



*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, OCTOBER 25, 2016  
7:00 P.M.**

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



### **A. ROUTINE MATTERS**

1. Opening Prayers – Trustee Charbonneau -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Minutes of the Board Meeting A5
6. Consent Agenda Items -
  - 6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 11, 2016 A6.1
  - 6.2 Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of September 7, 2016 A6.2
  - 6.3 Approved Minutes of the Staff Wellness Committee of June 7, 2016 A6.3
  - 6.4 In Camera Items F1, F2, F4 and F5 -

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

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

1. School Excellence Program C1  
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School, St. Catharines
2. Financial Report 2016-2017 as at September 30, 2016 C2

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

1. Correspondence -
2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended -
3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action -
4. Trustee Information
  - 4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – October 11, 2016 D4.1
  - 4.2 Calendar of Events – November 2016 D4.2
  - 4.3 Pilgrimage – Sunday, October 30, 2016 -
  - 4.4 Faith Formation Program 2016-2017 D4.4
  - 4.5 Niagara Falls Soccer Club Donation October 20, 2016 Article D4.5

5. **Open Question Period**

*(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.)*

**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  
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2016**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of September 27, 2016, as presented.



## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2016**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, September 27, 2016, 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 Chair MacNeil.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Vernal

2. Roll Call

Moved by Trustee Burtnik  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board excuse Trustee Fera and Trustee Sicoli from attending the Board Meeting of September 27, 2016

**CARRIED**

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>				
Kira Petriello	✓			
Nico Tripodi	✓			

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 Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of September 27, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

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

**5. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting**

**5.1 June 21, 2016**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of June 21, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**5.2 June 29, 2016**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of June 29, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**5.3 September 13, 2016**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of September 13, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **6. Consent Agenda Items**

- 6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 13, 2016 and Consideration of Recommendations**
- 6.2 Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of June 1, 2016**
- 6.3 Approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting of June 3, 2016**
- 6.4 System Priorities 2015-2016 Achievement Report**
- 6.5 Naming Request – Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Centre – Located in the Former Village of St. John, Thorold**

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

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

**CARRIED**

## **B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

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

### **1. School Excellence Program – Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School**

Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program and introduced Dan Trainor, Principal of Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School.

Principal Trainor, with the assistance of students and staff showcased Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

Chair MacNeil, Trustee Vernal and Trustee Burtnik thanked Principal Trainor, the staff and students for their presentation.

### **2. Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) 2015-2016 results for Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT), Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematic and Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary Division and Junior Division**

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education presented the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) 2015-2016 results for Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT), Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematic and Assessments of Reading, Writing and Mathematics, Primary Division and Junior Division report for Trustee information.

Chair MacNeil expressed pride with Niagara Catholic District School Board results and thanked all administrators for the leadership with the excellent results.

### **3. Financial Report 2015-2016 as at July 31, 2016**

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services presented the Financial Report 2015-2016 for information.

Superintendent Vetrone answered questions of Trustees.

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

### **1. Correspondence**

Director Crocco presented the following correspondence for Trustees' information;

- 1.1 June 29, 2016 Letter to Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud**
- 1.2 July 5, 2016 Letter from Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud**
- 1.3 September 27, 2016 Letter to Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education**

### **2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended**

Vice-Chair Burtnik noted great discussions and shared concerns for Catholic Education were brought forward at the OCSTA Regional Meeting held Tuesday September 20, 2016. Vice-Chair Burtnik also noted that Fr. Paul presented the questions asked and was a great representative for Niagara Catholic District School Board at the Regional Meeting.

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

Director Crocco announced the Board Ad Hoc Committee for the Attendance Area Review for the Saint Michael Catholic High School Family of Schools will hold its first meeting in early October on a date that will be confirmed by Superintendent Farrell.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells will provide a report on the Board Improvement Plan for 2016-2017 at the October Committee of the Whole meeting.

### **4. Trustee Information**

#### **4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – September 13, 2016**

Director Crocco highlighted the September 13, 2016 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic

#### **4.2 Calendar of Events – October 2016**

Director Crocco reviewed the Calendar of Events – October 2016 for Trustee information.

#### **4.3 28.8: Power of Teamwork – Catholic Register**

Director Crocco highlighted the Catholic Register front page article on the Board's Power of Teamwork partnership.

#### **4.4 Director's Inspiration Award – October 6, 2016**

Director Crocco announced the Director's Inspiration Award recipients and reminded Trustees that it will be held on October 6, 2016 at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in St. Catharines at 6:30 p.m.

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

### **5. Open Question Period**

None Submitted

## **E. NOTICES OF MOTION**

## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

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

**CARRIED**

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting at 7:43 p.m. and reconvened at 9:26 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of September 27, 2016.

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

**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 June 21, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

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 A: Student Trustees Present of September 13, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F2)**

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

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

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 June 21, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4.1)**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

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 September 13, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4.2)**



Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 September 13, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F5)**

The following motions were reported from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of September:

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 F5.1

**CARRIED (Item F5.1)**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 F5.1

**CARRIED (Item F5.1)**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 F5.2

**CARRIED (Item F5.2)**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 F5.3

**CARRIED (Item F5.3)**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 F5.4

**CARRIED (Item F5.4)**

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F6 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F6.1)**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik  
Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F6 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F9.2.1)**

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

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

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the September 27, 2016 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **September 27, 2016**.

Approved on **October 25, 2016**.

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Fr. Paul MacNeil  
Chair of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE  
WHOLE MEETING OF OCTOBER 11, 2016**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Minutes of October 11, 2016, as presented.



## MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 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 Vice-Chair Burtnik.

#### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Trustee Burtnik

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chair Burtnik noted that Trustee Charbonneau, Trustee Fera and Student Trustee Petriello were excused from the October 11, 2016 Committee of the Whole 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	✓			
<b>Student Trustees</b>				
Kira Petriello				✓
Nico Tripodi	✓			

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 O'Leary

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 11, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

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

**5. Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 13, 2016**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 13, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**6. Consent Agenda Items**

- 6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of September 27, 2016**
- 6.2 Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Committee**
- 6.3 Niagara Catholic District School Board Multi-Year Accessibility Plan December 2012 to December 2017 (Working Document) – Update**
- 6.4 Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being 2016-2017**
- 6.5 Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities**
- 6.6 Capital Projects Update**
- 6.7 In Camera Items F.1 and F.3**

Moved by Trustee Vernal

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

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Google Apps for Education (GAPE)**

Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education presented an overview of the Google Apps for Education and introduced Mark Di Tomasso, Technology Enabled Learning and Teaching contact, Ryan Desson and Jeff Maxwell, K-12 Digital Learning Coaches.

Mr. Di Tomasso, along with Mr. Desson and Mr. Maxwell provided a visual presentation to highlight some of the advantages that GAFE is providing for students and staff across the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

Superintendent Farrell, Mr. Di Tomasso, Mr. Desson and Mr. Maxwell answered questions of Trustees.

**2. Committee of the Whole System Priorities and Budget 2016-2017 Update**

John Crocco, Director of Education along with Senior Administrative Council provided a verbal and visual update on the implementation of the annual Board approved System Priorities and Budget 2016-2017, as of the October Committee of the Whole Meeting.

**3. Monthly Updates**

**3.1 Student Trustees' Update**

Nico Tripodi, Student Trustee, presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

**3.2 Senior Staff Good News Update**

Senior Staff highlights included:

**Director Crocco**

- Over 300 staff and students participated in the annual Grape and Wine parade along with elementary and secondary student senate and members of senior staff. Denis Morris Catholic High School and Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School both receiving awards providing a great opportunity to showcase the spirit and pride of Niagara Catholic in front of the over 70 thousand people in attendance.
- Twenty inspirational award recipients along with family and staff were in attendance at the annual Inspirational Award Ceremony held on October 6, 2016 at St. Thomas Aquinus Church with Mass being celebrated by Bishop Bergie and Fr. Mosier. Vice-Chair Burtnik brought greetings on behalf of Chair MacNeil and the Board. A reception was enjoyed by all following the Mass and Award Presentations.

**D. INFORMATION**

**1. Trustee Information**

**1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – September 27, 2016**

Director Crocco highlighted the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – September 27, 2016 issue for Trustees information.

**1.2 Calendar of Events – October 2016**

Director Crocco presented the October 2016 Calendar of Events for Trustees information. Director Crocco noted the Annual Pilgrimage being held on Sunday October 30, 2016 and asked Trustees interesting in joining the Annual Pilgrimage to please contact the school.

**1.3 Knights of Columbus Bishop's Charities Dinner – October 22, 2016**

Director Crocco announced the Knights of Columbus Bishop's Charities Dinner will be held on October 22, 2016 and a table of 12 has been reserved for Niagara Catholic District School Board.

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

**1.4 2017 OCSTA Trustee Award of Merit and Student Trustee Alumnus Award**

Director Crocco informed Trustees that nominations for the 2017 OCSTA Trustee Award of Merit must be received in the OCSTA office by 12:00 p.m. Friday, January 20, 2017.

**1.5 2017 OCSTA Catholic Trustees' Seminar – January 12-14, 2017**

Director Crocco presented the agenda and reminded Trustees of the 2017 OCSTA Catholic Trustees' Seminar being held January 13-14, 2017 at the Hilton Mississauga Meadowvale.

To ensure Trustees attending have a room at the hotel Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano.

**E. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

- 1.1 Under the coordinated leadership of Superintendent Farrell, the Board's Ad Hoc Committee for the Attendance Area Review in Niagara Falls will be meeting shortly to commence the process towards a recommendation to the January 2017 Committee of the Whole.

**F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

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

**CARRIED**

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 7:58 p.m. and reconvened at 10:07 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 11, 2016.

**CARRIED**

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the October 11, 2016 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

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Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **October 11, 2016.**

Approved on **November 8, 2016.**

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Kathy Burtnik  
Vice-Chair of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEETING OF  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2016**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of September 7, 2016 as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held on Wednesday, September 7, 2016, 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>				
Sarah Milinkovich		✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

**Yolanda Baldasaro**, Superintendent of Education; **David O’Rourke**, Special Education Coordinator; **Lisa Selman**, Principal, Elementary, **Denice Robertson**, Principal, Secondary; **Tina DiFrancesco**, Recording Secretary

### **Introductions**

Chair Racine introduced Sarah Milinkovich, new Student Senate Representative and Denice Robertson, new Secondary Principal Representative on the Special Education Advisory Committee.

### **3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Rob Lavorato  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of September 7, 2016.

**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 June 1, 2016**

Moved by Sarah Farrell  
Seconded by Rob Lavorato

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of June 1, 2016 as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **B. PRESENTATIONS**

## **C. VISIONING**

### **1. Goals and Vision for 2015-2016 and 2016-2017**

#### **1.1 Goals for the 2015-2016 School Year**

Vice-Chair Lavorato received notification from the Ministry of Education that the ProGrant application was denied. A discussion was held regarding support for the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) ProGrant. Chair Racine will follow up with the NCPIC at their next meeting. The SEAC Directory will be presented at the next meeting. A brief discussion was held regarding recruitment of new SEAC members.

#### **1.2 Goals for the 2016-2017 School Year**

A discussion was held regarding potential new goals for the 2016-2017 school year. Ideas were brought forward regarding parent outreach, recruiting new membership on the SEAC, more involvement in the review of Board policies and inviting Special Education and school staff to facilitate professional learning working sessions for SEAC members. More information to follow at the October meeting.

## **D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 1, 2016**

1. **Learner Advocacy**
2. **Parent Outreach**
3. **Program and Service Recommendations**
4. **Special Education Budget**
5. **Annual Review, Special Education Plan**

### **5.1 Special Education Plan, *Building Bridges to Services 2016 and Beyond***

Superintendent Baldasaro informed the SEAC members that the Special Education Plan is posted on the Board website and SEAC Electronic Portal. Information regarding the Special Education Plan will be sent to Principal to include in their Catholic School Council agenda and school newsletter.

6. **Other Related Items**
7. **Policy Review**

### **7.1 Administration of Oral Medication to Students under the age of 18 (302.2)**

*The Administration of Oral Medication to Students Under the Age of 18 Policy (302.2)* was presented for information and review. The deadline is October 6, 2016. Further discussion to be held at the October meeting.

## **E. SEAC REPORT**

1. **Review and Approval of SEAC Insert for Catholic School Council Agenda**
  - General information about the Special Education Advisory Committee and Special Education Plan will be sent to Principals to insert in their Catholic School Council agenda.
2. **Review and Approval of SEAC Insert for School Newsletters**
  - General information about the Special Education Advisory Committee and Special Education Plan will be sent to Principals to insert in their school newsletters.

## F. AGENCY REPORTS

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

- Nil Report

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

- August 13th - Summer Picnic was a great success. The kids had a great time.
- September 17 - Pied Piper Parade - we will be part of the parade with GO21 (formerly Buddy Walk) Link - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/200750226622012/>

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

- Nil Report

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

- Our full day summer literacy program, SLAM ran successfully this summer! We ran the program for 7 weeks in St. Catharines (St. Alfred), 3 weeks in Niagara Falls (Notre Dame) and 3 weeks in Welland (Niagara College). The program was filled up in the spring/early summer. In total, 175 SLAM participant spots were filled; without counting participants twice, 68 different children participated this summer! It was great to see many children return weekly for ongoing support.
- We are planning for our upcoming fall programs. We will be running our various literacy and social skills programs, Reading Rocks, Reading Rocks Jr., Let's READ and BEST starting October 3 – December 5, 2016. Applications are being accepted until September 21 and there are limited spots! To apply, please complete the Program Application Form at [www.Ldaniagara.org](http://www.Ldaniagara.org).
- We are currently recruiting volunteers for our fall literacy and social skills programs. This is great hands-on experience for those seeking teaching experience or wanting to give back to the community. Those that are interested are encouraged to complete a Volunteer Intake Form at [www.Ldaniagara.org](http://www.Ldaniagara.org).
- We will be offering our HOPE program – a family support program for caregivers with children with ADHD. The fall 2016 and winter/spring 2017 meeting schedule flyers can be found online: <http://ldaniagara.org/resources/hope/>. There is no cost to attend or pre-registration required.
- October is LD Awareness Month.
- We will be hosting a Steeped Tea Fundraiser in October – please keep an eye out for details coming soon!

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

- Nil Report

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

- Isn't it a pity? The real problem with special needs | Torrie Dunlap | TEDxAmericasFinestCity. This video was presented and inclusion expert Torrie Dunlap shares why we need to change our thinking when it comes to special needs.
- Below is from the Kids Included together website... (<http://www.kitonline.org/>)  
*“Disability is a natural part of the human experience. Almost everyone knows someone who has or will have a disability – or will directly experience disability themselves. Viewing **disability as a form of diversity** rather than a deficiency enables positive outcomes for all children. Each person’s contributions add to the richness of the whole community. Inclusion is ensuring that each person belongs and can meaningfully participate.”*

**G. STAFF REPORTS**

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

- Students came back ready for school.
- Some Niagara Catholic elementary schools hosted the summer learning program, focusing on literacy and numeracy.

**2. Denice Robertson – Principal, Secondary**

- Numerous registrations are still taking place.
- Secondary schools welcomed new grade 9 students.
- It has been a very smooth start.

**3. Yolanda Baldasaro – Superintendent of Education**

- Senior Administrative staff attended schools on the first day. It was a smooth start to the new year.
- There is a new Faith Formation logo this year entitled, *Know, Love, Serve Him: One Family in Christ.*

**4. David O'Rourke – Coordinator Special Education**

- Special Education staff attended schools on the first day and all went well.
- Several new staff have joined the Special Education department.

**H. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

**1. Pat Vernal – Trustee**

- Facilities Services department has been very busy doing repairs/updates to many sites.

2. **Maurice Charbonneau – Trustee**

- Nil Report

**I. STUDENT REPORT**

1. **Sarah Milinkovich– Student Senate Representative**

- The Student Senate meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2016.

**J. NCPIC REPORT**

- Chair Racine will report after the first NCPIC meeting being held on September 15, 2016.

**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 2016-2017 School Year Calendar**

Superintendent Baldasaro handed out the 2016-2017 School Year calendar for information.

**6.2 Multi Year Accessibility Plan**

Deferred to the October meeting. The Multi-Year Accessibility Plan has been updated and will be posted on the Board website.

7. **Policy Review**

## **L. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. A letter was received from the Toronto Catholic District School Board to the Minister of Education regarding ongoing Ministry of Education cuts to the Special Education High Needs Amount (HNA) Grants.

## **M. QUESTION PERIOD**

## **N. NOTICES OF MOTION**

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

## **P. INFORMATION ITEMS**

## **Q. NEXT MEETING:**

*Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 7:00p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre*

## **R. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Andrew Howcroft

Seconded by Rob Lavorato

**THAT** the September 7, 2016 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 8:10p.m.

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**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE STAFF WELLNESS  
COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 7, 2016**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Staff Wellness Committee Meeting of June 7, 2016 as presented for information.



# STAFF WELLNESS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Holy Cross Community Room

## APPROVED MINUTES



1. Opening Prayer – Krista Wood
2. Committee Members – roll call

Staff Wellness Committee 2016	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Regrets
John Crocco, Director of Education	✓			
Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Human Resources	✓			
Gina Sattin, Coordinator of Staff Wellness ( <i>Chair</i> )	✓			
Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader	✓			
Mary Ann McKinley, Vice Principal	✓			
Marie Balanowski, OECTA-E President				✓
Sylvia Nemcko, CUPE Chief Steward				✓
Dino Sicoli, Trustee				✓
Anthony Corapi, Coordinator of Staff Development	✓			
Andrea Bozza, Mental Health Leader				✓
Teresa Claxton, Supervisor of Benefits	✓			
Anna Maxner, CUPE President	✓			
Jennifer McArthur, OECTA-E Vice President				✓

3. Approval of Minutes of Staff Wellness Meeting – May 5, 2016

Moved by committee member

Seconded by committee member

**That** the Niagara Catholic District School Board Staff Wellness Committee members approve the Minutes of the meeting of May 5, 2016, as presented.

Carried

4. Staff Wellness Tab on “My Niagara Catholic”

a) First email blast sent on May 27, 2016 to all staff

- How often will email blasts be sent? Once every two weeks.
- June 10<sup>th</sup> will be next email blast.
- Rotate email blasts to focus on Mind, Body or Spirit.
- Email blasts should refer employees to Staff Wellness webpage

- Keep checking the survey to make sure Staff Wellness Committee are addressing the topics most important to employees
- b) Review design of Staff Wellness page
- Staff Wellness Logo placed on My Niagara Catholic
  - Staff Wellness Committee reviewing webpage layout.
  - Decided on column names for the webpage
    - Our Wellness Events
    - What's Up in Wellness
    - Staff Supports/Benefits
    - Community Supports
    - Community Events
  - Staff Wellness Committee discussed the background pictures on the webpage; would like them changed over time; possible collage of pictures.
  - Goal of Staff Wellness Committee is to release webpage/website in Fall 2016
- c) Input/suggestions re: Staff Wellness page design
- What are the technical capabilities needed for an interactive website?
  - Committee would like a website instead of a webpage
  - Committee would prefer a dynamic changing website that is interactive for employees.
  - Committee discussed how the website be managed and who will manage.
5. Ideas, Recommendations/Suggestions from the Staff Wellness Committee
- see comments above related to the webpage/website development
6. Next Meeting – Tuesday, October 18, 2016 @ 2:00 p.m.
7. Adjournment

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM  
OUR LADY OF FATIMA CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL, ST. CATHARINES**

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The School Excellence Program report is presented for information.

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Prepared by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: October 25, 2016



**SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM**  
**OUR LADY OF FATIMA CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ST.**  
**CATHARINES**

**Contact Info**

439 Vine Street  
St. Catharines, ON  
L2M 3S6  
ph: 905.935.4343  
fx: 905.935.3943

[ol.fatima.sc@ncdsb.com](mailto:ol.fatima.sc@ncdsb.com)

**Grades**

ELKP – 8

**French Immersion**

ELKP 1 and 2,  
Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3,  
Grade 4

**Enrolment**

215 as of September 2015

**Principal**

Branka Jones

**Superintendent**

Ted Farrell

**Catholic School Council**

Chair: Kerri Hildebrandt  
Co-Chair: Lisa Rutherford

**Parish**

[St. Alfred](#)



**School Mission Statement**

*As a community of believers and life-long learners, we answer God's call to be the best we can be in all that we do*

**School Motto**

*Falcons – Soaring Toward Excellence!*

Our Lady of Fatima is a warm inviting school facility located in the north end of St. Catharines. It opened in 1952 with four classrooms and held 148 students as an annex of St. Alfred Catholic School. Our Lady of Fatima officially opened in 1954 at the current site. In 1962 Our Lady of Fatima became a K-8 school. Additional classrooms were built in 1958 and 1960. The final addition, including a gym and change rooms, five classrooms and a library, were completed in 1983. French Immersion became a part of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School in 2013.

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School is a part of the [Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School](#) Family of Schools.

Prepared by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: October 25, 2016

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: FINANCIAL REPORT 2016-2017 AS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

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The Financial Report 2016-2017 as at September 30, 2016 will be uploaded on Monday,  
October 24, 2016

The Financial Report 2016-2017 as at September 30, 2016 report is presented for  
information.

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Prepared by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services

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

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

Date: October 25, 2016

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC – OCTOBER 11, 2016**

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**October 11 2016**

### **Trustees Receive Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being**

During the October 11 Committee of the Whole Meeting, Trustees received a copy of the Niagara Catholic Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being (BIPSAW).

This Plan has been developed to support the continuous improvement of achievement and well-being for all Niagara Catholic students.

The BIPSAW has been provided to all schools to support the School Improvement Planning process, and is available on the [Board website](#).

### **Capital Projects Update**

Niagara Catholic has two schools currently under construction: The \$10-million new St. Martin Catholic Elementary School in Smithville, and a \$4.4-million addition to Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School in Grimsby.

Storm sewers have been completed at St. Martin Catholic Elementary School, and water service installation is complete. The new St. Martin Catholic Elementary School is scheduled to open in Spring 2017.

A preliminary design meeting was held with school administration at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School and a consultation meeting has taken place with the Town of Grimsby. A further meeting with the Region of Niagara is scheduled to address the child care addition.

We will continue to provide updates on these projects throughout the year.

### **Niagara Catholic Adopts Google Apps for Education**

In January, Niagara Catholic's Board of Trustees endorsed the Technology Blueprint 2016-2020, which provides a roadmap for technology infrastructure spending to support student learning and the corporate side of operations.



Prior to this Blueprint being presented and adopted, the Education Technology Services Department (ETS) successfully piloted the use of Google Apps for Education (GAFE).

In moving to cloud-based platforms, ETS has created more than 25,000 accounts for students and staff, enabling them to use the GAFE suite of products. This suite includes a word processing program (Docs), presentation tool (Slides), a spreadsheet tool (Sheets), an email account through Gmail and unlimited file storage on the Google Drive.

Each user has his or her own @niagaracatholic.ca account used to log in to Google. Students and staff experience an ad-free digital experience that retains their bookmarks, regardless of the device used.

A major advantage of GAFE is that ETF staff are able to manage the platform from the Network Centre. The platform operates seamlessly on the Chromebooks which are available in all Niagara Catholic schools.

Learn more about the Technology Blueprint 2016-2020 [here](#).

### **Good News!**

Have you checked out the [Good News](#) section of the Board website lately? If not, you're missing some great stories and photos about our students. Be sure to check it out often to keep up to date on the fantastic things happening in our schools and across the system.

### **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 [Instagram](#), and check our website often for updates and breaking news. It's the best way to stay in the know. There are also still a couple of weeks to register your child for one of our Niagara Catholic Summer Camps. To find out more or to complete a registration form, click [here](#).



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS – NOVEMBER 2016**

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# NOVEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> All Saints' Day	<b>2</b> All Souls' Day Gr. 8 Transition Day Gr. 9 Take Kids to Work Day SEAC Meeting	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> SAL Meeting CW Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Remembrance Day	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> NCPIC Meeting	<b>18</b> Elementary and Secondary PA Day	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Policy Committee Board Meeting	<b>23</b> Kindergarten Open House 9 a.m.—6 p.m.	<b>24</b> Culture of Life Conference	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
		Secondary Open Houses November 22-24 and Nov. 30				
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 25, 2016**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM 2016-2017**

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NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

# *Faith Formation Program*

*2016 - 2017*





## *Faith Formation Program Prayer*

Gracious God,  
we pray that the Niagara Catholic community  
may be inspired  
to draw ever closer to you as we journey together  
as one family in Christ.

May we know you deeply, with our eyes and minds  
open to your presence in our lives.

May we love you passionately, with our hearts turned  
towards you.

May we serve you justly, as your hands and feet here on  
Earth.

Guide us and bless us as we strive to grow as brothers and  
sisters in this one family in Christ.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord and teacher. Amen.



*“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.”*

The Niagara Catholic Mission Statement defines our mission vision and values, but also includes its own challenge to each of us. We cannot nurture others unless we, ourselves are fed. We cannot help to form community unless we, ourselves, engage communally.

The 2016-2017 school year, builds on our three year theological theme- *One Family in Christ: Know Him, Love Him, Serve Him* as we focus on Loving Him.

To love God means to love not only Him but that which He created, and that which He loves. Our faith formation sessions will provide various opportunities for all staff to explore the love of God and how we can model His love in our own lives. It is our hope that throughout this upcoming year you will accept the invitation to nurture your own faith by participating in Niagara Catholic’s adult faith formation program.



## *Registration*

Register for all sessions by logging into MyNiagaraCatholic, PD Place using the In-Service ID provided with each session.

Each session has been designated as an inservice under the broad course umbrella of a Niagara Catholic Adult Faith Formation 2016-2017.

If you have any problems registering through PD Place, please contact Krista Wood, Board Chaplancy Leader at [krista.wood@ncdsb.com](mailto:krista.wood@ncdsb.com)

All staff are encouraged to participate in faith formation sessions as part of your Annual Learning Plan.

All Administrators are asked to commit to any three sessions.

New Teacher Induction Program and Leadership Internship Program participants are asked to commit to three sessions.



Catholic Curriculum Corporation

# WHEN FAITH MEETS PEDAGOGY 2016

*Mercy: Wellspring of Joy, Serenity and Peace*

**October 27-29, 2016**

International Plaza Hotel, Toronto Airport

## Celebration of the Eucharist

His Eminence,  
Thomas Cardinal Collins,  
Archbishop of Toronto,  
Friday 11:15 am

## Keynote Speakers

Anne Jamieson  
Director of Catechesis,  
Diocese of Hamilton  
Thursday 7:00 pm

David Wells,  
Director of the Vicariate  
for Evangelisation,  
Diocese of Plymouth,  
England  
Friday 8:30 am

## Feature Speakers

Dr. Josephine Lombardi &  
Anne Jamieson, D. Min.

**45  
Workshops  
Vendor Fair  
Friday, October 28**

A Conference for Catholic Educators  
and Catholic Community Partners

For further information contact:  
[www.catholiccurriculumcorp.org](http://www.catholiccurriculumcorp.org)

Conference Registration Fee  
**\$299.00** HST Included

Contact your Board Representative for details:



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## The Human Person, Love, and Sexuality

Wednesday, October 26, 2016  
St. Julia Church Hall, St. Catharines  
4:00—6:00 pm  
PD Place: 649

**Presenter: Fr. Con O'Mahony**

This session will break open the Catholic Educators resource, "The Human Person, Love, and Sexuality." The topic is one of great importance and relevance in our schools today and also a great topic to be exploring for your personal faith development.

## Faith in Film: Mother Teresa

Tuesday, November 1, 2016  
Notre Dame College School (Theatre)  
6:00—8:00 pm  
PD Place 650

**Presenter: Niagara Catholic Chaplaincy Team**

Join us on All Saints Day for an evening of fellowship and dialogue as we delve into the life of the Church's newest saint, Teresa of Calcutta.

## Around the Table: Loving Him through the Communion of Saints

Wednesday, November 9, 2016  
Mick and Angelo's  
(7600 Lundy's Lane, NF)  
4:00—6:00 pm  
PD Place: 651

**Presenter: Fr. Paul McDonald**

Explore the lives of the saints and how they witness to the love of Christ as members of His communion.

## Loving Him through Song

Tuesday, December 13, 2016  
Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary  
School  
4:15—6:00 pm  
PD Place: 653

**Presenter: Jim Yip**

Bring your voice (no matter what key it sings in) and join us in an Advent Power Hour of song as we prepare our hearts and our minds to celebrate the birth of Christ.

## Loving Him Through Scripture

Wednesday, January 18, 2017  
Fr. Burns, C.S.C. Board Room, CEC  
4:00 - 6:00 pm  
PD Place: 654

**Presenter: Fr. Peter Rowe**

Explore Sacred Scripture and its relevance in our lives today. Learn about the history and the context that surround the stories of our faith as we focus on learning to love God through His word.

## Faith in Film: The Gardener of God

Thursday, February 16, 2017  
Saint Michael Catholic High School  
(Theatre)  
6:00 – 8:00 pm  
PD Place: 655

**Presenter: Niagara Catholic Chaplaincy Team**

An evening of fellowship and dialogue as we hear the story of Fr. Greger Mendel, father of modern genetics, and his struggles between faith and science.

## Sing Praises: Taize

Monday, March 6, 2017  
Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre  
4:30 – 6:30 pm  
PD Place: 656

**Presenter: Janet Loo**

Experience Taize Prayer in the beautiful Mount Carmel Chapel followed by a delicious Mount Carmel dinner. A great way to spend time with Christ during the season of Lent!

*RSVP by February 23, 2017 - cost is \$25 per person*

## Finding Our Way: Refugee Ministry

Tuesday, March 21, 2017  
Fr. Burns, C.S.C., Board Room, CEC  
4:00—6:00 pm  
PD Place: 657

**Presenters: Margaret Jong & Marilyn Nabisi**

Learn about the struggles many refugees face finding a new place to call home and what the Diocese of St. Catharines is doing to help.

## One Family at the Feast: A Seder Meal

Wednesday, April 12, 2017  
Mt. Carmel Spiritual Centre  
5:30—9:00 pm

**Presenter: Fr. Craig Morrison**

Through prayers, readings and song, the Seder commemorates the Exodus story, the central event in Jewish history. It is a time to retell the story that it might never be forgotten. Our Christian observance of this ritual meal also ties us to our Jewish heritage as we recognize the context in which Jesus instituted the Eucharist.

*RSVP by April 4, 2017 - cost is \$45 per person  
RSVP directly to [krista.wood@ncdsb.com](mailto:krista.wood@ncdsb.com)*

## Around the Table: Laudato Si

Thursday, April 27, 2017  
Jordan House Tavern  
3845 Main St. , Jordan Station  
4:00—6:00 pm  
PD Place: 660

**Presenter: Frank Fohr**

A deeper look into Pope Francis' 2015 Encyclical, "Laudato Si" and God's call to care for all of creation.

## *Professional Development*

### Teaching Language with the Saints

Wednesday, January 25, 2017  
4:00 – 6:00 pm  
Monsignor Clancy Catholic  
Elementary School  
32 participants max.  
PD Place 662

**Presenter: Terri Pauco**

Explore the "Teaching Language with the Saints" resource and learn new and exciting ways to develop language skills with your students while deepening their faith.

# *Administrators, Managers and Senior Staff*

## **The Human Person, Love, and Sexuality**

Wednesday, October 26, 2016  
St. Julia Church Hall, St. Catharines  
8:45 – 11:15 am  
PD Place 648

***Presenter: Fr. Con O'Mahony***

This session will break open the Catholic Educators resource, "The Human Person, Love, and Secularity." The topic is one of great importance and relevance in our schools today and also a great topic to be exploring for your personal faith development.

## **The Art of Waiting: Advent Retreat**

Wednesday, December 7, 2016  
Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre  
8:45– 11:15 am  
PD Place 652

***Presenter: Niagara Catholic Chaplaincy Team***

A morning of prayer and reflection as we explore the art of waiting in the beautiful season of Advent.

## **Day in the Desert: Lenten Retreat**

Thursday, March 30, 2017  
Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre  
8:45– 11:15 am  
PD Place 658

***Presenter: Niagara Catholic Chaplaincy Team***

Take a step back and spend some time with Christ in the Desert this Lent. A great way to refocus on the importance of this liturgical season.

# *Our Speakers*

## **Frank Fohr**

Retired Niagara Catholic teacher and chair of the St. Catharines Diocesan Council for Development & Peace.

## **Margaret Jong**

Vice-Chancellor of the Diocese of St. Catharines and Chair of the Diocesan Refugee Committee.

## **Janet Loo**

Director of Music Ministry at King's University College, University of Western Ontario.

## **Fr. Paul McDonald**

Pastor of Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Chippawa.

## **Fr. Craig Morrison, O.Carm.**

Carmelite priest, biblical scholar, writer, and lecturer working at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome.

## **Marilyn Nabils**

Coordinator for Refugee Integration for the Diocese of St. Catharines.

## **Fr. Cornelius (Con) O'Mahony**

Vicar for Education for the Diocese of Hamilton and current pastor of St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, Oakville.

## **Terri Pauco**

Religion and Family Life Consultant for Niagara Catholic.

## **Fr. Peter Rowe**

Pastor of St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church, Niagara Falls.

## **Jim Yip**

A computer technology teacher for Niagara Catholic and an avid musician.



Know, Love, Serve

HIM

ONE FAMILY IN CHRIST

2016-2017



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**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
*MEETING DATE***

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
ST. CATHARINES STANDARD OCTOBER 20, 2016 ARTICLE**

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# Turf to be installed at Michelson Park



By [Bernie Puchalski](#), St. Catharines Standard  
Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:13:38 EDT PM



Thursday's wet and rainy conditions were a perfect day for a ground-breaking announcement at the Niagara Falls Soccer Club's clubhouse.

On a day when the fields at E.E. Michelson Park would have likely been too wet to play on, representatives of the Niagara Falls Soccer Club, the Niagara Catholic District School Board and the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education gathered to announce an agreement to replace the grass on Michelson Field No. 1 with artificial turf. The land in question is owned partially by the Catholic board and the City of Niagara Falls.

"We are absolutely excited about this opportunity and, to get to a stage like this, there has to be a lot of communication, a lot of dialogue and a lot of trust," NCDSB director of education John Crocco said.

The first of its kind agreement by the NCDSB, which still requires the City of Niagara Falls to agree to contribute \$500,000 to the project, will see the following contributions to the project expected to cost between \$850,000 and \$1 million: a maximum \$200,000 from the Niagara Falls Soccer Club; \$200,000 from the Niagara Foundation for Catholic Education; and, hopefully, \$100,000 from a donor in exchange for renaming rights for the field.

For its contribution, the soccer club will receive priority usage of the field without user fees when it's not in use by the school board. The agreement would last until the turf field needs replacing.

"The city has already called and closed the field today and having a turf field gives us greater opportunities, longer hours, a longer season and the ability to run more programs and put more children on the field," soccer club president Tim Chamberlain said.

The club runs programs year-round and once the snow flies, its teams move into gymnasiums and indoor facilities.

"This will also give us an earlier start when the weather lets us in March," club vice-president Nick Montanaro said.

The \$200,000 commitment will represent the largest capital campaign ever run by the soccer club.

"We have a capital campaign set in place right now, but we haven't yet started our fundraising for it," Chamberlain said. "We have people in place who have made verbal commitments and we didn't want to jump the gun on it until all the documents were signed and in place.

"We do have some major parties ready to support us."

Father Paul MacNeil, the chair of the NCDSB and the pastor at the nearby Our Lady of the Scapular Parish, expressed twofold gratitude for the club's commitment.

"First, the Ministry of Education has been encouraging school boards and community organizations across Ontario to work cooperatively with each other and such cooperation as we witness today, is essential to a peaceful and prosperous community," he said. "Secondly, as chair of Niagara Catholic, we put students first — not only in our local schools, but all of our students throughout the community."

Crocco echoed that sentiment.

"It goes back to the belief that our schools are community hubs," he said.

Saint Paul is delighted to be the site of the proposed field.

"On behalf of the school and students, we couldn't be more happier," principal Brad Johnstone said. "We're looking for a seamless integration with the Niagara Falls Soccer Club and it will be our field is your field. We already have a tremendous relationship with the club."

The field already has bleachers, lighting and a score clock and the variation in price is related to what needs to be done for the field's base.

The annual cost of maintaining the field is still one of the details that needs to be resolved between the board, the city and the club.

“It’s still nowhere near the maintenance that is required on a natural grass field,” Crocco said.

During rainy falls, some of the board’s football fields have been destroyed by games played when the fields are soggy. In past years, the Catholic board has spent between \$100,000 and \$150,000 in the summer repairing fields.

The \$200,000 contribution from the foundation is part of a \$1.4 million fundraising campaign it announced in September. The goal is to contribute \$200,000 for an artificial turf field for each of the seven Catholic high schools in Niagara,

“It’s the wave of the future and the foundation is really excited about it, said Jim Marino, the foundation’s executive director.

Donations are tax deductible and those interested should contact Marino at [jim.marino@nfce.org](mailto:jim.marino@nfce.org).

The Catholic board is hoping other groups will follow the lead of the Niagara Falls Soccer Club.

“We have reached out to partners and this is the first one that has come forward,” Crocco said. “We are here today to graciously accept their donation.”

Pending city approval, the groups are optimistic the field would be ready for play by the summer of 2017.

A report on the proposal is expected to be presented at Niagara Falls City Council Tuesday.