPROVED**

#### **1.2. Student Transportation Policy (500.2)**

Superintendent Vetrone, presented feedback received from the vetting process and highlighted recommended amendments to the Student Transportation Policy (500.2), following the vetting process.

Following discussion, the Committee of the Whole recommended the following:

Moved by Trustee Di Lorenzo

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole defer the Student Transportation Policy (500.2) to the March Committee of the Whole meeting.

**APPROVED**

### **2. Governance Policies Prior to Vetting**

#### **2.1. Elementary Standardized Dress – Safe Schools Policy (302.6.10)**

Domenic Massi, Superintendent of Education, presented the Elementary Standardized Dress – Safe Schools Policy (302.6.10).

The Committee of the Whole suggested the following amendments:

- No amendment

The Committee of the Whole requested that the Elementary Standardized Dress – Safe Schools Policy (302.6.10), be vetted from February 14, 2024 to March 27, 2024 with a recommended deadline for presentation to the Committee of the Whole in April, for consideration to the Board in April.

## **2.2. Advocacy Expenditures Policy (100.9)**

Superintendent Vetrone, presented the Advocacy Expenditures Policy (100.9).

The Committee of the Whole suggested the following amendments:

- No amendment

The Committee of the Whole requested that the Advocacy Expenditures Policy (100.9), be vetted from February 14, 2024 to March 27, 2024 with a recommended deadline for presentation to the Committee of the Whole in April, for consideration to the Board in April.

## **3. Governance Policy Review Schedule**

Director Cipriano presented the Governance Policy Review Schedule and noted the Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction Policy (100.7) will be added to the March schedule.

## **D. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

### **1. Attendance Area Review – Blessed Trinity Catholic Elementary & Secondary School Family of Schools**

Clark Euale, Controller of Facilities Services provided background information on the attendance area review for Blessed Trinity Catholic Elementary and Secondary School Family of Schools, and introduced Alexandria Pasquini-Smith, Administrator of Planning and Properties.

Ms. Pasquini-Smith presented the Blessed Trinity Catholic Elementary and Secondary School Family of Schools Attendance Area Review report.

Moved by Trustee Di Lorenzo

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve Attendance Area Option B-2 for the Blessed Trinity Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools as the preferred boundary option. The updated boundaries will commence upon the opening of the New Lincoln (Beamsville) Catholic Elementary School. The attendance boundaries will be revised to:

- **New Lincoln (Beamsville) CES:**
  - East: Commencing on the intersection of the centreline of Tufford Road and King St, north to Tufford Road and Lake Ontario.
  - North: Lake Ontario and Tufford Road, west to Mountainview Road.
  - West: Following Mountainview Road and Lake Ontario, south along Mountainview Road to the intersection of Mountainview Road and King Street.
  - South: Centreline of King Street between Mountainview Road (west) and Tufford Road (east).
- **Our Lady of Fatima CES (Grimsby):**
  - East: Commencing on Baker Road North (excluding) and its projection to the QEW to Kerman Avenue and its projection (excluding) to
  - South: Main Street
  - West: the Regional Municipality Boundary (Niagara and Hamilton-Wentworth) to
  - North: Lake Ontario to the point of commencement on Baker Road North

- **St Mark CES (Lincoln, Beamsville):**
  - East: Commencing on Tufford Road (centerline) to King Street to Cave Springs Road and its projection to
  - South: the Fly Road to Mud Street E
  - West: Mountain Road to Elm Tree Road E to Church Road to Ridge Road (including)
  - North: Ridge Road E to King Street
  
- **St Edward CES (Lincoln, Jordan Station):**
  - East: Commencing on the Fifteen Mile Creek to the QEW to Hwy 406 to First Street Louth (excluding) to
  - South: Pelham Road to the Town Boundary (Lincoln and Pelham and Lincoln and West Lincoln) to
  - West: the Town Boundary (Lincoln and West Lincoln) to Fly Road to Spiece Road to Cave Springs Road and its projection (excluding) to King Street (excluding) to Tufford Road (centerline) to
  - North: Lake Ontario to the point of commencement on the Fifteen Mile Creek
  - Note: Secondary School placement for St. Edward School - west of Fifteen Mile Creek and Victoria Avenue is Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School and east of the same line is Denis Morris Catholic High School
  
- **St Joseph CES (Grimsby):**
  - East: Commencing on Baker Road North to Central Avenue to Baker Road North and its projection (excluding) to Elm Tree Road E west to Mountain Rd to Mud Street
  - South: Mud Street (Town Boundary - Grimsby and West Lincoln) to
  - West: the Regional Municipality Boundary (Niagara and Hamilton-Wentworth) to
  - North: Main Street West to Kerman Avenue and its projection to the QEW to the point of commencement on Baker Road North
  
- **St Martin CES (West Lincoln, Smithville):**
  - East: Commencing on Moote Road (excluding) to Fifteen Road (excluding) to Rosedene Road (excluding) to Vaughan Road (excluding) to Regional Road 27 (excluding) to Baldwin Road and its projection (excluding) to
  - South: the Welland River to the Township Boundary (West Lincoln and Wainfleet) to the Regional Municipality Boundary (Niagara and Haldimand - Norfolk) to
  - West: the Regional Municipality Boundary (Niagara and Hamilton-Wentworth) to
  - North: the Township Boundary (West Lincoln and Grimsby and West Lincoln and Lincoln to the point of commencement on Moote Road
  
- **St. John CES (Lincoln, Beamsville):**
  - East: Commencing on Mountainview Road (centerline) to King Street
  - South: Ridge Road E to King Street
  - West: Baker Road and its projection to Central Avenue (excluding) to Baker Road North (excluding) to
  - North: Lake Ontario to the point of commencement on Tufford Road

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the report detailing the boundary and legacy recommendations from the Attendance Area Review.

**CARRIED**

**2. Monthly Updates**

**2.1 Student Trustees' Update**

Charlotte Johnstone, and Emilio Geremia, Student Trustees, presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

**2.2 Senior Staff Good News Update**

Senior Staff highlights included:

**Superintendent Massi**

- There are 40 participants registered for the 2024 Aspiring Leaders Program. The program is designed to meet the needs of all aspiring leaders.
- The Niagara Classic Invitational Elementary Basketball Tournament which included 32 teams in total between the boys' and girls' divisions made its return after an 8 year absence. The week-long tournament took place at various sites including St. Denis, St. Teresa of Calcutta, Canadian Martyrs and St. Ann and concluded with the championship games at Saint Francis. Congratulations to Mary Ward girls' team and St Alfred's boys' team for winning the championships.
- St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School shared a video showcasing the talents of two students. The morning announcement crew includes the two hosts. What's remarkable is that Rhys, a technology wizard, and Steven, who are typically reserved, are stepping into leadership roles. It's exciting to see them emerging as potential TSN/News anchors!

**Superintendent Zaroda**

- It was a championship weekend for both the junior and senior boys' basketball teams of Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School at the Ontario Catholic Basketball Tournament.

**E. INFORMATION**

**1. Trustee Information**

**1.1 Julia's Hope Cup – February 17, 2024**

Trustee Turner extended an invitation to the Julia's Hope Cup being held on February 17, 2024 at Chippawa Park in Welland.

Trustee Bruzzese extended an invitation to the 40 Days for Life being held at the Niagara Falls General Hospital on February 14, 2024.

**1.2 OCSTA 2024 AGM Toonies for Tuition**

Chair Di Lorenzo proposed that each Trustee contribute \$25.00 as a donation to provide a silent auction item for the 2024 OCSTA AGM in support of the Toonies for Tuition initiative.

Trustees were asked to provide the funds to Anna Pisano.

## **F. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action**

- 1.1 Director Cipriano reminded Trustees of the Long Term Accommodation Plan Enrolment and Projection Workshop at 5:00 pm prior to the February 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
- 1.2 Director Cipriano also noted that through the leadership of the Chair and Vice-Chair a Lenten Retreat is scheduled for Trustees and Senior Staff for March 20<sup>th</sup> at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School - time to be confirmed.

## **G. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

## **H. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION**

## **I. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Joyner

**THAT** the February 13, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

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Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **February 13, 2024.**

Approved on **March 5, 2024.**

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Rhianon Burkholder  
Vice-Chair of the Board

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Camillo Cipriano  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer