



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

*AGENDA AND MATERIAL*

## **BOARD MEETING**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015  
7:00 P.M.**



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

### **A. ROUTINE MATTERS**

1. Opening Prayers – Trustee Fera -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Minutes of the Board Meeting -
  - 5.1 June 16, 2015 Special Board Meeting A5.1
  - 5.2 June 16, 2015 Board Meeting A5.2
  - 5.3 August 12, 2015 Special Board Meeting A5.3
  - 5.4 September 3, 2015 Special Board Meeting A5.4

### **B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

1. School Excellence Program St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School C1
2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 15, 2015 C2
3. Approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) Meeting of May 7, 2015 C3
4. Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of June 3, 2015 C4
5. Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2014-2015 Achievement Report C5
6. Appointment of Community Representative(s) to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee 2015-2016 C6
7. Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities September 2015 – October 2015 C7
8. Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at July 31, 2015 C8

## **D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS**

- |     |  |      |
|-----|--|------|
| 1.  | Correspondence   |      |
| 1.1 | June 19, 2015 Letter – Continuing Education Department   | D1.1 |
| 1.2 | June 29, 2015 Document from REAL Women of Canada   | D1.2 |
| 1.3 | July 13, 2015 Letter from Mayor Pat Darte  | D1.3 |
| 1.4 | July 16, 2015 Letter from City of Thorold  | D1.4 |
| 1.5 | August 14, 2015 Letter from Ministry of Education, Honorable Liz Sandals   | D1.5 |
| 1.6 | OCSTA 2015 Fall Regional Meeting Draft Agenda  | D1.6 |
| 1.7 | OCSTA Catholic Trustees’ Professional Development Seminar - January 15 & 16, 2016  | D1.7 |
| 2.  | Report on Trustee Conferences Attended   | -    |
| 3.  | General Discussion to Plan for Future Action   | -    |
| 4.  | Trustee Information  |      |
| 4.1 | Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – September 15, 2015   | D4.1 |
| 4.2 | Calendar of Events – October 2015  | D4.2 |
| 4.3 | We Day – Toronto – October 1, 2015   | -    |
| 4.4 | Director’s Inspiration Award – October 8, 2015 – Our Lady of the Scapular Church   | -    |
| 4.5 | Blessing of Lakeshore Catholic High School – October 29, 2015  | -    |
| 4.6 | CCSTA Niagara – June 1 – June 3, 2017 Committee  | -    |
| 5.  | Open Question Period   |      |
|     | <i>(The purpose of the Open Question Period is to allow members of the Catholic school supporting public to ask about items on that night’s public agenda or any previous agendas, and the Board to answer and react.)</i> |      |

## **E. NOTICES OF MOTION**

## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

## **G. REPORT ON IN CAMERA SESSION**

## **H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

## **I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE**

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF  
JUNE 16, 2015**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of June 16, 2015, as presented.



# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015**

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday June 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairperson MacNeil.

## A. ROUTINE MATTERS

### 1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer were led by Student Trustees Demizio and Di Pasquale.

### 2. Roll Call

Chair MacNeil noted that Trustee Sicoli was excused from attending the Special Board Meeting of Tuesday June 16, 2015.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli				✓
Pat Vernal	✓			
<b>Student Trustees</b>				
Chloe Demizio	✓			
Jessica Di Pasquale	✓			
<b>Student Trustees Elect</b>				
Michaela Bodis	✓			
Aidan Harold	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of Tuesday June 16, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Disclosure of Interest**

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

**5. Approval of Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of May 26, 2015**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of May 26, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Proposed Education Development Charge (EDC) By-Laws Public Meeting – Opening Remarks**

Chair MacNeil provided the Proposed Education Development Charge (EDC) By-Laws Public Meeting opening remarks.

**2. Proposed (EDC) By-Laws – Jack Ammendolia - Consultant**

Chair MacNeil welcomed Mr. Jack Ammendolia, Director, Watson & Associates Economists Limited.

Mr. Ammendolia presented his report on the Proposed EDC By-Laws.

Mr. Ammendolia answered questions of Trustees.

**3. Proposed (EDC) By-Laws Brad Teichman – Legal Counsel**

Chair MacNeil welcomed Brad Teichman, Board Legal Counsel, Overland LLP.

Mr. Teichman presented his report on the Proposed EDC By-Laws.

Mr. Teichman answered questions of Trustees.

## C. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Director Crocco indicated that there were no requests for presentations at the Special Board Meeting on Education Development Charges.

## D. PLAN FOR FUTURE ACTION

### 1. Receipt of Information on Proposed EDC By-Laws – Public Meeting

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the information on the proposed Education Development Charges By-Laws and information provided by delegations/presentations.

**CARRIED**

### 2. Preparation of Proposed EDC By-Laws – Public Meeting

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services expressed his thanks to Mr. Ammendolia, Mr. Teichman, Director Crocco and Kathy Levinski, Manager of Facilities Services for all their efforts and presented the report on the Preparation of Proposed EDC By-Laws – Public Meeting for information.

Chair MacNeil expressed his thanks to Controller Whitwell and his staff, as well as, Mr. Ammendolia and Mr. Teichman for their hard work.

### 3. Need for Further Public Meetings Regarding Proposed EDC By-Laws – Public Meeting

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board resolve that no further public meetings are required in regard to the two Proposed Education Development Charges By-Laws.

**CARRIED**

### 4. Proposed EDC By-Laws for Former County of Lincoln and Former County of Welland

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board pass the Education Development Charges By-Law (Former County of Lincoln) and the Education Development Charges By-Law (Former County of Welland), as presented in Appendix “A” of this report.

**CARRIED**

Mr. Ammendolia answered of Trustees.

## E. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the June 16, 2015 Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **June 16, 2015**.

Approved on the **September 29, 2015**.

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Fr. Paul MacNeil  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF  
JUNE 16, 2015**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of June 16, 2015, as presented.





## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, June 16, 2015, 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 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson MacNeil.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Vernal.

2. Roll Call

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

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli		✓		
Pat Vernal	✓			
<b>Student Trustees</b>				
Chloe Demizio	✓			
Jessica Di Pasquale	✓			
<b>Student Trustees Elect</b>				
Michaela Bodis	✓			
Aidan Harold	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of June 16, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED**

4. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

A Disclosure of Interest was declared by Trustee O'Leary with Item F10 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.

5. **Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting of May 26, 2015**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Fera

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of May 26, 2015, as amended.

**CARRIED**

**B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

1. **Kids Helping Kids**

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education gave a brief presentation on Niagara Catholic's participation in Kids Helping Kids.

Superintendent Baldasaro introduced Oksana Fisher, Chief Executive Office of the Niagara Children's Centre. Ms. Oksana thanked students, staff and the parent community for their contributions collected throughout Niagara Catholic.

Ms. Fisher introduced special guest Ryan Boros who entered the Centre at an early age and has made great progress attending Lakeshore Catholic High School. Ryan expressed his appreciation to the Niagara Catholic District School Board for their continued support.

Chair MacNeil and Director Crocco presented a cheque for \$36,803.09 to Oksana Fisher and Ryan Boros for the Niagara Children's Centre.

2. **Canadian National and Provincial Medals**

Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education provided a brief presentation on Canadian National and Provincial competitions during the Spring/Summer sports season and introduced Mike Sheahan, Physical Education Consultant who introduced the following student athletes;

James Whittard, Principal of Saint Michael Catholic High School introduced the students who won Gold at the Canadian Secondary School Rowing Championships Junior Women Double.

Brad Johnstone, Vice Principal of Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School introduced Ethan McAlpine who won Gold at the Canadian Secondary School Rowing Championships Senior Men Single.

Kevin O'Rourke, Teacher/Coach of Denis Morris Catholic High School introduced the students who won Silver at the Canadian Secondary School Rowing Championships 72 kg Senior Men Single and the Bronze Junior Men 72 kg Four with Coxwain.

Tony Arcuri, teacher/coach at Saint Paul Catholic High School introduced the students who won Bronze at the Canadian Secondary School Rowing Championships Senior Women Quad.

Dino Volante, teacher/coach at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School introduced the students who won Silver in the 2015 OFSAA Soccer Boys AA.

Denice Robertson, Principal of Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School introduced the students who won Bronze in the 2015 OFSAA Lacrosse Boys A/AA division.

Principal Whittard introduced Makiah Hunt who won Gold in poll vault.

Chair MacNeil and Director Crocco presented all the students with speciality minted Niagara Catholic "Excellence in Athletics" pins.

### **3. Student Trustees and Co-Chairs – Student Senate 2014-2015 Appreciation**

On behalf of the Board Chair MacNeil expressed appreciation and best wishes to Student Trustees Chloe Demizio and Jessica Di Pasquale.

Chloe Demizio and Jessica Di Pasquale Student Trustees presented their farewell speeches on completing their roles as Student Trustees and co-chairs of the Student Senate with Niagara Catholic.

Ms. Demizio and Ms. Di Pasquale thanked Trustees, Director Crocco and Senior Administrators for their mentoring and guidance during their term.

## **C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

### **1. School Excellence Program – St. James Catholic Elementary School**

Director Crocco provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Superintendent Baldasaro introduced Glenda Hillier, Principal of St. James Catholic Elementary School.

Principal Hillier, with the assistance of staff showcased St. James Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

Chairperson MacNeil and Trustees thanked Principal Hillier and staff for their presentation.

**2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 9, 2015 and Consideration of Recommendations**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 9, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED**

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 9, 2015:

**2.1 Approval of Policies**

**2.1.1 Progressive Student Discipline – Safe Schools Policy (302.6.9)**

Moved by Trustee Vernal  
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Progressive Student Discipline – Safe Schools Policy (302.6.9), as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.1.2 Admission of Elementary & Secondary Students Policy (301.1)**

Moved by Trustee Vernal  
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Admission of Elementary & Secondary Students Policy (301.1), as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.1.3 Safe Physical Intervention with Students Policy (301.8)**

Moved by Trustee Vernal  
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Safe Physical Intervention with Students Policy (301.8), as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.1.4 Equity and Inclusive Education Policy (100.10)**

Moved by Trustee Vernal  
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Equity and Inclusive Education Policy (100.10), as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.1.5 Purchasing/Supply Chain Management Policy (600.1)**

Moved by Trustee Vernal  
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Purchasing/Supply Chain Management Policy (600.1), as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.1.6 Retirement & Service Recognition Celebration Policy (201.2)**

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Retirement & Service Recognition Celebration Policy (201.2), as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.2 Larkin Estates Admission Awards**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve payment of \$2,075.00 for Larkin Estate Admission Awards in total for all eligible students, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.3 Capital Projects Prioritization 2015-2016**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Capital Projects Submission 2015 for Our Lady of Fatima (G), St. Christopher, St. Theresa, and St. Michael Catholic Elementary Schools to the Ministry of Education, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3. Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of May 6, 2015**

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of May 6, 2015, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

**4. Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee 2014-2015**

Superintendent Lefebvre presented the Extended Overnight field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee 2014-2015 report for information.

**5. Niagara Catholic EcoSchools Certification 2014-2015**

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services presented the Niagara Catholic EcoSchools Certification 2014-2015 report for information and acknowledged Elizabeth Davies, Administrative Assistant to the Controller of Facilities Services for her efforts.

**6. The Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services – Special Education Plan**

Superintendent Baldasaro presented the Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services – Special Education Plan report for information.

**7. June 2015 Board Meeting System Priorities and Budget 2015-2016 – Update**

Director Crocco and Senior Administrative Council provided a verbal update on the June 2015 Board Meeting System Priorities and Budget 2015-2016.

Director Crocco and Senior Administrative Council answered questions of Trustees.

**8. Executive Council Power**

Director Crocco reviewed the Executive Council Power report for emergency situations as determined by the Director of Education during the months of July and August.

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board empower Executive Council to approve any actions, of an emergency nature, recommended by the Director of Education, if a quorum cannot be achieved after a Special Meeting of the Board is called as per Board By-Laws, during the months of July and August 2015.

**CARRIED**

**9. Financial Reports**

**9.1 Monthly Banking Transactions**

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Monthly Banking Transactions for the month of May 2015, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

**9.2 Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at May 31, 2015**

Student Trustee Demizio left the meeting at this time.

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at May 31, 2015, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

**9.3 Annual Budget 2015-2016 Booklet**

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services distributed the Budget 2015-2016 Booklet.

Superintendent Vetrone answered questions of Trustees.

**D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS**

**1. Correspondence**

Nil Report

**2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended**

Trustee O'Leary and Vice-Chair Sicoli highlighted key areas of the CCSTA AGM Conference attended.

**3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action**

Director Crocco informed the Board that in addition to the information shared at the June Committee of the Whole Meeting and earlier in the June Board Meeting, with the tender's closing for the construction of the new St. Martin Catholic Elementary School this summer, if tender are within the funding permitted for the project, it is anticipated that a Special Electronic Board Meeting will need to be called in August to present the various tenders and a recommendation for the consideration of the Board. Director Crocco indicated that as much early notification for the meeting will be provided to confirm a date that will work best for quorum.

**4. Trustee Information**

**4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – June 9, 2015**

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara catholic – June 9, 2015.

**4.2 Calendar of Events – September 2015**

Director Crocco reviewed the Calendar of Events - September 2015.

**4.3 Catholic Education Centre Summer Hours**

Director Crocco informed Trustees of the Catholic Education Centre Summer Hours.

Director Crocco reminded Trustees that commencing in September 2015, Policy Committee, Committee of the Whole and Board meeting agendas, reports and attachments will be posted on the new My Niagara Catholic Trustee Website. A hard copy of the Agenda's only will be provided at each Trustee desk prior to each meeting.

**4.4 2015-2016 School Year Calendar Meeting Dates**

Director Crocco presented the finalized 2015-2016 School Year Calendar Meeting Dates.

**4.5 Showcase Magazine**

Director Crocco provided Trustees with a copy of the Spring / Summer edition of Showcase Magazine. He extended appreciation to the team of staff volunteers who wrote the articles and designed the self-funded edition. Director Crocco informed the Board that the Spring / Summer 2015 edition had more staff, students and alumni writing articles for Showcase. Copies will be distributed to families, schools, SEAC, NCPIC, Catholic School Councils, Parishes, municipalities, various offices throughout Niagara along with homes through Niagara this Week.

**5. Open Question Period**

Director Crocco informed the Board of the receipt of eight questions from one Catholic school supporter.

Chair MacNeil read the Board By-Law on Open Question Period.

Director Crocco informed the Board that the questioner did not provide the individuals address and telephone number as required by Board By-Laws. However, with the permission of the Board, he indicated that the information required could be obtained from the questioner prior to answering the submitted questions and that knowing the questioner; he confirmed that the individual was a Catholic school supporter. The Board agreed with the request and the information was obtained prior to answering the questions. Trustee Burtnik reminded the Board that the Board By-Laws permit a maximum of 10 minutes for Open Question Period with a maximum of two minutes per questioner. In compliance with Board By-Laws, within a two minute time period, Chair MacNeil read six of the questions submitted with Director Crocco providing answers to each question. The Board agreed to have Director Crocco meet with the questioner and provide verbal answers to the remaining two questions as submitted.

## **E. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

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

**CARRIED**

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting at 9:38 p.m. and reconvened at 10:58 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of June 16, 2015

**CARRIED**

## **SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of May 26, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of June 9, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F2)**



## **SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the motion from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting – SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of F4.1

**CARRIED (Item F4.1)**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the motion from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting – SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of F4.2

**CARRIED (Item F4.2)**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the motion from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting – SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of F4.3

**CARRIED (Item F4.3)**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**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 May 26, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F5)**

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

**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 June 9, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F6)**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F7.1 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F7.1)**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F7.1 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F7.2)**

## **H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

### **I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE**

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the June 16, 2015 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.  
**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **June 16, 2015**.

Approved on **September 29, 2015**.

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Fr. Paul MacNeil  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF  
AUGUST 12, 2015**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of August 12, 2015, as presented.



# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 12, 2015  
11:00 A.M.**

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Wednesday August 12, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Chairperson MacNeil.

## A. ROUTINE MATTERS

### 1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Chair MacNeil.

### 2. Roll Call

Chairperson MacNeil noted that Trustee Fera and Trustee Sicoli were excused from the Special Board Meeting.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik		✓		
Maurice Charbonneau		✓		
Frank Fera				✓
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg		✓		
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli				✓
Pat Vernal	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro** (electronically), **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre** (electronically), Superintendents of Education; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Giancarlo Vetrone** (electronically), Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of August 12, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Disclosure of Interest**

A Disclosure of Interest was declared by Trustee O'Leary with Item C1.5 of the In Camera Agenda. Trustee O'Leary left the Board Meeting for this item.

**B. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. St. Martin Catholic Elementary School Award of Construction Contract - Update**

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services provided an update on the status of the St. Martin Catholic Elementary School award of construction contract.

Controller Whitwell answered questions of Trustees. A Special Board Meeting may be required later in August or September 2015 for the Board to consider a tender recommendation.

**C. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Vernal  
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

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

**CARRIED**

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting at 11:14 a.m. and reconvened at 12:16 p.m.

**D. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION**

**E. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE**

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Vernal  
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the August 12, 2015 Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **August 12, 2015**.

Approved on **September 29, 2015**.

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Fr. Paul MacNeil  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2015**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of September 3, 2015, as presented.



# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 2015  
3:00 P.M.**

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Thursday August 3, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chairperson MacNeil.

## A. ROUTINE MATTERS

### 1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Burtnik.

### 2. Roll Call

Chairperson MacNeil noted that Trustee Fera was excused from the Special Board Meeting.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau		✓		
Frank Fera				✓
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg		✓		
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Pat Vernal	✓			



The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of September 3, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Disclosure of Interest**

A Disclosure of Interest was declared by Trustee O'Leary with Item B1.1 and B1.2 of the In Camera Agenda. Trustee O'Leary left the In-Camera Board Meeting for these items.

**B. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**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 Special Board Meeting at 3:08 a.m. and reconvened at 3:57 p.m.

**C. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of September 3, 2015.

**CARRIED**

**SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item B1.1.2 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item B1.1.2)**

**D. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE**

## **E. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the September 3, 2015 Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **September 3, 2015**.

Approved on **September 29, 2015**.

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Fr. Paul MacNeil  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL – NIAGARA FALLS**

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The School Excellence Program report is presented for information.

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Prepared by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 29, 2015



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM**  
**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,**  
**NIAGARA FALLS**

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**Contact Info**

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fx: 905.356.6202  
stvincentdepaul@ncdsb.com

**Grades**

ELKP – 8

**Enrolment**

286 as of September 2015

**Principal**

Carlo Arghittu

**Superintendent**

Mark Lefebvre

**Catholic School Council**

Chair: Rino Mancini

**Parish**

Our Lady of the Scapular Roman  
Catholic Church



In September 2004, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School opened its doors and welcomed the children of the North-end of Niagara Falls. St. Vincent de Paul School was named in honour of St. Vincent de Paul, patron saint of the poor, who lived by the motto that “charity is certainly greater than any rule”.

Our community stands for the betterment of all God’s people and is dedicated to helping our community in numerous ways. We celebrate students, their parents and our staff each and every day. The members of St. Vincent de Paul are a Professional Catholic Learning Community with a strong spiritual focus. Our Catholic School Council supports the students and staff in all areas of school life.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE  
WHOLE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2015**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Minutes of September 15, 2015, as presented.



## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 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 7:08 p.m. by Vice-Chair Sicoli.

#### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Vice-Chair Sicoli.

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chair Sicoli noted that Trustee Charbonneau be excused.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau				✓
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Pat Vernal	✓			
<b>Student Trustees</b>				
Michaela Bodis	✓			
Aidan Harold	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications.

Vice-Chair Sicoli welcomed Mr. Wayne Campbell of Post Media

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 15, 2015 as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared by Trustees O'Leary with Item F5.1 and F5.2 of the In Camera Agenda. Trustee O'Leary left the meeting during discussion of these items.

**5. Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 9, 2015**

Moved by Trustee Fera

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 9, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Director of Education and Senior Staff Introduction to the 2015-2016 School Year**

John Crocco, Director of Education Secretary/Treasurer and Senior Administrative Council welcomed the Board to the new school year and presented a visual report which provided information and update on the beginning of the new school year, summer activities, System Priorities, enrolment, staffing and budget updates.

Director Crocco and Senior Administrative Council answered questions of Trustees.

Vice-Chair Sicoli and Chair MacNeil thanked Director Crocco and Senior Administrative Council for the excellent and informative report and the smooth and focused start to the new school year.

**2. The Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services – Special Education Plan**

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, presented the report on The Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services - Special Education Plan for information. All Trustees were presented a copy of the Special Education Plan Building Bridges to Services 2015 and Beyond.

**3. Ombudsman Ontario – Complaints About School Boards**

A copy of the Ombudsman Ontario – Complaints About School Boards Pamphlet was distributed.

Trustee Burtnik noted that until the Government of Ontario appoints an Ombudsman, Barbara Finlay is the acting Ombudsman for Ontario.

**4. Monthly Updates**

**4.1 Capital Projects Update**

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services, presented the Capital Projects Update.

**4.2 Student Trustees' Update**

Michaela Bodis and Aidan Harold Student Trustees, presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

**4.3 Senior Staff Good News Update**

Senior Staff highlights included:

**Superintendent Forsyth-Sells**

- Notre Dame College School 2015 Valedictorian, Conary Coyne is studying Engineering at McMaster University, and was awarded a Mc Master University Entrance Scholarship. In addition, Conary has been recently recognized as a Schulich Leader, and has been awarded one of the 50 Schulich Leader Scholarships valued at \$80,000 funded by the Schulich Foundation. Conary is Notre Dame College School's first ever Shulich Leader. At Notre Dame College School, Conary actively participated in social justice activities, was a mathlete, a soccer referee, a Lego League Robotics mentor, a lacrosse player, and a hockey goalie.

**Superintendent Lefebvre**

- Two Niagara Catholic students, Alex Powell, from Saint Michael Catholic High School, Niagara Falls and Owen Pasincky from Lakeshore Catholic High School, Port Colborne have been awarded the Skills Ontario Board of Directors Scholarship Award. Alex Powell is entering the engineering Program at the University of Western Ontario.



## **D. INFORMATION**

### **1. Trustee Information**

#### **1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – June 2015**

Director Crocco presented the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – June 2015 issue for Trustees information.

#### **1.2 Calendar of Events – September 2015**

Director Crocco presented the September 2015 Calendar of Events for Trustees information.

#### **1.3 Director's Letter to Students and Parents – September 2015**

Director Crocco presented a copy of the letter that was sent to all students and families for September 2015.

#### **1.4 Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education Golf Tournament – September 16, 2015**

Director Crocco presented the Agenda and Registration form for the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education Golf Tournament – September 16, 2015.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano, Administrative Assistant to Corporate Services & Communications.

#### **1.5 Niagara Festival Grape Grande Parade – September 26, 2015**

Director Crocco informed the Board that Niagara Catholic will once again participate in the Niagara Festival Grande Parade on September 27, 2014. Three (3) Niagara Catholic Secondary Schools will participate with student ambassadors representing all of our Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools.

All Trustees were invited to walk in the annual parade with the Board and asked to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano.

#### **1.6 OCSTA – 2015 Fall Regional Meetings – Information & Registration**

Director John Crocco highlighted the OCSTA 2015 fall regional meeting dates for Trustee information and registration.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano.

#### **1.7 Federal Election Administrative Procedures – October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

Director Crocco reviewed the Director's Memorandum DM 150 – Federal Election Administrative Procedures for Trustees information.

#### **1.8 OCSTA – April 28-30, 2016 AGM & Conference**

Director John Crocco presented the invitation for the OCSTA's 2016 AGM & Conference.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano.

### **1.9 CCSTA – June 9-11, 2016 AGM & Conference**

Director Crocco presented the invitation for the CCSTA 2016 AGM & Conference.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano.

## **E. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

1.1 Director Crocco informed the Board that the 2014-2015 System Priorities Final Achievement Report will be presented at the October 27, 2015 Board Meeting.

## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

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

**CARRIED**

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 9:12 p.m. and reconvened at 9:29 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 15, 2015

**CARRIED**

### **SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES INCLUDED**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section A: Student Trustees Included) held on June 9, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

### **SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section B: Student Trustees Excluded) held on June 9, 2015, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4)**

A moment of silence was observed for the Syrian Refugees.

## **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the September 15, 2015 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **September 15, 2015.**

Approved on **October 13, 2015.**

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Dino Sicoli  
Vice-Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (NCPIC) MEETING  
OF MAY 7, 2015**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of May 7, 2015, as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE  
NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MAY 7, 2015**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, held on Thursday, May 7, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland, ON.

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

**A. ROUTINE MATTERS**

**1. Opening Prayer**

Opening prayer was led by Debra McCaffery.

- 2. Roll Call:** Superintendent Forsyth-Sells welcomed guests, Trustee Frank Fera, Debra McCaffery, Board Chaplaincy Leader and Hailey Craig, Student Senate Representative to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meeting.

Parent Members	Geographical Area	Present	Excused	Absent
Gregg Kirchofer	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake			√
Mary Mannella-Byers	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Josephine Muraca-Lettieri	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Shawn O'Brien	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake			√
Marion Battersby	St. Catharines	√		
Lisa Finley	St. Catharines	√		
Kate Hingston	St. Catharines	√	Arrived 7:10 p.m.	
Julie Wiley-Pol	St. Catharines	√	Arrived 7:10 p.m.	
Sharon Goossen	Welland		√	
Carrie Vernelli	Welland	√		
Alexandria Attree	Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	√		
Rebecca Kamin	Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet			√
Kim Hedden	Merritton/Thorold	√	Excused 8:10 p.m.	
Heather McCluckie	Merritton/Thorold	√		
Shonna Daly-Chair	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	√		
Sean Bertleff	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham			√
Community Representatives				
Shelley Gilbert	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	√		
Linda Marie O'Hagan	St. Catharines-Development and Peace		√	
Heather Pyke	Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education	√	Excused 8:30 p.m.	
Anna Racine	SEAC Representative	√		
Fr. Peter Rowe	Bishop/Diocesan Representative	√		

Aidan Harold	Student Senate		√	
<b>Trustees</b>				
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee		√	
Dino Sicoli	Trustee and Vice-Chair of the Board		√	

The following staff was in attendance: Superintendent Forsyth-Sells and Yvonne Anderson, Recording Secretary.

Regrets sent: Trustee Burtnik, Trustee, Vice-Chair of the Board Sicoli, Jeff Smith, Theo Dagenais, Josie Rocca, Aidan Harold, Sharon Goossen, and Linda Marie O’Hagan

Note: In the absence of Trustee Burtnik, Trustee and Vice-Chair of the Board Sicoli, Trustee Fera represented the Board of Trustees and in the absence of Aidan Harold, Hailey Craig represented the Student Senate.

**4. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: Anna Racine

Seconded by: Lisa Finley

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the agenda of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of May 7, 2015 as amended.

Amendment made to Good News as an agenda item.

**CARRIED**

**5. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

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

**6. Approval of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2015**

Moved by: Josephine Muraca-Lettieri

Seconded by: Shelley Gilbert

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of March 26, 2015 as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

1. PRO Grant 2015-2016-*Debra McCaffery, Board Chaplaincy Leader*

Debra McCaffery, on behalf of the Niagara Catholic Alliance Committee presented a Three Tier proposal to strengthen the triad relationship of the home, school and church as the foundation for Catholic Education, and to increase and strengthen the articulation around Catholic Education, so that students, parents/guardians and community members understand the benefits of Catholic Education in the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Debra McCaffery requested that the NCPIC consider an application for a 2015-2016 PRO Grant in support of the proposal, in partnership with the Niagara Catholic Alliance Committee initiatives, focusing on parent/guardian engagement throughout the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

## **C. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**

### **1. FAITH FORMATION**

The Faith Formation session themed “O Freedom” The Path from Slavery to Salvation with Fr. Tony Ricard held on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 from 4:15 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. at Saint Michael Catholic High School was well attended by parents/guardians and Board staff.

### **2. POLICY- Shonna Daly**

The following Policies and Administrative Guidelines are currently being reviewed as part of the cyclical Policy and Administrative Guidelines Review process:

1. Purchasing/Supply Chain Management Policy (600.1)
2. Equity and Inclusive Education Policy (100.10)
3. Retirement & Service Recognition Celebration Policy (201.2)

*Feedback is to be submitted to [jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com](mailto:jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com) by **May 11, 2015***

### **3. PRO GRANT - Anna Racine, Mary Mannella-Byers and Heather Pyke**

#### **1. “Through the Years” Welcome Kit PRO Grant Project**

The NCPIC “Through the Years” Welcome Kits have been completed and delivered to all Niagara Catholic elementary schools to be distributed to parents/guardians of new 2015-2016 ELKP registrations. Positive feedback has been received from parents/guardians and Board staff.

#### **2. Family Night 2014-2015**

An overview of the “Family Games Night” activities and the keepsake for families to take home was provided as information. A subcommittee meeting will take place before the end of the 2014-2015 school year to further discuss planning and the implementation of this event. Superintendent Forsyth-Sells will request proposed dates from the secondary Principals to host the “Family Games Night”.

#### **3. PRO Grant Application 2015-2016**

Heather Pyke provided meeting minutes of the PRO Grant Subcommittee held on April 20, 2015 for information. 2015-2016 PRO Grant options were discussed.

## **MOTION**

Moved by: Heather Pyke

Seconded by: Julie Wiley-Pol

THAT the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee complete and submit an application for the 2015-2016 PRO Grant in partnership and support of the Alliance Committee initiatives focusing on parent/guardian engagement throughout the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

## **CARRIED**

## **D. GOOD NEWS**

Chair Daly reported that John Crocco, Director of Education received the Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers Association (OCSOA), Canadian Association of School System Administrators (CASSA) EXL Award 2015 for his dedication to social justice and student well-being, along with his

extensive work with community partners. Director Crocco will represent OCSOA at the CASSA Conference in Montreal.

Chair Daly also reported that Kathy Burtnik was recognized by the Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association (OCSTA), for her years of dedication and commitment to Catholic Education.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that this week is Catholic Education Week with the theme "Paths to Joy". Masses, liturgies, and open houses will take place in all elementary and secondary Niagara Catholic schools. A united Mass for all Catholic secondary schools will be celebrated with a message from Bishop Bergie. The "Catch the Spirit Student Award of Excellence" celebration was held on May 4, 2015 and the "Distinguished Alumni Award" luncheon was held on May 8, 2015.

**E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE NCPIC MEETING OF MARCH 26, 2015**

1. Automatic reply for receipt of policy feedback.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that an automatic reply for receipt of policy feedback has not been set-up as it would be sent to all e-mails received in Jennifer Pellegrini's mailbox. When feedback is received, every effort is made to acknowledge the feedback. The feedback is then sent to the Superintendent responsible for the policy.

2. The World Meetings of Families-Philadelphia 2015

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that on Monday, April 20, 2015 following the NCPIC working session held at the Catholic Education Centre, the names of the NCPIC parent members who were interested in attending the World Meeting of Families with Pope Francis in Philadelphia from September 22, 2015 to September 27, 2015, through the Diocese of St. Catharines package were drawn by Gregg Kirchofer. Congratulations to Shonna Daly and Alexandria Attree. Shonna and Alexandria will present a report at the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meeting in November 2015.

**F. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION--Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**

1. Vacancies

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reviewed the sections in NCPIC Policy and NCPIC By-Laws referencing vacancies on the NCPIC. Discussion occurred regarding a parent member's four (4) consecutive unauthorized absences and the fulfilment of the duties as a parent member on Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

**MOTION**

Moved by: Mary Mannella-Byers

Seconded by: Alexandria Attree

THAT according to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Policy No. 800.7, Section 4.10.9 that said member, Shawn O'Brien, be removed from his parent position on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee due to his four (4) unauthorized absences from



the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee meetings and his inability to fulfil his duties as a parent member.

**CARRIED**

2. Filling of Vacancies

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reviewed the NCPIC Policy and NCPIC By-Laws referencing Filling of Vacancies.

**MOTION**

Moved by: Shelly Gilbert

Seconded by: Marion Battersby

THAT due to the time frame, that the vacancy in the Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake geographical area will not be filled until the 2015-2016 election.

**CARRIED**

3. Proposed NCPIC Meeting Dates 2015-2016

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells provided the proposed NCPIC Meeting dates for 2015-2016:

- September 17, 2015
- November 19, 2015
- January 7, 2016
- March 10, 2016
- May 12, 2016

4. Partners in Catholic Education

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells extended an invitation to NCPIC members to attend the Partners in Catholic Education Dinner on Thursday, May 14, 2015 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Club Roma.

5. Ontario College of Teachers' Federation-Public Awareness Initiative Presentation

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells invited all NCPIC members to attend Ontario Teacher's Federation Public Awareness Initiative Presentation on Monday, May 11, 2015 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Catholic Education Centre.

6. NCPIC Financial Report

A financial statement was provided for information. Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that NCPIC funds will be allocated to the Partners in Catholic Education Dinner and for two (2) NCPIC parent members to attend the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia September 2015.

**F. COMMUNITY REPORT**

1. Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE)-*Heather Pyke*

The 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education Conference was held in Pembroke, Ontario. OAPCE celebrated 75+ years of supporting the pillars of Catholic education

in Ontario. The theme for this year's conference was "Poverty" with the many forms of poverty including, financial, mental, spiritual, physical and emotional and what we can do to relieve it. The workshops focused on Partnerships, Opportunity, Vulnerability, Economic, Resilience, Trust, and Yearning. Niagara Catholic was well represented at the conference.

2. **Society of St. Vincent de Paul-*Shelley Gilbert***

Shelley Gilbert presented a video presentation on the history and importance and good works of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in our communities.

3. **St. Catharines Diocesan Council Development and Peace**

- Nil Report

**MOTION**

Moved by: Marion Battersby

Seconded by: Mary Mannella-Byers

**THAT** the NCPIC meeting of May 7, 2015 be extended for an additional fifteen (15) minutes to continue with the items on the agenda.

**CARRIED**

**G. SEAC REPORT-*Anna Racine***

Anna Racine reported that four Niagara Catholic SEAC members attended the Provincial SEAC Conference on May 2, 2015. Discussions and workshops regarding the role of the SEAC committee, PRO Grant initiatives to support exceptional students at the school level, and engaging parents/guardians of exceptional students were well received and informative.

**H. BISHOP/DIOCESAN REPORT-*Fr. Peter Rowe***

Fr. Peter Rowe reported that Grade 8 Confirmation candidates had the opportunity to view the film "Romero", a true story of a heroic priest providing the history of Archbishop Oscar Romero. The beautification of Archbishop Oscar Romero will take place on May 23, 2015 bringing to fruition that Oscar Romero is a Christian martyr. Fr. Peter Rowe encouraged NCPIC members to view the film and become defenders of human rights through Christ and the church.

**I. STUDENT SENATE REPORT-*Haley Craig***

Haley Craig reported that the members of the Student Senate will attend and assist at the Board-wide Graduation Mass at the Gale Centre on Thursday, May 14, 2015. On Wednesday, May 20, 2015 the Student Senate will be hosting its annual symposium for all Niagara Catholic elementary and secondary student councils.

**J. STAFF REPORT**

- Nil Report

**K. TRUSTEE REPORTS-*Frank Fera, Trustee of the Board***

Trustee Fera was grateful for the opportunity to attend the NCPIC meeting on behalf of the Board of Trustees and thanked all present for their support, dedication and commitment to Catholic Education as members of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

**L. NEW BUSINESS**

**M. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

1. Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Policy and By-Laws review.

**N. NEXT MEETING:**

Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by: Shelley Gilbert

Seconded by: Marion Battersby

**THAT** the March 26, 2015 meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

**O. CLOSING PRAYER:** Closing prayer was led by Fr. Peter Rowe.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEETING OF  
JUNE 3, 2015**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of June 3, 2015 as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2015

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held on Wednesday, June 3, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

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

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Chair Racine

2. Roll Call

Members	Affiliations	Present	Excused	Absent
Anna Racine	The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario	✓		
Rob Lavorato	Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara)	✓		
Carol Baldinelli	VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	✓		
Sarah Farrell	Learning Disabilities Association – Niagara	✓		
Bill Helmeczi	Pathstone Mental Health	✓		
Andrew Howcroft	Community Living Welland Pelham	✓		
<b>Trustees</b>				
Pat Vernal		✓		
Maurice Charbonneau			✓	
<b>Student Senate Representative</b>				
Thomas Dedinsky		✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

**Yolanda Baldasaro**, Superintendent of Education; **Colleen Atkinson**, Special Education Coordinator; **Lisa Selman**, Principal – Elementary; **Tina DiFrancesco**, Recording Secretary

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Bill Helmeczi  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of June 3, 2015.

**CARRIED**

**4. Disclosure of Interest**

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

**5. Approval of Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of May 6, 2015**

Moved by Rob Lavorato  
Seconded by Sarah Farrell

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of May 6, 2015 as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

**C. VISIONING**

**1. Goals and Vision for 2014-2015**

**1.1 Discuss Goals for 2014-2015 – SEAC Presentation at the New Teacher Induction Program**

A discussion was held regarding SEAC's goal to do a presentation at the NTIP. The SEAC Committee of the Whole presentation was reviewed and SEAC members provided suggestions regarding revisions to the content in preparation for the upcoming presentation at the New Teacher Induction program. Chair Racine suggested that further comments be sent electronically in order to start the process of incorporating the information for the presentation in the fall.

A discussion was held about professional development for teachers and bringing back highlights to the SEAC meetings.

**D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 6, 2015**

**1. Learner Advocacy**

**2. Parent Outreach**

3. **Program and Service Recommendations**

4. **Special Education Budget**

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

- Superintendent Baldasaro presented the Special Education Plan Executive Summary 2015 to the SEAC members for information. The annual checklist is due to the Ministry of Education by July 31<sup>st</sup>. Copies of the Special Education Plan will be provided to the SEAC members at the September meeting.

6. **Other Related Items**

7. **Policy Review**

**E. SEAC REPORT**

1. **Review and Approval of SEAC Insert for Catholic School Council Agenda**

- Nil Report

2. **Review and Approval of SEAC Insert for School Newsletters**

- Nil Report

**F. AGENCY REPORTS**

1. **VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children – Carol Baldinelli**

- Family Camp: August 7-9, 2015 at Bark Lake Camp. Camp is an awesome weekend for grandparents, parents and kids of all ages. Set in the Haliburton Highlands, there are lots of opportunities to participate in outdoor activities, meet families and learn from guest speakers. We're excited to present Ann Douglas, an expert in the field of parenting children with disabilities and author of *Parenting Through the Storm*.

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

- DSCP had a meeting last week and chose the following dates for events. August 16 – Annual Picnic; October 30 - Halloween Event; November 14 – Trivia Night; Christmas Party - 2<sup>nd</sup> week in December.

**3. The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario – Anna Racine**

- The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario (Niagara Chapter) will be having an information meeting for families and individuals dealing with Tourette Syndrome on **June 17, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.** (for adults 18 and over).
  - Monthly support group meetings will be from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
    - September 1, 2015
    - October 6, 2015
    - November 3, 2015
    - December 1, 2015
    - January 5, 2016
    - February 2, 2016
    - March 1, 2016
    - April 5, 2016
    - May 3, 2016
    - June 7, 2016
- This is an opportunity for members to share similar experiences, to support one another, exchange information and ideas and in doing so, strengthen their capacity to cope. All meetings will take place at the MacBain Community Centre, (Community Board Room), 7150 Montrose Road, Niagara Falls, Ontario. For information please call 905-358-3412.

**4. Learning Disabilities Association (Niagara) – Sarah Farrell**

- Our full day summer literacy program, SLAM has filled up! St. Catharines and Niagara Falls are full and there are very few spots left in Welland.
- We are still recruiting volunteers for our SLAM program. Thorough training is provided and volunteers are required to volunteer for a full week (or more). It is great, hands-on experience for those looking to gain experience working with children or in the field of education. If interested, volunteers are encouraged to complete a Volunteer Intake Form at [www.Ldaniagara.org](http://www.Ldaniagara.org).
- LDAO is hosting a two-day bilingual **Educators Institute** on August 25 & 26, 2015, designed to share multiple perspectives and research-informed and evidence-based identification, assessment and instructional practices for supporting students with LDs. This conference builds on the success of the one day Educators Institute in August 2014. The Educators Institute is a wonderful opportunity for classroom teachers, SERTs and administrators to better understand how to help students with LDs be more successful. Enclosed is a flyer with further details.
- There is still time to sign up for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Trivia Night taking place this Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm, sponsored by Meridian. Proceeds will support programs and services offered to individuals living with a learning disability in Niagara (flyer attached).
  - Location: Gale Centre – 4171 Fourth Ave, Niagara Falls
  - Doors Open: 5:45pm; Games Begin: 6:30pm
  - \$20.00/individual OR \$120/team of 6-7
  - To reserve a team table or sign up as an individual/couple, please call 905-641-1021



**5. Pathstone Mental Health – Bill Helmeczi**

- Pathstone Mental Health is preparing for their accreditation by the Canadian Centre for Accreditation.

**6. Community Living Welland Pelham – Andrew Howcroft**

- Community Living is offering summer support for student with disabilities.
- Article for this month: *What is Social Capital?* The *Friendship Algorithm* courtesy of Dr. Sheldon Cooper and the Big Bang Theory. Article borrowed from the Interdependence Network; see: <http://buildingsocialcapital.org/>, and Al Condeluci, Ph.D.)

## **G. STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Lisa Selman – Principal, Elementary**

St. Therese PC

- Wrapping up the school year and planning for next year.
- Transitions are happening.
- Celebrating student successes.
- IEPs are being updated and report cards are being prepared.
- Making student profiles.
- Working diligently in school based team meetings to make sure plans are in order for September.
- Libraries are going through their final library classes and resources are being reviewed.
- Talent shows, class trips are in the works.

**2. Jim Whittard – Principal, Secondary**

Report Submitted

Blessed Trinity

- As part of our Integrated Transition Planning, we are pleased to share several items:
  - This piece has been built into our Special Class IPRC meetings for students transitioning from Grade 8 to Grade 9.
  - We have partnered with Community Living as part of the “Live Out Loud” initiative to begin a pre-planning process that begins early in our students’ high school careers. The purpose of these meetings/information sharing sessions is so that families and Community Living will have knowledge of our students’ needs well before they graduate. Community Living is committed to servicing our students with the best possible programming and these meetings are critical for planning successful programs and transitions post-secondary.
  - Planning is already in the works for September’s Grade 9 Curriculum Night where parents with children in the Special Class will gather to share information with each other and the community partners who will be invited to attend.
- IPRC and Transition meetings with the elementary schools are almost complete and we have enjoyed hosting many students for tours of Blessed Trinity. Students who will enter the Special Education Class in September made several visits and feel quite comfortable.

- EQAO Math will take place on June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Accommodations will be provided for students with Individual Education Plans.
- SEA Equipment has been inventoried and arrangements are being made to transfer the equipment from the elementary schools to Blessed Trinity at the end of August. We encourage students to continue the use of their equipment in order to capitalize on strategies that lead to independence.
- Students in the Special Education Class who are part of the Integrated Arts Program displayed their creative and beautiful artwork for the Mental Health Frames of Mind event during the Open House held at Blessed Trinity during Catholic Education Week.

#### Denis Morris

- As we approach the end of the school year, we celebrate the numerous accomplishments of our students in the Special Education Department. Our students have been successful in co-operative education placements and in co-curricular activities. Congratulations to our two students who have completed a successful co-operative education placement at Sobeys. We have received positive feedback from Sobeys on our student's work and the managerial team looks forward to receiving new students next year.
- Our Best Buddies Club is hosting a year end sundae making activity and we are looking forward to organizing our new activities for next year. Best Buddies had several celebrations this semester, and the meaningful friendships between our students are seen in the hallways, at lunch and in classes. The spirit of inclusion permeates all aspects of life at Denis Morris.
- We also congratulate all of our students for their preparation for the Grade 9 EQAO Math Assessment taking place on June 10 and June 11. EQAO practice sessions are being offered to all of our students reflecting the accommodations and supports outlined in their Individual Education Plan. Students have been offered strategies to respond to their individual needs in an effort to promote student achievement for all. Congratulations to all of our students on their outstanding efforts.

#### Holy Cross

- The Holy Cross Special Education class is just finishing up their cookbook "Cooking with Class" and will coil bind it and have it ready for Father's Day.
- The recipes are items we have made throughout the year with some menus from our Halloween and Christmas lunches.
- The students in our class have been very busy. A student has a speaking part in the class play and he is perfectly cast as Matthew Charisma. Other members of our class are responsible for props lighting and sound. Another student was part of the dance troupe for "Suit and Tie" a presentation in Soul Train for our feeder school grade 7s. A student and her mom joined the Holy Cross Raiders for the Rankin Run and another student made the girls slo-pitch team. It is awesome to see our students shine out in our regular school population.
- On Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> our class attended a day at the Shaw Festival. The students enjoyed their backstage tour and acting workshop. It was a beautiful day for a picnic lunch and after lunch enjoyed the performance "Peter and the Starcatcher" the prequel to Peter Pan. This was a nice way to tie up our fall pirate days and study of Peter Pan. It is in this classroom amongst these students that you can always be young and have fun.

### Saint Paul

- As we enter the final stages of the school year, the students of the Saint Paul Special Education class continue to partake in several academic and social activities.
- Our Horticulture and Culinary students have cooperatively participated in a planting initiative in which they transplanted vegetable seedlings (grown and cared for by our Horticulture students) into farmland. The resultant vegetables that will grow are to be harvested in the fall and then used in our culinary classes. Our cooperative education students continue to attain high praise for their contributions at their respective placements (Sobeys and Joe's Place). As well, the students are fully engaged in many class culminating projects (e.g., dance recitals, presentations, etc.). It's a very busy time indeed!
- Finally, we bid adieu to graduating students. Saint Paul wishes you the best of luck in all your future endeavours – we know you will do great things in the community!

### 3. Yolanda Baldasaro – Superintendent of Education

- Elementary and Secondary graduations are happening during the last week of June 2015.
- The SEAC meetings for next year will be sent electronically to SEAC members for advanced planning.
- Niagara Catholic was chosen by the Niagara Children's Centre for the Dr. William Orr Award which will be presented at the June 17<sup>th</sup> dinner at Club Roma. This year Niagara Catholic raised over \$36,000.00 for the *Kids Helping Kids* campaign.
- This June, 2015 marks the inaugural administration of Niagara Catholic's *Grade 12 Graduation Survey* and *Grade 8 Graduation – Grade 9 Entry Survey*. All Grade 12 students will be invited to complete an online survey regarding their Catholic elementary and secondary experiences. All Grade 8 students will be invited to complete an online survey regarding their Catholic elementary and secondary transition experiences.

### 4. Colleen Atkinson – Coordinator Special Education

- May 27 – Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) in the Secondary Classroom was rolled out to Secondary Educational Resource Teachers, Student Success staff and Program Chairs of Math and English.
- During the month of June 2015, Special Education and Program staff are presenting a series of professional development training workshops which have been designed and will be delivered to various stakeholders throughout the month. June 22, 2015 will highlight four workshops dealing with topics related to Special Education.

## H. TRUSTEE REPORTS

### 1. Pat Vernal – Trustee

- Nil Report

### 2. Maurice Charbonneau – Trustee

- Nil Report

## I. STUDENT REPORT

### 1. Thomas Dedinsky – Student Senate Representative

- The next Student Senate meeting will be a transitional meeting to welcome new members.

## J. NCPIC REPORT

- Chair Racine spoke about the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee ProGrant Kit that will be distributed to new families. The kit provides useful information and resources.
- NCPIC is currently working on the next ProGrant being used for a Family Games Night which is going to happen in the fall.

## K. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Learner Advocacy

### 2. Parent Outreach

### 3. Program and Service Recommendations

### 4. Special Education Budget

### 5. Annual Review, Special Education Plan

### 6. Other Related Items

#### 6.1 SEAC Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC)

Superintendent Baldasaro thanked Anna Racine for her contribution as the SEAC Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) this year.

Chair Racine asked if any SEAC member would be interested in the position of SEAC Representative for the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC).

#### Election of SEAC Representative

Moved by Andrew Howcroft

Seconded by Bill Helmeczi

**THAT** Anna Racine be nominated for the position of SEAC Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC).

Anna Racine accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations forthcoming.

Anna Racine was acclaimed as the SEAC Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC).

## **6.2 Special Needs Strategy – Family Advisory Council Feedback**

Superintendent Baldasaro presented feedback from the April 29<sup>th</sup> Family Advisory Council meeting. Information was provided about the Special Needs Strategy, Coordinated Service Planning and Integrated Rehabilitation Services Planning tables, staff forum, open session for parents and youth survey.

## **7. Policy Review**

## **L. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. A letter was received from the Upper Grand District School Board regarding Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

## **M. QUESTION PERIOD**

## **N. NOTICES OF MOTION**

## **O. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

1. Special Needs Strategy
2. Highlight students/schools in the system
3. Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Presentation

## **P. INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Superintendent Baldasaro informed the SEAC members that the first meeting of the upcoming school year will held on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. Vice-Chair Lavorato asked if the meeting will still proceed due to concerns of the impending labour negotiations. Superintendent Baldasaro will take the question back to Senior Administrative Council and will ensure that the SEAC is made aware of any changes in schedule to that meeting.
2. Chair Racine thanked Thomas Dedinsky, Student Senate Representative, Andrew Howcroft, new SEAC member and Pat Vernal, new SEAC Trustee along with all SEAC members for their contributions to the SEAC.
3. Superintendent Baldasaro on behalf of Director Crocco and the Board of Trustees wished everyone a blessed and restful summer.

**Q. NEXT MEETING:**

**Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 7:00p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre**

**R. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Andrew Howcroft

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the June 3, 2015 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 8:50p.m.

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**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: NIAGARA CATHOLIC SYSTEM PRIORITIES 2014-2015 -  
ACHIEVEMENT REPORT**

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A hard copy of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2014-2015 - Achievement Report will be provided as part of this report.

The Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2014-2015 - Achievement Report is presented for information.

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Prepared by: Senior Administrative Council

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 29, 2015



## **REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

### **NIAGARA CATHOLIC SYSTEM PRIORITIES 2014-2015 ACHIEVEMENT REPORT**

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#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

At the May 27, 2014 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the following motion was approved;

*THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2014-2015, as presented. (Appendix A)*

The Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2014-2015 were designed to provide the annual focus for the system towards achieving the outcomes of the Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan. Within the two (2) Strategic Directions and the seven (7) Enabling Strategies are the approved system priorities which provide the specific framework to measure the achievement of each direction and strategy within a specific school year.

The Board approved System Priorities 2014-2015 were posted on the Niagara Catholic website and copies were provided to all Principals, Vice-Principals, staff, Bishop Bergie, Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), Catholic School Council Chairs and the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC). In addition, a poster size copy of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2014-2015 were placed in public locations in all schools, Board sites and the Catholic Education Centre for review by students, staff, parents and guests to Niagara Catholic.

With the conclusion of the 2014-2015 academic year, members of Senior Administrative Council and Board staff collated, analyzed and reviewed all measurements and data gathered for the 2014-2015 school year and completed its review of the progress in achieving the System Priorities within each Strategic Direction and Enabling Strategy of the Board 's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan.

Attached to this report (Appendix B) is an electronic copy of the Niagara Catholic System Priorities 2014-2015 Achievement Report. A hard copy of the report will be provided at the meeting. Within each Strategic Direction and Enabling Strategy is the indicator of success and comments on the measurables to determine the achievement of either "*Completed*" or "*In Progress 2015-2016*". A copy of this final report will be provided to all Principals, Vice-Principals, Bishop Bergie, Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), Catholic School Council Chairs, Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) and posted on our Board website.

Senior Administrative Council is proud of the overall achievement of the 2014-2015 System Priorities as approved by the Board. Senior Staff complements Niagara Catholic students and staff for the high level of achievement and continued improvement throughout the 2014-2015 school year.

As we begin a new school year, the Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, the Board approved Strategic Directions System Priorities and Annual Budget for 2015-2016 along with the Board and School Improvement Plans are aligned to continue our focus on achieving the Vision Statements and Strategic Directions of the Niagara Catholic Vision 2020 Strategic Plan.



Senior Administrative Council will provide a mid-year review of the achievement of the System Priorities for the 2015-2016 academic year at the January 2016 Board Meeting and a final report for the 2015-2016 academic year at the September 2016 Board Meeting.

*Attached*

Appendix A Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2014-2015

Appendix B Niagara Catholic Strategic Directions System Priorities 2014-2015 Achievement Report

The Niagara Catholic Strategic Direction System Priorities 2014-2015 - Achievement Report  
is presented for information.

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Prepared by: Senior Administrative Council

Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 29, 2015



# NIAGARA CATHOLIC SYSTEM PRIORITIES 2014-2015

Appendix A

## MINISTRY GOALS

- Achieving Excellence
- Ensuring Equity
- Promoting Well-Being
- Enhancing Public Confidence

## BOARD STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

- Build Strong Catholic Identity and Community to Nurture the Distinctiveness of Catholic Education
- Advance Student Achievement for All

### Mission Statement

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

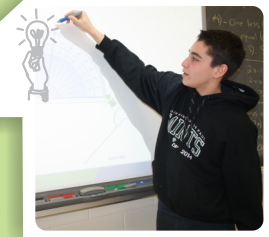


## Vision 2020

NURTURING SOULS AND BUILDING MINDS



## ENABLING STRATEGIES



### Provide Supports for Success

- Design Pathway to Care Program
- Design awareness, prevention and intervention program
- Design clinical support counselling services
- Implement recommendations to enhance Special Education Delivery Model
- Promote Healthy lifestyles for students and staff
- Enhance the development of literacy and numeracy skills for all students

### Enhance Technology for Optimal Learning

- Implement third year of the digital transformation
- Invest in technology infrastructure
- Invest in human capital for IT support
- Design a strategy for equitable access to technology
- Support student transition planning with technology and professional development

### Building Partnerships and Schools as Hubs

- Engage Student Voice
- Build and enhance capacity with all partners

- Engage community groups to address needs of children
- Develop Safe School initiatives, resources and supports
- Expand social justice experiences, global citizenship and educational opportunities

### Strengthen Human Resource Practices and Develop Transformational Leadership

- Deliver third year Human Resources Certificate Program
- Support and monitor implementation of the Attendance Support Program
- Focus Professional Development on assessment, evaluation and reporting
- Implement the third year of Growing in Wisdom to Worship and Witness
- Strengthen teacher content-for-teaching knowledge of mathematics
- Advance instructional leadership in mathematics

### Create Equity and Accessibility of Resources

- Design a Program and Services Plan
- Design a consolidated Student Achievement Department
- Design an Early Years /Primary Speech and Language Team

- Design a model that tracks student reading data
- Apply assessment for learning and math talk strategies
- Advance student achievement on provincial, Board and school assessment
- Exceed provincial graduation target of 85%

### Ensure Responsible Fiscal and Operational Management

- Produce balanced budget for 2014-2015
- Realign operational staff responsibilities
- Create School-based Budget Program
- Provide timely and relevant financial information
- Implement Emergency Response Protocol
- Relocate the Information Technology and the Facilities Services Centres
- Implement an Energy Saving Program initiative
- Implement a school ground greening initiative

### Address Changing Demographics

- Monitor and report changing enrolment
- Support the diversity of communities
- Design life-skills programs for students

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE (S)  
TO THE NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT  
COMMITTEE 2015-2016**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the appointment of the following community members to serve as Community Representatives on the NCPIC for the term of 2015-2016:

- Shelley Gilbert-St. Vincent de Paul Society-Appendix A
- Leone Strilec-St. Catharines Diocesan Council for Development & Peace-Appendix B
- Heather Pyke-Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE)-Appendix C

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Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education  
Presented by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education  
Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer  
Date: September 29, 2015



**REPORT TO THE BOARD  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

**APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE(S) TO THE NIAGARA  
CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE  
2015-2016**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The composition of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee membership includes Community Representatives.

In the Education Act O.Reg. 330/10 School Councils and Parent Involvement Committees Part III, Composition of Committees, Transition S. 32 (3) subsection 4 states that in regards to community representatives that the Board shall appoint the following people to the committee:

“The number of community representatives, up to three (3), the board determines appropriate.”

The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Policy No. 800.7 states that the composition of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee shall include the following:

- The number of Community Representatives as specified in the By-Laws of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee By-Laws state that the membership will include:

- Up to three (3) community representatives will be appointed to the committee who are voting members.

The following nomination forms and supporting letters of reference have been received for the position of Community Representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee:

- Shelley Gilbert - St. Vincent de Paul Society-Appendix A
- Leone Strilec - St. Catharines Diocesan Council for Development & Peace-Appendix B
- Heather Pyke - Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) - Appendix C

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the appointment of the following community members to serve as Community Representatives on the NCPIC for the term of 2015-2016:

- Shelley Gilbert - St. Vincent de Paul Society - Appendix A
- Leone Strilec - St. Catharines Diocesan Council for Development & Peace - Appendix B
- Heather Pyke - Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) - Appendix C

---

Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education  
Presented by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education  
Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer  
Date: September 29, 2015



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



Application for Community Representative  
Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee 2015-2016

Date: AUGUST 12 2015  
 Name: Shelley Gilbert  
 Address: 208 Dylkert St  
 Phone No. 905-329-8568  
 Agency/Organization: Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Brief Biography: Been involved with Society of Saint Vincent de Paul for over 20 years. I have been involved at different levels of Society of Saint Vincent de Paul. Also a community Representative at St. Anthony School and Denis Morris High School.  
I am on the Executive for the Ozanam Centre (soup kitchen).  
I attend St. Mary of the Assumption regularly and an active volunteer at the church. Also one of the community Rep for NPIC for 2014-2015  
For more information

Please send to: Catholic Education Centre  
 427 Rice Road  
 Welland, ON  
 L3C 7C1  
 Attention: Yvonne Anderson  
 or e-mail [yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com](mailto:yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com)

Complete applications received by 4:00 p.m. EST. on Thursday, September 10, 2015 will be considered.

August 27, 2015

Dear Fr. Paul MacNeil:

Please allow this letter to serve as a reference for Shelley Gilbert who has expressed a desire to be a member of the Niagara Parent Involvement Committee.

I have known Shelley for close to twenty years and have come to know her to be a very faith-filled and responsible community-minded individual. Shelley has been actively involved with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul for over twenty years and has filled many positions within the Society. She has been the President of the St. Mary of the Assumption Parish Conference, President of the St. Catharines Particular Council, Vice President of the Niagara Central Council and member of the National Annual General Assembly Committee and most recently was elected for the position of Central Council President. With each of these roles Shelly has invested countless hours and has done so in a positive and professional manner. She has always been eager to contribute in every possible way to assisting our neighbours in need.

Shelley is also a very active member of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish. She has been a member of the Parish Pastoral Council and is presently a member of the Benevolent and Caring Committee. In addition to these roles she has made time on numerous occasions to helping the youth of the parish. Shelley is also a member of the St. Anthony School Parent Council.

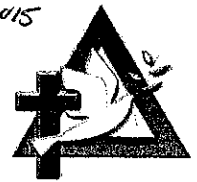
Needless to say, I believe that Shelley would be a valuable member of the Niagara Parent Involvement Committee. She would bring to her role, enthusiasm, a professional attitude and an eagerness to bring about necessary changes if warranted.

Should you wish to speak to me further please do not hesitate to contact me at 905-684-4784 (home) or 289-241-2004(cell).

Sincerely,

Louise Librock  
Past President, St. Catharines Central Council  
Society of St. Vincent de Paul

*Received Aug. 31/2015*



Application for Community Representative  
Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee 2015-2016

Date: August 10, 2015  
 Name: Leone Strilec  
 Address: 4-6753 O'Neil St. N.F. L2J1N3.  
 Phone No. 905 356 3908  
 Agency/Organization: St. Catharines Diocesan Council for Development and Peace

Brief Biography: \_\_\_\_\_

- Retired teacher - 3 yrs SCOEP, 20 yrs Saint Michael Catholic High School - Religious Ed., Social Sciences.
- Study trips to Grenada, El Salvador, Rwanda, Israel
- Volunteer for more than 16 years with Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Volunteer in the store and on the board of 10,000 Villages - NOTL.
- Education Co ordinator for St. Catharines Diocesan Council for Development and Peace

Please send to: Catholic Education Centre  
 427 Rice Road  
 Welland, ON  
 L3C 7C1  
**Attention: Yvonne Anderson**  
 or e-mail [yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com](mailto:yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com)

Complete applications received by 4:00 p.m. EST. on Thursday, September 10, 2015 will be considered.



August 10, 2015  
5701 MacPherson Cres  
Niagara Falls, ON  
L2J 1Z9

Attention: Yvonne Anderson  
Catholic Education Centre  
427 Rice Road  
Welland, ON L3C 7C1

On behalf of the St Catharines Diocesan Council for Development and Peace, I would like to recommend Leone Strilec as a community representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee. As a retired teacher with Niagara Catholic, Leone is familiar with the philosophy of the school board and the workings of the Parent Involvement Committee. Since her retirement, she has been active with the diocesan council of Development and Peace as our education co-ordinator, working closely with the high school chaplains and students on our annual education campaign. As such, she is in an ideal position to represent the community on the Parent Involvement Committee for 2015-16.

Sincerely,  
Frank Fohr, Co-chair  
St Catharines Diocesan Council for Development and Peace

---

## Anderson, Yvonne

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**From:** Leone Strilec <lstrilec@cogeco.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 08, 2015 10:44 AM  
**To:** Anderson, Yvonne  
**Subject:** Re: Application for community rep on NCPIC

Hi Yvonne;

Thanks for letting me know.

I had some issues with my home voice mail while I was on holiday. I am hoping they are cleared up now that I am home.

Leone

On Sep 8, 2015, at 10:34 AM, Anderson, Yvonne <[yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com](mailto:yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com)> wrote:

Good morning Leone,

I am in receipt of your application and had left a message on the phone number provided to confirm receipt on August 17, 2015.

I apologize that you did not receive the message.

Your application will be presented to the Board on Tuesday, September 29, 2015.

I will be in-touch on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 to confirm your position as Community Representative on the NCPIC.

The first NCPIC meeting for 2015-2016 will take place on November 19, 2015 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

I look forward to meeting you.

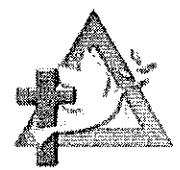
If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Yvonne

---

**From:** Leone Strilec [<mailto:lstrilec@cogeco.ca>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 08, 2015 10:28 AM  
**To:** Anderson, Yvonne  
**Subject:** Application for community rep on NCPIC

Hi Yvonne;



Application for Community Representative  
Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee 2015-2016

Date: Sept 21, 2015

Name: Heather Pyke

Address: 25 Donlea Drive Port Colborne, ON L3K4W8

Phone No. 905-401-9393

Agency/Organization: ONTARIO Assoc. of Parents in Catholic Education

Brief Biography:

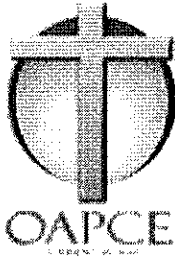
Current VP of OAPPE and President of Institute for Catholic Education. Several years of experience sitting on Catholic School councils and dedicated to the preservation of publically funded Catholic Education in Ontario.

Business Manager - Prime Way Companies Ltd

BACS, MA Speech Communication

Please send to: Catholic Education Centre  
427 Rice Road  
Welland, ON  
L3C 7C1  
Attention: Yvonne Anderson  
or e-mail [yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com](mailto:yvonne.anderson@ncdsb.com)

Complete applications received by 4:00 p.m. EST. on Thursday, September 10, 2015 will be considered.



September 21, 2015

Ms. Lea Ann Forsyth-Sells  
Superintendent of Education  
NCDSB  
Welland, Ontario

Dear Lea Ann,

On behalf of the Board of Directors for the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education I am very pleased to nominate Heather Pyke, Vice President (OAPCE) for the position of “community representative” on NCPIC.

Heather brings to the NCPIC table a wealth of provincial education knowledge and Catholic education partnership knowledge. Heather is an active member of the OAPCE team and represents the Board of Directors for example at the Institute of Catholic Education (ICE) and the Minister of Education Partnership Table.

Heather is not only provincially active but a very active community volunteer in the Niagara region. NCPIC will be well represented by Heather as their community representative.

Heather’s commitment to Catholic education is one of active participation in her school, region, and province; encompassing the foundation of this great gift of publicly funded Catholic education in Ontario, that being the home, school and church!

Sincerely,

*Brian*

Brian C. Evoy  
OAPCE President

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

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

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Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education  
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 29, 2015



## **REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

### **STAFF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

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#### **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 so as to minimize disruptions to the myriad services provided within our Niagara Catholic community.

The following is a listing of activities occurring during the period September 8, 2015 through October 27, 2015.

#### **Thursday, September 3, 2015 and Thursday, September 10, 2015**

*Safe Management Group (SMG) Full Course Certificate Training for Selected Staff*

- Special Education Staff completed day 1 and day 2 of the Safe Management Group Training for selected participants.

#### **Tuesday, September 22, 2015**

*Understanding the needs of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students Workshop*

- Educational Resource Teachers (ERT's) and regular Classroom Teachers, who will be working with deaf or hard of hearing students in their schools during the 2015–16 school year, are invited to attend one of two workshop sessions available on Tuesday, September 22, 2015 held in the Father Burns csc Board Room at the Catholic Education Centre.
- Ron Foster, Resource Services-Outreach Programs Provincial Schools, together with a Niagara Catholic team of Teachers of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will be presenting on:
  - o hearing loss / the audiogram
  - o FM systems in the classroom
  - o academic and social implications of a student's hearing loss in the classroom.
  - o strategies and accommodations that are necessary to meet the needs of students who are deaf or hard of hearing.
  - o how the classroom teacher collaborates with the teachers of the deaf

#### **Wednesday, September 23, 2015**

*Travel Thursdays (2015 – 2016)*

- Travel Thursdays is intended to allow our CEC colleagues, by virtue of their active presence in our schools during "business hours," to better understand how they operate and therefore become even more effective in their respective roles at the CEC, viz., supporting school-based staff in providing exemplary Catholic Education for all of our students. The program will begin effective, Wednesday, September 23, 2015 and hopefully will grow in popularity and prominence to become another key element in how the Niagara Catholic Family supports one another.

**Friday, October 2, 2015***School Secretaries Synervoice Safe Arrival Training (Secretary - Group 1)*

- Student Information and Administrative Services together with Education Technology is providing training for all secretaries related to the new Synervoice application. This is the first training out of three being provided by the board. Subsequent training sessions are being held for secretaries on October 23, 2015 and November 27, 2015.

**Friday, October 9, 2015***Elementary & Secondary Professional Activity Day*

- The primary venue for all elementary and secondary school staff is their home school, except for colleagues as having to attend specific training sessions provided by Student Achievement or Special Education Staff.
- As mandated by the Ministry of Education, the primary focus for the PA Day is on implementing strategies to improve and/or close the gaps in student achievement in numeracy.
- A portion of the day in both the elementary and secondary panels will focus on numeracy.
- Student Achievement, Special Education and Research, Assessment and Evaluation Departments are offering a series of professional development resources to be utilized in the other times allotted for professional development (PD Sessions).
- Employee groups with specified training sessions, on October 9, 2015:
  - o ELKP Teachers will participate in Numeracy (½ day) and Zones of Regulation (½ day) training on October 9, 2015.
  - o New employees identified as need the full Behaviour Management Systems (BMS) Course (BMS) will be located at Alexander Kuska for the day.
  - o Early Childhood Educators (ECE) will participate in Numeracy (½ day) and Behaviour Management Systems (BMS) refresher training (½ day).
  - o Elementary Educational Resource Teachers (ERT's) and English as a Second Language Teachers (ESL) will participate in a ½ day STEP Assessment and Many Roots, Many Voices training session.
  - o All French as Second Language (FSL) Teachers will participate in a session entitled "Thrive don't just survive in the FSL classroom!" at Saint Michael Catholic High School (Theatre).
  - o Elementary Itinerant Arts Teachers will participate in a full day session being held at the Brock Learning Lab and Centre for Multiliteracies (130 Lockhart Drive, St. Catharines, ON L2T 1W5).
  - o All Child and Youth Workers will attend professional development sessions at the Catholic Education Centre (Father Kenneth csc Burns Board Room).
  - o School Secretaries will participate in a School Cash online webinar at their home school.

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

Prepared by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education  
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development

Presented by: Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education

Approved by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 29, 2015

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: FINANCIAL REPORTS  
UNAUDITED INTERIM STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS  
AS AT JULY 31, 2015**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at July 31, 2015, as presented.

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Prepared by: Rosa Rocca, Controller of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 29, 2015





## **REPORT TO THE BOARD SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

### **UNAUDITED INTERIM STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**

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#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In accordance with the Monthly Financial Reports Policy Statement, please be advised that a summarized Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at July 31, 2015 will be presented to the Trustees at the Board Meeting. (See Appendix A)

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

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Unaudited Interim Statement of Operations as at July 31, 2015, as presented.

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Prepared by: Rosa Rocca, Controller of Business and Financial Services

Presented by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services

Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: September 29, 2015



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
JUNE 19, 2015 LETTER – CONTINUING EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT**

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June 19, 2015

To The Chair of the NCDSB Trustees:

Dear Father MacNeil,

We are writing to inform you of a recent decision made by the Department of Continuing Education that will have a significant negative effect on our learners and consequently on our programs.

The recent decision to merge St. Thomas and St. John Adult Learning Centres is a positive step that will promote the Board's goal to create Community Hubs as well as increase exposure and collaboration between the ESL and Credit Departments.

However, as a result of this decision, The Joanne Bonomi Playroom, which houses the child minding services at St. John Centre, will be closed in September after 26 years of providing quality care to the children of ESL learners. The apparent reason was given as a lack of space as a result of the merger. We firmly believe that closing the child minding program at St. John Centre will have an immediate negative effect on student enrolment in our program.

The Continuing Education Department addresses the educational needs of some of the most disenfranchised people in our community: adult learners who seek to improve their standing in life through obtaining their high school diplomas and newcomers to Canada, who have fled war, terrorism, and oppression of all kinds. All of these students face a wide range of obstacles in their goal of integrating successfully into our society. By closing the child minding centre, the Board is creating yet another barrier to these already compromised people.

A significant amount of students will no longer be able to attend classes at St. John Centre should this decision prevail. Although we recognize that our Board is in financial difficulty, there is a danger in making short term decisions that will have a long term negative effect. A child minding service would go a long way to making the St. John and St. Thomas merger an attractive destination for Adult Learners now, and into the future.

We would like to ask you to advocate on our behalf with the Board to restore the child minding service at St. John Centre. We ask also that the Board find a way to accommodate a child minding service without reducing the number of Adult Credit or ESL classes. Although space at St. John Centre may be tight, surely our learners' children deserve a part of it.

Thank you,

### **ESL Instructors**

Colleen Abbey  
Rhonda Baker  
Hughena Bufalino  
Jodi Croteau  
Jim Hutchinson  
Patrick Makubuya  
Michael Nassius  
Kate Sullivan

June Arbeau  
Marni Barber  
Lynn Campbell  
Brandie Glasgow-Spanos  
Joanna Koutroulakis  
Nalini Martin  
Krista O'Reilly  
Amber Velasquez

Natasha Atoragalian  
Patricia Bogucki  
Miriam Cooper  
Deb Groenveld  
Erika Lee  
Barbara Nassius  
Tassos Spanos

### **Support Staff**

Kim Campbell  
Barb Swift

Fausta Mascia

Sherry Sicard

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
JUNE 29, 2015 DOCUMENT FROM REAL WOMEN OF CANADA**

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**From:** "Real Women Toronto Office" <[realwcto@realwomenofcanada.ca](mailto:realwcto@realwomenofcanada.ca)>

**To:** <[macneil65@gmail.com](mailto:macneil65@gmail.com)>

**Subject:** FW: Constitutional Position of Catholic School Boards in Regard to the Ontario Sex-Education Curriculum

**Date:** July 14, 2015 at 12:51:13 PM EDT

To: Chair, Father Paul MacNeil  
Niagara Catholic District School Board

Dear Chair:

**Re: Constitutional Position of Catholic School Boards in Regard to the Ontario Sex-Education Curriculum**

There is a concern that legal advice recently forwarded to some Catholic School Trustees may not accurately reflect the legal position of Catholic denominational school rights in Ontario.

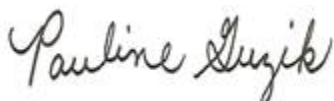
Attached is an alternative legal opinion which provides an extensive review of the constitutional law on Catholic denominational rights in Ontario.

Under the circumstances, due to these differences in legal opinion on this crucial issue, it is recommended that the Catholic School Trustees obtain independent legal counsel on these denominational rights.

I would respectfully request that you kindly distribute the attached opinion to all the trustees in your school board. Below we have also included the link to the document as posted on our website.

[CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARD IN REGARD TO THE ONTARIO SEX-EDUCATION CURRICULUM](#)

Sincerely,



Pauline Guzik  
National President  
REAL Women of Canada

National Office  
Box 8813 Station T  
Ottawa ON K1G 3J1  
Tel: 613-236-4001  
Fax: 613-236-7203  
Email: [realwcna@rogers.com](mailto:realwcna@rogers.com)

Toronto Office  
Tel: 905-787-0348  
905-731-5425  
Fax: 905-770-1117  
email: [realwcto@realwomenofCanada.ca](mailto:realwcto@realwomenofCanada.ca)  
[www.realwomenofcanada.ca](http://www.realwomenofcanada.ca)

## Constitutional Position of Catholic School Boards in Regard to the Ontario Sex-Education Curriculum

C. Gwendolyn Landolt  
National Vice-President  
REAL Women of Canada

June 29, 2015

I have now had the opportunity to review all the relevant material on this critical issue of the proposed Ontario sex-education curriculum. My conclusions are as follows:

1. I would be hesitant to accept any conclusion that only the Catholic School Boards have the sole decision-making authority on the sex education curriculum. Rather, it seems, there are other members of the Catholic establishment who would also be involved in such a decision. This would include the Institute for Catholic Education (ICE), Bishops, Directors of Education, Superintendents, as well as the Catholic School Trustees. Also, in 2014, a controversial Divisional Court case *Erazo v. Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board* provided relief to a family, who wished to withdraw their children from religious studies, Mass and religious retreats at a Catholic high school in Brampton. This decision relates to the exemption of non-Catholic students attending Catholic Schools as provided by the *Education Act*. The *Education Act* also, however, describes schools as “communities”. All children are part of this Catholic “community” and are expected to participate in the life of the community, including in the school’s curriculum, provided always that the school’s curriculum is based on a Catholic perspective. If the curriculum in the Catholic Schools fails to provide a Catholic perspective, then Catholic parents have the right to withdraw their children from the curriculum, and to challenge the curriculum’s acceptance in the Catholic school.

This right was apparent in *Daly et al v. Attorney General of Ontario* (1999) when individual separate school supporters, together with the trustees, brought an application before the Ontario Court of Appeal. In its Judgment, the Court refers to the aim of a Catholic school as being the creation of a community of believers with a distinct sense of the Catholic culture.

2. Both Premier Wynne and Education Minister Sandals have also indicated that parents can withdraw their children from aspects of the program they found problematic. It is significant, however, that the latter have stated that some aspects of the new curriculum cannot be opted out, since they deal with human rights issues and equality, such as homosexual rights, same-sex families, etc. In other words, they claim, children cannot be exempted from these so-called aspects of the curriculum, i.e. human rights provisions (National Post, February 23, 2015). In this context, Catholic boards have played a “wait and see” approach.



3. It would appear, however, that the statements by the provincial officials prohibiting the withdrawal of children on some human rights matters, are in conflict with the constitutional right of Catholic schools. This is because defining an issue as a “human right” does not mean that these issues must be accepted by the Catholic Boards, if they are in conflict with Catholic teachings and offend its “distinct sense of the Catholic culture”.
4. The *Ontario Education Act* was amended in 2006 (when Kathleen Wynne was the Minister of Education) to provide that the Minister may establish policies, guidelines and standard with respect to equivalent learning and require boards to develop and offer equivalent learning opportunities to their pupils.

This section also goes on to provide that the Minister may designate . . . programs, courses of study or other activities that are approved for the purpose of equivalent learning.

This provision appears to give extensive jurisdiction to the Minister as to whether a course is “equivalent” or not to that which was provided by the Ministry. In other words, any sex education course developed by the Catholic School Boards could be subject to the approval of the Minister.

5. This latter provision appears to conflict with Sections 1(4) and 1(4.1) of the *Education Act* which provides that the *Education Act* cannot adversely affect any right or privilege guaranteed by Section 93 of the *Constitution Act* (1867) which provides as follows:

**93.** In and for each Province the Legislature may exclusively make Laws in relation to Education, subject and according to the following Provisions:

- (1) Nothing in any such Law shall prejudicially affect any Right or Privilege with respect to Denominational Schools which any Class of Persons have by Law in the Province at the Union;
- (2) All the Powers, Privileges, and Duties at the Union by Law conferred and imposed in Upper Canada on the Separate Schools and School Trustees of the Queen’s Roman Catholic Subjects shall be and the same are hereby extended to the Dissentient Schools of the Queen’s Protestant and Roman Catholic Subjects in Quebec;
- (3) Where in any Province a System of Separate or Dissentient Schools exists by Law at the Union or is thereafter established by the Legislature of the Province, an Appeal shall lie to the Governor General in Council from any Act or Decision of any Provincial Authority affecting any Right or Privilege of the Protestant or Roman Catholic Minority of the Queen’s Subjects in relation to Education;
- (4) In case any such Provincial Law as from Time to Time seems to the Governor General in Council requisite for the due Execution of the Provisions of this Section is not made, or in case any Decision of the Governor General in Council on any

Appeal under this Section is not duly executed by the proper Provincial Authority in that Behalf, then and in every such Case, and as far only as the Circumstances of each Case require, the Parliament of Canada may make remedial Laws for the due Execution of the Provisions of this Section and of any Decision of the Governor General in Council under this Section.

Further, Section 29 of the Charter of Rights provides that there can be no abrogation or derogation from any rights or privileges guaranteed under the Constitution of Canada in respect of “denominational, separate or dissentient schools”.

The recent *Loyola High School v. Quebec (Attorney General)* 2015 decision of the Supreme Court of Canada dealt with a similar issue of ministerial approval of an “equivalent” program from a Catholic high school, in respect of the implementation of the Quebec Ethics and Religious Culture curriculum. That case stands for the proposition that a private Catholic school retains the right to teach its own faith from its own Catholic perspective, rather than some purported “neutral” perspective, in accordance with the freedom of religion provisions in the Charter of Rights. This decision relates to a private Catholic School, but the principle is the same in regard to public funded Catholic Schools, in regard to freedom of religion, and is consistent with and confirms denominational rights pursuant to S.93 of the *Constitution Act (1867)*.

Consequently, I would be of the opinion that the Catholic Schools can not be compelled to implement the Ontario sex education curriculum.

It is noted that this conclusion is contrary to the opinion dated June 2, 2015, provided by the lawyer, Nadya Tymochenko, of the law firm of Miller Thomson directed to the Halton Catholic District School Board. In this latter opinion, Ms. Tymochenko stated that the Minister of Education, pursuant to Section 230(a) of the *Education Act* could issue a Directive to the Catholic Board to comply with the sex education program and, if failing to do so, this could result in a “an Order of Cabinet vesting control of the school board in the Ministry of Education”.

I would strongly disagree with this latter conclusion for the constitutional reasons stated above, as well as for the problem that would arise should the Ministry try to do so, as this would give rise to perceived intolerance and religious insensitivity.

The opinion of Ms. Tymochenko which was directed to the Halton Catholic District School Board, also concluded *inter alia* that parents need only be “consulted”, but cannot be a part of the decision on the sex-education curriculum. This conclusion is not supported by the case law.

In view of these questionable conclusions by Ms. Tymochenko, I would recommend that the Ontario Catholic School Trustees obtain independent legal counsel on this matter.

## Conclusion

It would be my opinion that the Catholic School Boards are not required under the Constitution to implement those parts of the Physical Education & Health (which includes sex-education) curriculum that are contrary to Catholic teachings.

If the Ministry of Education should try to force the issue (which I very much doubt it would do), the Catholic authorities could protect themselves by way of seeking an injunction, or, interestingly enough, follow the two-step remedial procedure provided in Section 93 of the *Constitution Act 1867* which is as follows:

- (a) Appealing this decision to the Ontario Cabinet (Governor General in Council);  
and
- (b) If the Cabinet does not duly execute the provisions of Section 93 of the *Constitution Act 1867*, then the matter be referred to the Parliament of Canada to make remedial laws for the execution of Section 93 of the *Constitution Act 1867*.

It is doubtful, however, that a federal cabinet would want to be drawn into such a controversial issue.

As stated above, however, I very much believe it would not come to this. The Catholic Boards hold a very strong position under Constitutional Law.

C. Gwendolyn Landolt  
National Vice-President  
REAL Women of Canada

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
JULY 13, 2015 LETTER FROM MAYOR PAT DARTE**

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July 13, 2015

**BY E-MAIL ONLY: [john.crocco@ncdsb.com](mailto:john.crocco@ncdsb.com)**

Mr. John Crocco  
Director of Education and Secretary-Treasurer  
Niagara Catholic District School Board  
427 Rice Road  
Welland, ON L3C 7C1

Dear Mr. Crocco:

We understand you have been named the 2015 Canadian superintendent of the year through the Canadian Association of School System Administrators and wish to send our sincere congratulations on receiving such a notable recognition.

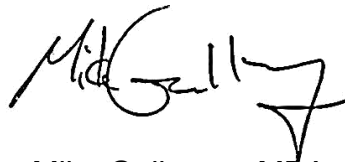
We have appreciated and value your leadership with the Niagara Catholic District School Board. It is evident you truly care for the students and families within your schools, and we look forward to continuing to work with you and your Board in bringing quality education to Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Congratulations again on this achievement and all the best for the future.

Sincerely,



Pat Dart  
Lord Mayor



Mike Galloway, MBA, CMO  
Chief Administrative Officer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
JULY 16, 2015 LETTER FROM CITY OF THOROLD**

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July 16, 2015

Niagara Catholic District School Board  
427 Rice Road  
Welland, ON L3C 7C1

Attention: Father Paul MacNeil, Chair, Board of Trustees

Dear Father MacNeil:

**Re: Niagara Catholic District School Board Proposed Education Development Charge**

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Please be advised Thorold City Council, at its July 14, 2015 meeting, adopted the following resolution:

*WHEREAS on May 13, 2015 the Corporate Services Committee of the Region of Niagara considered Niagara Catholic District School Board's education development charge proposal;*

*AND WHEREAS at its meeting of June 11, 2015 Regional Council approved the following recommendations:*

- 1. That the recommended input on the Niagara Catholic District School Board's (NCDSB) proposed Education Development Charge attached as Appendix 1 to Region of Niagara Report CSD 56-2015 be approved and forwarded to the Board of Trustees for the NCDSB; and*
- 2. That a copy of this report be circulated to the Councils of the local area municipalities to seek support of the principles outlined in Appendix 1.*

*NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Thorold, having reviewed the principles outlined in Appendix 1 of Region of Niagara Report CSD 56-2015 regarding the proposed Education Development Charge, agrees that it be received and filed.*

**CARRIED**

...2

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**City of Thorold**

P.O. Box 1044, 3540 Schmon Parkway, Thorold, Ontario L2V 4A7


[www.thorold.com](http://www.thorold.com)

Tel: 905-227-6613

Page 2

Re: Niagara Catholic District School Board Proposed Education Development Charge

Yours truly,



Donna Delvecchio, AMCT  
Deputy City Clerk

DD:cd

ec: F. Fabiano, Chief Administrative Officer  
S. Daniels, City Clerk

Regional Municipality of Niagara



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
AUGUST 14, 2015 LETTER FROM MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

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**Ministry of Education**

Minister

Mowat Block  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

**Ministère de l'Éducation**

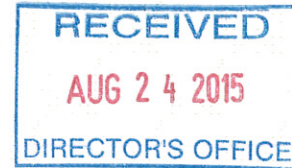
Ministre

Édifice Mowat  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



August 14, 2015

Mr. John Crocco  
Director of Education  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Niagara Catholic District School Board  
427 Rice Road  
Welland ON L3C 7C1



*John*  
Dear Mr. Crocco,

It is a pleasure that to congratulate you on receiving the Canadian Association of School System Administrators (CASSA) EXL National Award, and being named the 2015 Canadian Superintendent of the Year.

I am delighted that your wealth of experience and commitment to student achievement has been recognized on the national stage. Your leadership and dedication to Catholic education have set an example for your colleagues and the communities that you serve. You have exemplified excellence in your field, and are most deserving of this prestigious honour.

I look forward to continuing our work together on behalf of Ontario's students and their families as we move forward with our plan for education in Ontario, and for the new and exciting opportunities the future will bring.

Once again, my sincere congratulations, and best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Liz Sandals".

Liz Sandals  
Minister

c. Father Paul MacNeil, Chair  
Niagara Catholic District School Board



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
OCSTA 2015 FALL REGIONAL MEETING DRAFT AGENDA**

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Ontario Catholic School  
Trustees' Association

**2015 FALL REGIONAL MEETINGS**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

9:45-10:00 A.M. REGISTRATION (*Coffee & Muffins*)

10:00 WELCOME – *OCSTA President, Kathy Burtnik & Chair of Host Board*  
GATHERING PRAYER

10:10 FAITH DEVELOPMENT – *Brian O'Sullivan, Director of Catholic Education*

- **Opening Doors of Mercy – Presentation & Group Discussion**  
Pope Francis has declared 2016 a “Holy Year of Mercy” as a way for the Catholic Church to “make more evident its mission to be a witness of mercy.” The theme for Catholic Education Week 2016, *Opening Doors of Mercy*, combines the theme of “mercy” and the act of “opening doors” to reconciliation and forgiveness.

11:00 PRESIDENT’S REPORT AND Q & A – *Kathy Burtnik*

- An overview of the current issues in education being addressed by OCSTA.

**11:45 LUNCH, INFORMAL DISCUSSION & NETWORKING**

12:30 P.M. BOARD PRESENTATIONS – *Facilitator: Nick Milanetti, Executive Director*

- **Community Hubs**
  - *An overview of Community Hubs operating within the board*
  - *Observations, Best Practices, Opportunities, Challenges*
- **Challenges Faced by Boards in Establishing Budgets**
  - *Was it necessary to change delivery of programs?*
  - *Were creative measures required and what were they?*
  - *What type of consultation process was followed?*
  - *Was it necessary to draw on your reserves?*

Boards are asked to prepare a 6-minute overview on the above topics to be delivered at the meeting by the Chair or designate.

**Please bring copies to share with the participants.**

**1:30 BREAK**

1:45 FACILITATED DISCUSSION – *Nick Milanetti*

- How is Provincial Curriculum Adapted for use in Catholic schools?

2:45 CLOSING REMARKS & ADJOURNMENT – *Kathy Burtnik*

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE  
OCSTA CATHOLIC TRUSTEES' PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR – JANUARY 15 & 16, 2016**

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Ontario Catholic School  
Trustees' Association

September 25, 2015

**MEMO TO:** Trustees, Directors of Education, and Student Trustees  
- Catholic District School Boards

**CC:** Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants  
- Catholic District School Boards

**FROM:** Margaret Binns, Director of Administrative Services

**RE:** **OCSTA Catholic Trustees' Professional Development Seminar – January 15 & 16, 2016**

**ATTACHMENT:** Preliminary Program

**Catholic Trustees' Professional Development Seminar – January 15 – 16, 2016**  
**Theme: Speaking Together with One Voice**

We are pleased to invite you to attend OCSTA's 2016 Catholic Trustees' Professional Development Seminar, which will be held January 15 – 16 at the Hilton Mississauga Meadowvale (6750 Mississauga Road / Mississauga, ON L5N 2L3). This event offers the opportunity for OCSTA members to:

- **Explore** the unique partnerships that contribute to the distinctive strength of Catholic Education in Ontario;
- **Complete** two of the newest modules in the OESC Trustee Professional Development (limited spots are available);
- **Celebrate** Mass as a provincial community of Catholic school board leaders; and
- **Network** with trustee peers from across the province.

**Registration Information**

**Early Bird Fee** (until December 4, 2015)  
\$327.70 (\$290.00 + \$37.70 HST)  
**Full payment must be received in the OCSTA office by this date.**

**Regular Fee** (after December 4, 2015)  
\$350.30 (\$310.00 + \$40.30 HST)

**Student Trustee Fee**  
\$226.00 (\$200.00 + \$26.00 HST)

**Spouse/Guest Dinner Ticket**  
\$84.75 (\$75.00 + \$ 9.75 HST)

The delegate registration fee includes meals and admission to all sessions. Non-registrants attending Friday night's dinner must purchase a dinner ticket.

Please take note of the cancellation policy on the next page.

Registration may be completed online by clicking [here](#).

Please make cheques payable to:

OCSTA  
Attention: Margaret Binns  
1804 – 20 Eglinton Avenue West, Box 2064  
Toronto, ON M4R 1K8

## CANCELLATION POLICY

### *Registration Fees:*

- **Until December 11, 2015** – full refund
- **December 12 to 18, 2015** – 50% of the registration fee will be charged.
- **After December 18, 2015** – no refund, under any circumstances, will be issued. Substitutions are welcomed.

### *Spouse/Guest Dinner Ticket:*

A full refund will be issued for cancellations received by **January 4, 2016**. No refunds, under any circumstances, will be issued after that date. Substitutions are welcomed.

All cancellations must be submitted to Camille Martin by email at [cmartin@ocsta.on.ca](mailto:cmartin@ocsta.on.ca) or by fax at 416-932-9459 within the specified timelines.

## HOTEL REGISTRATION

### *Room Rates:*

The Hilton Mississauga Meadowvale has set aside a block of rooms for delegates and guests attending the OCSTA 2016 Catholic Trustees' Professional Development Seminar, starting at the discounted rate of **\$131.00 + applicable taxes**. Boards are asked to make room reservations directly with the hotel by calling 905-821-1981, or on-line at the following link:

<https://aws.passkey.com/event/14087190/owner/13907871/home>

When booking, indicate to the hotel that the reservation is for an OCSTA delegate in order to secure the group discount rate.

To secure this rate, **rooms must be booked by December 24, 2015**. After this date the rate will be provided on the basis of availability.

If you require additional information, please contact Camille Martin at OCSTA at 416-932-9460, ext. 234 / [cmartin@ocsta.on.ca](mailto:cmartin@ocsta.on.ca).

**If you have any special dietary needs (not preferences), please email Margaret Binns at [mbinns@ocsta.on.ca](mailto:mbinns@ocsta.on.ca), by no later than January 4, 2016.**





<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	<b><u>Concurrent Workshops</u></b>
North Studio 1	◆ <b>OESC Trustee Module: “Developing a Code of Conduct for Trustees”</b> <i>Speaker to be confirmed</i>
North Studio 2	◆ <b>OESC Trustee Module: “Social Media for Trustees”</b> <i>Sharon McMillan, Director of Communications, OCSTA</i>
South Studio 1	◆ <b>“The Standards of Practice for the Teaching Profession”</b> <i>Chantal Bélisle, Director of Investigations and Hearings, OCT</i>
South Studio 2	◆ <b>“Family Life Curriculum”</b> <i>Michael Pautler, Executive Director of ICE</i>
<b>2:30 p.m.</b>	<b><u>Plenary: Addressing Gender Dysphoria in Schools</u></b>
Graydon ABC	<b>Panelists:</b> <i>Doug Lauson, Director, Lauson &amp; Associates Business Services</i> <i>Stephanie Young, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</i> <i>Dr. Moira McQueen, Director, Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute</i>
<b>3:45 p.m</b>	<b><u>Concurrent Workshops (repeated)</u></b>
North Studio 1	◆ <b>OESC Trustee Module: “Developing a Code of Conduct for Trustees”</b> <i>Speaker to be confirmed</i>
North Studio 2	◆ <b>OESC Trustee Module: “Social Media for Trustees”</b> <i>Sharon McMillan, Director of Communications, OCSTA</i>
South Studio 1	◆ <b>“The Standards of Practice for the Teaching Profession”</b> <i>Chantal Bélisle, Director of Investigations and Hearings, OCT</i>
South Studio 2	◆ <b>“Family Life Curriculum”</b> <i>Michael Pautler, Executive Director of ICE</i>
<b>4:45 p.m.</b>	<b>Meeting Adjourned</b>
<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Reception (Cash Bar)</b>
Greenwich & Compass	
<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Buffet Dinner (Cash Bar)</b>
Hazel McCallion Ballroom	

## Saturday, January 16

<b>7:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Breakfast</b>
Graydon ABC	
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Eucharistic Celebration</b>
Hazel McCallion Ballroom	<i>Father Pat Fitzpatrick, OCSTA Chaplain</i>
<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>“Community Hubs”</b>
Graydon ABC	<i>Karen Pitre, Special Advisor to the Premier on Community Hubs</i>
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Closing Remarks &amp; Adjournment</b>

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC – SEPTEMBER 15, 2015**

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Spotlight on  
**Niagara Catholic**  
Nurturing Souls & Building Minds

**September 26 2015**

**Welcome Back!**

The first week of school is now in the history books and we couldn't be more pleased with how well things have gone in our schools. Thank you to the many parents who sent us photos of their kids on the first day of school. We always love seeing their happy, smiling faces as they look forward to a new year filled with learning and growing in faith.



See more First Day of School photos on our [Facebook](#) page.

### **First Meeting of 2015-2016 School Year**

After a very busy summer at Niagara Catholic, Trustees and Senior Staff were back in the boardroom September 15, for the first meeting of the new academic year. This was the first meeting for our two new Niagara Catholic Student Trustees, Michaela Bodis from Lakeshore Catholic High School, and Aidan Harold from Notre Dame College School. This promises to be a very busy year for our students and staff, and we will keep you updated throughout the year in Showcase newsletters, and on our social media platforms.

### **Ombudsman Now Has Oversight of School Boards in Ontario**

Effective September 1, Ontario's Ombudsman may now receive complaints about public school boards.

Niagara Catholic recognizes that where there are people, there will be differing opinions; and sometimes those differing opinions become conflicts. We work very hard to ensure that any conflicts are resolved quickly and fairly.

This new provincial oversight is not intended to replace a Board's Complaints Resolution Process, but, rather, to ensure that the system in place is functioning properly. We encourage new parents to become familiar with our [Complaint Resolution Policy](#), and for parents who have been in the system to reacquaint themselves with it, to ensure that everyone we service is aware of the proper procedure for addressing complaints at the school and Board level.

### **Labour Negotiations Update**

As provincial negotiations continue with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), we were informed on September 10 that CUPE has begun a work-to-rule campaign. CUPE members include caretakers, secretaries, educational assistants, Facilities Services staff and other support workers. The Board does not expect this to be a disruption to student learning, programs and services.

Currently, provincial negotiations continue with CUPE and we remain optimistic that a settlement will be reached. We will continue to provide updates on our Board website and in this newsletter as new information becomes available.

### **Capital Projects Update**

It was a busy summer across Niagara Catholic, as Facilities Services completed more than 100 projects throughout the system worth \$8 million, including a \$5-million expansion and renovation at Lakeshore Catholic High School. Their focused work and commitment throughout the year ensures that all Niagara Catholic schools and sites are healthy and safe environments for our students, staff and visitors.

### **Reporting a Child's Absence? Changes are Coming**

Last spring, Niagara Catholic piloted a new way of reporting student absences at our school, through the Synvoice system, in two Catholic elementary schools and two Catholic high schools. This is the system used to contact parents at home with important messages from the school or Board.

We will implement this system throughout the system this fall, with the plan to have all schools using the Safe Arrival System before the end of 2015. The Safe Arrival System makes it possible for parents to report planned absences, and to ensure that unplanned absences due to illness are reported in a timely fashion. Parents and guardians will have the option of calling a number or logging onto a website to report their child's absence, which will be recorded by the school. An app is also available so parents can report absences while on the go. Absences that have not been reported will generate a phone call, text message or email to parents to advise them their child was not in class as scheduled.

Your child's school will advise you when the new Safe Arrival System will be implemented and will provide you with a handy card with the website and phone information.

### **Join Us!**

Once again, Niagara Catholic will be out in full force on September 26, as part of the Niagara Wine Festival Grande Parade. This is one of Niagara's biggest civic celebrations and we're pleased to say that this year, our Niagara Catholic elementary contingent will join our three St. Catharines Catholic high schools as one very large entry in the 2015 Grande Parade.

If you're down at the parade, please feel free to give us a big cheer as you see us walk by.

### **Follow us!**

To ensure you stay connected with Niagara Catholic news and events, please be sure to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter, and check our website often for updates and breaking news. It's the best way to stay in the know.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS – OCTOBER 2015**

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# OCTOBER 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> WE Day—Toronto	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> World Teachers' Day	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> SEAC Meeting	<b>8</b> Director's Inspiration Award and Mass—Our Lady of the Scapular	<b>9</b> Elementary and Secondary P.A. Day	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Thanksgiving Day	<b>13</b> SAL Meeting CW Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Pilgrimage Sunday	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Policy Committee Board Meeting	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Halloween

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
ONTARIO COLLEGE OF TEACHERS PROFESSIONAL  
ADVISORY DUTY TO REPORT**

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# Professional Advisory

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## Duty to Report

The Council of the Ontario College of Teachers approved this professional advisory on June 4, 2015.

This advisory applies to all members of the Ontario College of Teachers, including, but not limited to, teachers, consultants, vice-principals, principals, supervisory officers, directors of education and those working in non-school-board positions.

Ontario  
College of  
Teachers  
Ordre des  
enseignantes et  
des enseignants  
de l'Ontario

## Duty to Report

Professional advisories inform professional judgment and practice. The Council of the Ontario College of Teachers approved this advisory on June 4, 2015 to remind members that they have a duty to report abuse and/or neglect of children and youth. This may be read in conjunction with previous advisories such as *Professional Misconduct Related to Sexual Abuse and Sexual Misconduct*, and *Safety in Learning Environments: A Shared Responsibility*.

## Introduction

Each of us has a responsibility to protect children and youth from harm. As a professional educator working directly with students and supporting others who are, you have a legal and ethical duty to report to a children's aid society when you have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection.

Ontario's *Child and Family Services Act* (CFSA) requires those who perform professional or official duties with respect to children to report suspected child abuse where there are reasonable grounds. A child is anyone under 16 (or appears to be) or who is 16 or 17 and subject to a child protection order.

You don't have to be certain that a child may need protection. Suspicion on reasonable grounds – information that an average person, using normal and honest judgment would need to decide – is reason enough to report. You have to report to a children's aid society so that they can assess and determine what the child needs.

Do you notice when children and youth have unexplained injuries, they're not eating, they have poor hygiene or are falling asleep in class? These may be signs of family problems, abuse or neglect.

Do you know what prompts your duty to report? Do you know to whom you report? Do you know the consequences of not reporting?

This advisory will help to address those questions.

It applies to all Ontario Certified Teachers (OCT) at all times and includes teachers, consultants, vice-principals, principals, supervisory officers, directors of education and those working in non-school-board positions. Each has a different role. All share the responsibility for the protection of children and youth.

## What is abuse?

*“Abuse occurs when a child is hurt intentionally or when a parent or caregiver does not provide the protection a child needs. Physical and sexual abuse are often the most recognizable, but neglect and emotional abuse can be just as damaging.”*

The Ontario Association of  
Children's Aid Societies

The CFSA requires that you report suspicions of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and risk of harm to a children's aid society.

## Ethical Underpinnings

The College's *Ethical Standards for the Teaching Profession* and the *Standards of Practice for the Teaching Profession* provide moral and practical groundwork for this advice. Developed by College members and members of the public to guide and inform Ontario Certified Teachers, the standards – reflected in this advice and found on the College's website – inform your professional judgment.

The responsibility of Ontario Certified Teachers for student safety extends to their treatment of students during daily interactions. As a professional, it is your responsibility to always model behaviour that aligns with the *Standards of Practice for the Teaching Profession* and the *Ethical Standards for the Teaching Profession*. The ethical standards of care, respect, trust and integrity hold that members express their commitment to students' well-being and learning through positive influence, professional judgment and empathy in practice.

All professionals have a legal duty to report and an ethical and moral duty to take responsibility for carrying out the duties of their profession.

## Educational Context

- A provincial coroner’s investigation into the death of Jeffrey Baldwin from abuse, maltreatment, and neglect resulted in jury recommendations for a number of professionals, including doctors, police, firefighters and teachers. The coroner’s report<sup>1</sup> directs regulators, including the Ontario College of Teachers, to promote the duty to report and ensure that the legal obligations of teaching professionals are given adequate attention.
- In its accreditation role, the College requires that a program of professional education provide its students with knowledge of the teacher’s duty to report and the ability to recognize when a child may be in need of protection.

## Legal and Disciplinary Implications

- Under the CFSA, every person who performs professional or official duties with respect to children, including teachers, early childhood educators and principals, is liable on conviction to a fine of up to \$1,000 if they fail to report a suspicion based on information obtained in the course of their professional or official duties. (s. 72(4), CFSA)
- Under the Professional Misconduct Regulation, College members can be found guilty of professional misconduct if they fail to comply with duties under the *Child and Family Services Act*. (s. 1, para. 27)
- Employers who are aware or made aware of a member’s failure to make a report under the CFSA are required to report the failure to act to the College. (s 43, OCTA)
- Where a member reports his or her suspicions of abuse of a child by another member, the reporting member, if subject to the *Teaching Profession Act*, is required to provide the other member with a copy of the adverse report. A copy need not be provided where the adverse report concerns suspected sexual abuse of a student by the other member. (s. 18.(1)(b) under the regulation)

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1 Inquest Touching the Death of Jeffrey Baldwin – Jury Verdict and Recommendations, February 2014

## Advice to Members

Your duty to report is immediate. If you have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is in need of protection, report your suspicion, and the information on which it is based, forthwith to your local children’s aid society.

Your duty to report is direct. You cannot rely on anyone else to report on your behalf, nor can you delegate your legal duty. A supervisor cannot instruct you to do otherwise.

Your duty to report is ongoing. Even if you have reported previously, you must make a further report to a children’s aid society if you suspect the child still requires protection.

Your duty to report overrides concerns about confidentiality. You are still legally obliged to report if a student tells you something “in confidence.”

Once you have reasonable grounds to suspect abuse or neglect, your duty is to report not investigate. A children’s aid society will investigate.

Be aware of your employer’s policies and protocols and the advice of your professional associations.

Document your actions.

When in doubt about whether to make a report, call your local children’s aid society.

## Know Your Professional Responsibilities

### Know your obligations

- Everyone has a duty to protect children and a duty to report suspected child abuse or neglect, according to the CFSA.
- Become familiar with the legislation and your employer's policies and protocols.
- The duty to report supersedes all other obligations.
- You do not have to prove suspected abuse or neglect. Your report enables the children's aid society to investigate the information.
- You cannot be held liable for making a report as long as you have reasonable grounds for your suspicion and are not acting maliciously. (CFSA, s. 72 (7))

## A Framework for Action

### Recognize

- the signs of abuse and neglect
- children may not know their rights and what constitutes abuse and neglect
- your duty to report is initiated when you have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection. Abuse or neglect may include:
  - a child is hurt intentionally
  - a parent or caregiver does not adequately care for or protect the child or protect the child from others
  - a child has suffered emotional harm demonstrated by serious anxiety, depression, withdrawal, self-destructive or aggressive behavior or delayed development.
- not all symptoms of poverty constitute neglect. Poverty is a reality for many marginalized children and their families.
- child protection investigations may occur at school
- parents may approach you for information about a report. You must refer them to your school administrator or the local children's aid society. Your interaction may compromise an investigation or impact the child.

- the duty to report is ongoing, which means that if you have made a report about a child and suspect further abuse or neglect, you must report to the CAS again.
- the act of making a report under the CFSA is, by nature, stressful. Members may seek support and guidance from their school administrators, through their Employee Assistance Programs or from their professional associations.

### Report

A child in need of protection is one who is or who appears to be suffering from abuse and/or neglect, who may demonstrate this through actions, spoken word, artistic drawings or other means.

Possible signs observed by the member and/or shared by the child may include:

- Physical Abuse
  - the use or threat of deliberate physical force that results in pain or injury or creates a genuine risk of harm to the child, which can occur as an isolated incident or over a period of time
  - punching, slapping, shaking, burning, biting, throwing, hair pulling, beating, kicking, cutting and throwing objects. Signs or indicators may include such things as bruising, burns, bites and cuts
  - consistent and intentional neglect and failure to supervise or protect a child adequately
- Sexual Abuse
  - sexual touching/activity, exposure, sexual suggestiveness, harassment, underage pregnancy, or observation of sexual behaviour
  - grooming for sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, incest, interference or molestation, including child pornography
- Emotional Abuse
  - repeated treatment that negatively affects the child's sense of self-worth or self-esteem and impairs the child's growth, development and psychological functioning
  - yelling, ignoring, rejecting, demeaning, isolating or exposing the child to domestic violence

- Domestic Violence
  - violent or abusive behavior occurring within the child’s home, usually involving the abuse of a partner or spouse
  - all acts that eliminate a nurturing environment for the child
- Neglect
  - failure of a parent or caregiver to provide the child with basic needs such as adequate food, sleep, safety, supervision, clothing or medical treatment
  - failure to provide, support or consent to treatment where a child has a medical, mental, emotional or developmental condition requiring treatment
- Abandonment/Separation
  - failure to provide adequate care and custody of the child when the child’s parent or caregiver has died or is absent
  - failure of a residential care facility to resume custody, care and supervision of the child when the parent or caregiver refuses to.
- Caregiver Incapacity
  - substance abuse or mental health concerns that have an impact on a child’s safety or well-being.

A referral should be made when members are aware that abuse or neglect is suspected in a household where children under the age of 16 may reside.

Even if you’ve reported previously, be aware that you may need to report again.

Notwithstanding the examples provided, College members are expected to demonstrate professional judgment, which is informed at all times by the *Ethical Standards for the Teaching Profession* and the *Standards of Practice for the Teaching Profession*.

### **When reporting:**

- know the number of your local child protection agency ahead of time. In some communities, you can dial 411 and ask for a children’s aid society or family and children’s services
- check the Ontario Association of Children’s Aid Societies’ website at [www.oacas.org](http://www.oacas.org) for your local children’s aid society
- make and keep accurate and factual notes that lead you to suspect child abuse or neglect (your employer may have templates or guidelines to follow). Store these notes in a secure place as they may be required at a later date.
- where possible, have family information available such as names, addresses, dates of birth, and other children in the household when making the call to a children’s aid society
- remember that abuse and neglect shared in confidence is still subject to your duty to report.

### **Reflect**

- have I read and understood this advice and am I aware of my employer’s policies and protocols, and advice from my professional association?
- have I inquired about additional training, resources and support to help me?
- have I shared my learning with others?
- do I fully understand my obligation to report when I suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection?

### **Be Able to Say with Confidence...**

- I have reported my suspicions and the information on which they are based appropriately and promptly to protect and safeguard the child.
- I have let the children in my care know that they have rights.
- I have done all I can as an ethical teaching practitioner to inform myself, seek training and support and take prompt and immediate action when required in suspected matters of child neglect and abuse.



Ontario  
College of  
Teachers

Setting the Standard  
for Great Teaching

This publication is available in French under the title  
*Recommandation professionnelle — Devoir de signaler.*

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