



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, May 28, 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 Chair Di Lorenzo.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Land Acknowledgement

Land Acknowledgement statement was delivered by Student Trustee Johnstone

2. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Huibers

3. Roll Call

Chair Di Lorenzo noted that Trustee Benoit's absence was approved due to sanction, and Student Trustee Geremia was absent.

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

The following staff were in attendance:

Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education; **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Kimberly Kinney**, **Gino Pizzoferrato**, **Pat Rocca**, **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

4. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Joyner

Seconded by Trustee Marino

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of May 28, 2024, as presented.

CARRIED

5. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

A Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared by Trustee Di Lorenzo with Item F6 of the In Camera Agenda. This trustee has family members who are employees of the Board. He left the meeting during discussion of this item.

6. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting of April 23, 2024

Moved by Trustee Huibers

Seconded by Trustee Burkholder

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of April 23, 2024, as presented.

CARRIED

7. Consent Agenda Items

7.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 14, 2024 and Consideration of Recommendations

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole of May 14, 2024, as presented.

7.1.1 Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7)

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

7.1.2 Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11)

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

7.1.3 Occupational Health and Safety Policy (201.6)

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Occupational Health and Safety Policy (201.6), as presented.

7.1.4 Draft Letter in Response to Bill 185, the Cutting Red Tape to Build Better Homes Act, 2024

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board submit the attached letter as amended, to the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ministry of Red Tape Reduction, Municipalities of Ontario, OCSTA and all School Boards in support of the feedback provided by the Council of Senior Business Officials, with respect to proposed Bill 185, Cutting Red Tape to Build Better Homes Act, 2024.

7.1.5 Letter to the City of Port Colborne

THAT the Board of Trustee endorse the letter and send a copy to Port Colborne Council, Regional Chair Jim Bradley and Regional Council.

7.2 Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of April 3, 2024

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of April 3, 2024, as presented.

7.3 Approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting of November 22, 2023

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting of November 22, 2023, as presented for information

7.4 Larkin Estate Admission Awards

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of \$5125.00 for the Larkin Estate University/College Admission Awards for eligible students, as presented.

7.5 In-Camera Items F1, F2, F3, F4 & F5

Moved by Trustee Joyner
Seconded by Trustee Huibers

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board adopt the consent agenda items.
CARRIED

B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Cheque Presentation

Gino Pizzoferrato, Superintendent of Education announced that the 26th Annual Kids Helping Kids fundraising program raised over \$35,000. A cheque was presented to Oksana Fisher of the Niagara Children's Center for \$17,607.05. A second cheque for \$17,607.05 was also presented to Danny Di Lorenzo to support the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education.

Ms. Fisher and Mr. Di Lorenzo expressed gratitude to the students, families and staff of Niagara Catholic for their generosity.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Research Collaborations in the Niagara Catholic District School Board 2023-2024

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education presented the Research Collaborations in the Niagara Catholic District School Board report for 2023-2024.

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

1.1 Letter from the City of Port Colborne

Chair Di Lorenzo highlighted information contained in the letter from the City of Port Colborne and noted that MP Vance Badawey reached out personally with an explanation for the oversight, and also noted the constant support from MP Badawey for Catholic Education.

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

Trustees Burkholder, Huibers, Turner and Marino provided highlights of the 94th AGM & Conference held on May 2-4, 2024 in Niagara Falls.

Director Cipriano acknowledged gratitude to the staff of Niagara Catholic District School Board for assisting in cohosting the AGM.

3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

Director Cipriano reminded Trustees of the Budget workshop at 4:00 on June 11th prior to the Committee of the Whole meeting.

4. Trustee Information

4.1 Calendar of Events – June 2024

4.2 Graduation Dates

Director Cipriano presented the list of Graduation dates.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

1. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMISSION

None Submitted

2. NOTICE OF MOTION PRESENTATION

None Presented

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Marino

Seconded by Trustee Bruzzese

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

CARRIED

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting at 7:09 p.m. and reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Marino

Seconded by Trustee Bruzzese

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of May 28, 2024.

CARRIED

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Joyner

Seconded by Trustee Huibers

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of April 23, 2024, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee Joyner

Seconded by Trustee Huibers

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of May 14, 2024, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

Moved by Trustee Joyner

Seconded by Trustee Huibers

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Audit Committee Meeting of November 22, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F3)

The Board received a Staffing Report listing new hires, resignations and retirements.

The Board was provided with a Human Resources Services Status Report summarizing the status of grievances.

The Board was provided an update on local bargaining.

Director of Education compensation and contract renewal were discussed.

Moved by Trustee Marino
Seconded by Trustee Joyner

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F9.1 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F9.1)

Moved by Trustee Marino
Seconded by Trustee Huibers

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F9.1 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F9.2)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Burkholder
Seconded by Trustee Marino

THAT the May 28, 2024 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **May 28, 2024**.

Approved on **June 18, 2024**.

Danny Di Lorenzo
Chair of the Board

Camillo Cipriano
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer