



*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, DECEMBER 18, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

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



SEEDS OF FAITH
MASS • MERCY • MISSION
2018-2021

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayers – Trustee Burkholder -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Minutes of the Board Meeting
 - 5.1 November 27, 2018 A5.1
 - 5.2 December 4, 2018 A5.2
6. Consent Agenda Items
 - 6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 4, 2018 and Consideration of Recommendations A6.1
 - 6.1.1 Catholic School Councils Policy (800.1) A6.1.1
 - 6.2 Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of November 7, 2018 A6.2
 - 6.3 Appointment of Niagara Catholic Special Education Advisory Committee Members A6.3
 - 6.4 Director of Education Annual Report 2018 A6.4
 - 6.5 Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 A6.5
 - 6.6 In-Camera Agenda Items F1, F3, F4 & F5 -

B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Christmas Cards 2018 B1

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program C1
St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls
2. Catholic Education in Niagara C2
3. Trustee Honorarium for the Year December 1, 2018 to November 30, 2019 C3
4. Financial Reports
 - 4.1 Revised Estimates for the Year 2018-2019 C5.1
 - 4.2 Financial Reports as at November 30, 2018 C5.2

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 – December 4, 2018 | D4.1 |
| 4.2 | Calendar of Events – January 2019 | D4.2 |
| 4.3 | Ontario Legislative Highlights – December 7 & 14, 2018 | D4.3 |
| 4.4 | OCSTA 2019 Catholic Trustees Seminar – January 17-19, 2019 | D4.4 |
| 4.5 | OCSTA 2018 Annual Finance Brief: “Partners in Excellence: Balancing Equity & Efficiency | D4.5 |
| 4.6 | OCSTA Memorandum – Bill 66: Restoring Ontario’s Competitiveness Act, 2018 | D4.6 |
| 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
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF
NOVEMBER 27, 2018**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of November 27, 2018, as presented.



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2018

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 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 Burtnik.

2. Roll Call

Chair MacNeil noted that Trustee Charbonneau and Student Trustee McKinney asked to 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	✓			
Student Trustees				
Jade Bilodeau	✓			
Madison McKinney				✓

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Pat Rocca**, 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 Sicoli
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of November 27, 2018, 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 of October 23, 2018

Moved by Trustee Vernal
Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of October 23, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED

6. Consent Agenda Items

6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 13, 2018 and Consideration of Recommendations

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole of November 13, 2018, as presented.

6.1.1 Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7)

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

6.1.2 Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11)

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

6.1.3 Occupational Health & Safety Policy (201.6)

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

6.1.4 Proposed Joint Use School Wainfleet – Staff Report

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Proposed Joint-Use School Wainfleet – Staff Report for information.

6.2 Approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) of September 6, 2018

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of September 6, 2018, as presented for information.

6.3 Approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting of September 28, 2019

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting of September 28, 2018, as presented for information

6.4 Revised Internal audit Plan 2018-2019

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Revised Internal Audit Plan 2018-2019, as presented.

6.5 Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of October 3, 2018

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 3, 2018, as presented.

6.6 In-Camera Items F1, F2, F4, F5, F6, F7 and F8

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

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

CARRIED

B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Pilgrimage 2018

Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education provided background information on Niagara Catholic Pilgrimage Sunday 2018 and introduced Lidia Di Lorenzo, Religion and Family Life Consultant.

Ms. Di Lorenzo with the assistance of students from each of Niagara Catholic's secondary schools presented highlights of the Niagara Catholic Pilgrimage Sunday 2018.

Chair MacNeil and Trustee O'Leary thanked Ms. Di Lorenzo and students for their presentation.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program – St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program and introduced Emma Fera-Massi, Principal of St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School.

Principal Fera-Massi, with the assistance of students showcased St. Alfred Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

Chair MacNeil and Trustee Burtnik thanked Principal Fera-Massi and students for their presentation.

2. Audited Consolidated Financial Reports 2017-2018

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services provided highlights of the audited consolidated Financial Reports 2017-2018 and introduced Palumbi, Mark, CPA, CA at Crawford, Smith and Swallow Chartered Accountants LLP.

Mr. Palumbi presented the Audited Consolidated Financial Reports 2017-2018.

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Audited Consolidated Financial Reports 2017-2018, as presented.

CARRIED

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the establishment of a Financial Investment Policy.

CARRIED

3. Financial Report 2018-2019

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

4. Board of Trustees 2014-2018 Appreciation

With the approval of the Board, Director Crocco read into the minutes this report.

“In 1841 the *First School Act for the Province of Upper Canada* established the first denominational schools and the beginning of Catholic Trustees in Ontario.

In 1863 the *Scott Act* was passed by Parliament which gave Catholic Trustees “all of the rights and powers of their public school counterparts.”

For more than 150 years individuals have been appointed or elected as a Catholic Trustee in Ontario to serve the various Catholic communities through the Province of Ontario. The rich history, legacy and foundation of a Catholic Trustees has been rooted in exceptional individuals who have served as a Catholic Trustee.

Emmett Cardinal Carter in *The Challenge of Trusteeship* stated that “He or she who seeks the office of trustee is seeking an honourable office.”

Recent Pastoral Letters from the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario have written specifically about the role of Catholic Trustees in Ontario.

In *This Moment of Promise* the Bishops wrote “...those involved in Catholic education have an awesome privilege and responsibility. As members of the Catholic community, Catholic

trustees are called to serve Christ in an educational system whose mission is to share the person and message of Christ through the curriculum and life of the Catholic school. It is this Christ-centred mission which makes Catholic schools distinctive.”

In *Fulfilling the Promise*, the Bishops stated, “The role of leaders in the Catholic system, therefore, cannot be reduced to a series of tasks or attitudes. It is, rather, a rich and complex undertaking that defies easy description.”

And most recently in *Renewing the Promise* which was released in the spring of 2018, the Bishops began and concluded a section on Catholic Trustees with, “You are entrusted with the profound responsibility of stewardship of the mission of Catholic education.....Let your public actions be a visible sign of what we profess as a Catholic community, and an expression of God’s love and mercy in this world.”

In 1930 the Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association was founded. In an Association document titled, *Catholic Trustees: Advocates, Guardians and Stewards of Catholic Education*, it states that, "For the Catholic trustee, the Church's mission to proclaim, teach and bear witness to the Gospel finds its particular expression in the mission of the Catholic school. And the mission of the Catholic school is to evangelize youth so that they will become not only well-developed persons and good citizens, but also faithful disciples of Christ and witnesses to the faith."

Niagara Catholic is blessed to have Trustees who bring their unique skills, expertise, time and experiences to the role as advocates, governors, guardians and stewards of Catholic education. Collectively the Board of Trustees has a vision for Christ-centered Catholic education, are committed to educating all children in the Roman Catholic tradition, and are committed to achieving the Mission, Vision and Values of the Board through its Strategic Plan, annual System Priorities and fiscal responsibilities.

As the term of office for the 2014-2018 Board of Trustees draws to a conclusion on November 30th, 2018, we extend our sincerest gratitude, recognition and continued prayers to all Trustees of the 2014-2018 Board.

As a new Board of Trustees 2018-2022 begins its journey on December 4th, 2018, we recognize five current Trustees who will conclude their exemplary service to Niagara Catholic and Catholic education in Ontario:

Trustee and current Chair Fr. Paul MacNeil - 2010 to 2018 – 8 years of service

Trustee and current Vice-Chair Pat Vernal - 2014 to 2018 – 4 years of service

Trustee Maurice Charbonneau - 2006 to 2018 – 12 years of service

Trustee Ed Nieuwesteeg - 1998 to 2018 – 20 years of service

Trustee Ted O’Leary - 2010 to 2018 – 8 years of service

Their stewardship, leadership, commitment, call to service and ministry as a Catholic trustee has been a beacon of light. May God continue to bless them as they continue to advocate and promote Catholic education and remain connected to Niagara Catholic.”

Director Crocco and Senior Staff lead a standing ovation for the 2014-2018 Board of Trustees.

Director Crocco, on behalf of the students, staff, families and partners in Catholic education throughout the Niagara Catholic District School Board presented a token of appreciation to Trustees Maurice Charbonneau, Fr. Paul MacNeil, Ed Nieuwesteeg, Ted O’Leary and Pat Vernal.

Trustees Fr. Paul MacNeil, Ed Nieuwesteeg, Ted O'Leary and Pat Vernal reflected on their years with the Board, their personal relations and comradery that developed during those years. They expressed their appreciation to their fellow Trustees and Senior Staff for their contribution and dedication and to Niagara Catholic students and staff.

The following motion was presented;

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board express its appreciation for the dedication and stewardship of the 2014-2018 Board of Trustees, especially those Trustees who are journeying beyond Niagara Catholic and will remain in our prayers as advocates for Catholic Education.

CARRIED

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

Nil Report

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

Nil Report

3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

Staff continues to work on various reports on programs, supports and services to be presented at the January and future Committee of the Whole meetings.

4. Trustee Information

4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – November 13, 2018

Director Crocco highlighted the November 13, 2018 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic.

4.2 Calendar of Events – December 2018

Director Crocco reviewed the Calendar of Events – December 2018 for Trustees information

4.3 Ontario Legislative Highlights – November 16 & 23, 2018

Director Crocco presented the Ontario Legislative Highlights for November 16 & 23, 2018

4.4 OCSTA Memorandum – 2019-2020 Education Funding Guide

Director Crocco highlighted the OCSTA Memorandum regarding the 2019-2020 Education Funding Guide and noted the December 14, 2018 deadline.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

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 8:25 p.m. and reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of November 27, 2018.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

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 October 23, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

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 November 13, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

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 October 23, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

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 November 13, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F8.1 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F8.1)

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F8.2 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F8.2)

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F8.3 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F8.3)

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F8.4 of the In Camera Agenda.

CARRIED (Item F8.4)

Moved by Trustee Burtnik
Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

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

CARRIED (Item F9)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Vernal
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the November 27, 2018 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **November 27, 2018**.

Approved on **December 18, 2018**.

Fr. Paul MacNeil
Chair of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF
DECEMBER 4, 2018**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of December 4, 2018, as presented.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BOARD

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2018
7:00 P.M.

*DENIS MORRIS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
40 GLEN MORRIS DR., ST. CATHARINES*

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, December 4, 2018, at Denis Morris Catholic High School, 40 Glen Morris Dr., St. Catharines.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. *Meeting Call to Order – John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer*

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by Chief Executive Officer and Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer John Crocco, in accordance with section 208-4 of the Education Act.

Director Crocco, on behalf of all in attendance, thanked Bishop Gerard Bergie for celebrating the Commissioning Mass of Trustees and for participating in the Inaugural Meeting of the Board.

Appreciation and gratitude was expressed to Principal Di Lorenzo, the students, Choir, Prefects, Student Council and staff of Denis Morris Catholic High School for hosting and participating in the Inaugural Meeting.

Director Crocco welcomed the Honourable Madame Justice Jane Milanetti; Board Solicitor, Marc DiGirolamo, Principals, Vice-Principals, Administrators, staff, family friends, partners and guests to the Mass and Inaugural Meeting of the Board.

The Singing of our National Anthem was led by Denis Morris students Ester Choi and Emily Driscoll.

Director Crocco read a Land Acknowledgement.

2. *Opening Prayer*

The Director welcomed Bishop Gerard Bergie, Bishop of the Diocese of St. Catharines. Bishop Bergie opened the 2018 Inaugural Meeting of the Board with a prayer.

Bishop Bergie offered brief comments on the importance and impact of Catholic education.

Director Crocco, on behalf of the new Board of Trustees, students and staff, presented Bishop Bergie with a gift of appreciation.

3. **Roll Call**

Director Crocco indicated that all Trustees-Elect and Student Trustees were in attendance.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Rhianon Burkholder	✓			
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Larry Huibers	✓			
Daniel Moody	✓			
Leanne Prince	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Paul Turner	✓			
Student Trustees				
Jade Bilodeau	✓			
Madison McKinney	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Pat Rocca**, 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

Special Guests: **Bishop Gerard Bergie**, Bishop of St. Catharines Diocese; **Honourable Madame Justice Jane Milanetti**; **Marc DiGirolamo**, Board Solicitor

4. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

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

5. **Returns of Election**

In accordance with Board By-Laws section 7, subsection 4 and the Education Act, Director Crocco presented the Returns of Election as certified by municipal clerks.

6. **Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance**

Honourable Madame Justice Milanetti offered words of congratulations to all Trustees-Elect. Justice Milanetti with Bishop Bergie, and assisted by Director of Education Crocco, administered the Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance to all Elected-Trustees.

Director Crocco, on behalf of the new Board of Trustees, students and staff, presented Judge Milanetti with a gift of appreciation.

7. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Director Crocco reviewed the procedures for the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair, and appointed Marc DiGirolamo, Board Solicitor and Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education, as scrutineers if a vote was required.

Election of Chair

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT Trustee Burtnik be nominated for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to hold office from December 4, 2018 until the 2019 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Director Crocco asked Trustee Burtnik if she wished to stand for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Trustee Burtnik declined the nomination.

Moved by Trustee Moody

THAT Trustee Fera be nominated for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to hold office from December 4, 2018 until the 2019 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Director Crocco asked Trustee Fera if he wished to stand for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Trustee Fera accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations forthcoming.

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee Turner

THAT the nominations for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be closed.

CARRIED

Director Crocco declared that Trustee Fera was acclaimed to the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board until the 2019 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Director Crocco turned over the Chairship of the Inaugural Meeting of the Board to Chair Fera.

Election of Vice-Chair

Moved by Trustee Huibers

THAT Trustee Sicoli be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board from December 4, 2018 until the 2019 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Chair Fera asked Trustee Sicoli if he wished to stand for the position of Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Trustee Sicoli accepted the nomination.

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

THAT Trustee Burtnik be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board from December 4, 2018 until the 2019 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Chair Fera asked Trustee Burtnik if she wished to stand for the position of Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Trustee Burtnik accepted the nomination.

Moved by Trustee Moody

Seconded by Trustee Prince

THAT the nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be closed.

CARRIED

Following the counting of the ballots Trustee Sicoli was elected to the position of Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board until the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board in 2019.

Moved by Trustee Moody

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the ballots for the election of the Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, be destroyed.

CARRIED

8. Chair's Remarks

A copy of Chair Fera's remarks is attached to the minutes for information and placed on the Board website.
(Appendix A)

9. Vice-Chair's Remarks

A copy of Vice-Chair Sicoli's remarks is attached to the minutes for information and placed on the Board website.
(Appendix B)

10. Board Committees

Director Crocco presented the report on Board Committees, and stated that the report is in compliance with Board Bylaw section 19 v (a) which calls for Trustee membership on Board Ad Hoc, Statutory, Standing and Liaison Committees until the December 2019 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Director Crocco stated that membership to the committees are appointed by the Chair of the Board in consultation with the Vice-Chair of the Board, and asked that Trustees submit their completed form to the Office of the Director by the December 18, 2018 Board Meeting.

Moved by Trustee Turner

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the continuation of the following Ad Hoc Committees for the year 2019:

- Blessed Trinity Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

- Building On Today Ad Hoc Committee
- Denis Morris, Holy Cross, and Saint Francis Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee
- Lakeshore Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee
- Notre Dame College Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee
- Saint Michael and Saint Paul Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

CARRIED

B. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

C. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Moody
Seconded by Trustee Prince

THAT the December 4, 2018 Inaugural Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **December 4, 2018.**

Approved on **December 18, 2018.**

Frank Fera
Chair of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary –Treasurer

APPENDIX A

Remarks from the Chair – Frank Fera Annual Organizational Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board December 4, 2018

Welcome all,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am honoured to acknowledge His Excellency, Bishop Bergie, the Honourary Chair of the Board; a true disciple of Christ and a Bishop who tends to his flock with the utmost piety and sincerity. Thank you, Your Excellency, for your presence here this evening and for celebrating Mass with us on this important occasion. I also wish to acknowledge the co-celebrants of this evening's Mass, and thank them for their participation, Monsignor Clutterbuck, Father Paul MacNeil and Father Aji Varghese.

A special welcome to the newly elected trustees, who have entrusted me with this vote of confidence as Chair of the Board, a position I will hold seriously, with integrity and humility.

To begin with, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to those who daily are given the distinct privilege of touching the lives of our students in so many capacities: Thank you religious leaders, principals, teachers, support staff and custodial workers. It is you who are the heart of our schools. It is all of you whom we owe a debt of gratitude. Thank you. Let us always keep in mind that it is our students who give us purpose and hope.

As we move forward focusing on students as a priority, at the centre of our Board's mandate, we must keep Catholicity at the core of our decision-making. This is what makes us unique – let us embrace it. Together we must work collaboratively to create a culture of kindness, a system that values and upholds positive communication with all employees.

Communication is essential to the credibility and welfare of this Board. It will be the conduit for our successes. Above all, I wish to remind all of the trustees that it is our job to listen and receive feedback from everyone in the community that we serve, especially the parents and guardians who depend on us to ensure that their voices will be heard.

Furthermore, we have an obligation as trustees to inspire our staff and, in turn, our students, to instill faith in them, to encourage them and to provide them with unique opportunities to walk in the footsteps of Saint Paul and become true followers of Christ. And this should not be taken lightly. For it is my profound belief that our public activities are undeniable manifestations of what we profess as a Catholic community.

Lastly, as we begin this new Board year, with the overwhelming theme of bringing forth positive change, together, let us embark upon a fulfilling journey of hope and faith, and let it be our priority to help to grow and support our students and staff. As we strive to encourage the triad that is our school board, let us draw upon the words of Bishop Bergie, who, in a recent article of *The Vineyard*, stated, and I quote: there can be peace and calm in our faith in the midst of any storm, but to find it, we must go deep and encounter our faith."

Thank you, and enjoy the evening.

APPENDIX B

Remarks from the Vice-Chair – Dino Sicoli Annual Organizational Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board December 4, 2018

Your Excellency, trustee colleagues and guests: Welcome to the Inaugural Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, which officially marks the beginning of the 2019 School Board year.

Good evening and thank you for the opportunity to address you tonight as the Vice-Chair of The Niagara Catholic District School Board.

Let me extend thanks on behalf of our new Board to our outgoing Chair, Trustee Fr. Paul McNeil, Vice-Chair Pat Vernal. We thank them for their contributions and for the important work they have done for Catholic Education in Niagara.

I am proud to be a Catholic trustee and I am honoured to serve as the Vice-Chair of this Board. I accept this important role with humility. I thank my fellow trustees for allowing me the opportunity to serve in this privileged role. The trust and faith you have placed in me is very much valued and it gives me the confidence I will need to serve this Board.

As I have done in the past, I can only promise to continue to do the best job I can. The rest we do and accomplish as a team. We are in the midst of a period of transition here at Niagara Catholic. We welcome five new trustees to the Board. For many organizations this amount of change could signify significant challenges. I choose to look at it as a time for opportunities - opportunities that will allow us to move forward in our quest to provide a quality Catholic education to our students. Opportunities to work with our dedicated staff, senior administration, parents, clergy and students in bringing a faith based, and Christ centered education to all who choose to attend our schools. This is our opportunity to let our constituents know that Catholic education in Niagara will be healthy, strong and a vital part of the publicly funded education system in this province.

Biblically speaking this is an opportunity to re-build a positive culture of hospitality, collegiality, one of integrity, honesty and respect –building of the Kingdom of God. This is indeed a great opportunity to make a difference...one step at a time.

A special thank you is extended to all of our teaching & support staff, our principals and vice-principals who everyday go above and beyond for our students. Your commitment is evident in the vibrancy of spirit that is experienced in our Catholic school communities and it is a testament to the exceptional quality of education offered in our classrooms.

Catholic education is a gift to treasure, to cherish, to promote and to protect. Trustees, the responsibility to do that falls squarely on our shoulders. Our message needs to be about the value of Catholic education. As always, it is our students who give us purpose and hope. They are the reason we are here. We delight in seeing how engaged they are in their learning, how they give witness to their faith, and how they are making a positive impact on our world. I thank them for the inspiration they bring to us.

As we begin this new board year, I look forward with hope, with confidence, and with optimism, in working with all of the Educational partners.

In closing, I want to share with you a closing prayer from today's Mass. "*LORD, come and dwell in every part of our life. Make us into your glorious dwelling place.*" This is a place where we bring peace, justice, truth to one another.

Thank you and God Bless all of you.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE MEETING OF DECEMBER 4, 2018**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 4, 2018, as presented.

The following recommendation is being presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 4, 2018:

6.1.1 Catholic School Councils Policy (800.1)

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Catholic School Councils Policy (800.1), as presented.



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TUESDAY DECEMBER 4, 2018

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, December 04, 2018 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 8:19 p.m. by Vice-Chair Sicoli.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chair Sicoli noted that all Trustees and Student Trustees were in attendance.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Rhianon Burkholder	✓			
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Larry Huibers	✓			
Daniel Moody	✓			
Leanne Prince	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Paul Turner	✓			
Student Trustees				
Jade Bilodeau	✓			
Madison McKinney	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Pat Rocca**, 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

Special Guests: **Bishop Gerard Bergie**, Bishop of St. Catharines Diocese; **Honourable Madame Justice Jane Milinetti**; **Marc DiGirolamo**, Board Solicitor

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Turner

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 4, 2018, as amended.

Item C1 Deferred to December 18, 2018 Board Meeting

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 November 13, 2018

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 13, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED

6. Consent Agenda Items

6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of November 27, 2018

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of November 27, 2018, as presented.

6.2 Catholic School Councils Policy (800.1)

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole approval of the Catholic School Councils Policy (800.1), as presented.

6.3 Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities

Presented for information.

6.4 Capital Projects Update

Presented for information.

Moved by Trustee Moody

THAT the Committee of the Whole adopt consent agenda items.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Catholic Education in Niagara

Deferred to the December 18, 2018 Board meeting.

2. Accountability Financial Report 2018-2019

Director Crocco highlighted the Accountability Financial Report 2018-2019 on behalf of Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services.

3. Monthly Updates

3.1 Student Trustees' Update

Jade Bilodeau and Madison McKinney, Student Trustees, presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

3.2 Senior Staff Good News Update

Deferred to December 18, 2018 Board meeting.

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – November 27, 2018

Director Crocco highlighted the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – November 27, 2018 issue for Trustees information.

1.2 Calendar of Events – December 2018

Director Crocco presented the December 2018 Calendar of Events for Trustees information.

1.3 OCSTA Memorandum – 2019 AGM Resolutions

Director Crocco highlighted the OCSTA Memorandum regarding the 2019 AGM Resolutions and noted the submission date for the AGM resolutions is January 31, 2019.

Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the Annual Faith Formation Session at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at Club Roma.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

- 1.1** Staff continues to work on reports for upcoming Committee of the Whole meetings in the New Year, including the Board's Mid-Year 2018-2019 System Priorities Achievement Report.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Huibers

THAT the December 4, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **December 4, 2018.**

Approved on **January 15, 2019.**

Dino Sicoli
Vice-Chair of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCILS POLICY (800.1)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Catholic School Councils Policy (800.1), as presented.

Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education
Presented by: Policy Committee
Recommended by: Committee of the Whole
Date: December 18, 2018



Niagara Catholic District School Board

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCILS POLICY

STATEMENT OF POLICY

800 – Schools and Community Councils

Policy No. 800.1

Adopted Date: February 24, 1998

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date March 28, 2017

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, Catholic School Councils support schools by providing a communication link to parents/guardians, Principals/Vice-Principals, staff, students, school communities and the Board.

A Catholic School Council will be established and maintained in each elementary and secondary school in the Board to encourage the active participation and faith formation of its members, supporting the triad of church, home and school, to improve student achievement and well-being of all students in their school community, and to enhance the accountability of the education system.

The Director of Education will issue Administrative Procedures for the implementation of this Policy.

References

- [*Education Act \(O.Reg. 612/00 Section 1.1\)*](#)
- [*Ministry of Education - School Councils, A Guide for Members*](#)
- [*Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education \(OAPCE\) By-Law and Constitution*](#)
- [*Ontario Regulation 330/10 School Councils and Parent Involvement Committees*](#)

Niagara Catholic District School Board Policies/Procedures/Documents

- [*Board By-Laws \(100.1\)*](#)
- [*Code of Conduct Policy \(302.6.2\)*](#)
- [*Complaint Resolution Policy \(800.3\)*](#)
- [*Criminal Background Check Policy \(302.6.7\)*](#)
- [*Dress Code-Secondary Uniform Policy-Safe Schools \(302.6.6\)*](#)
- [*Elementary Standardized Dress Code Policy-Safe Schools \(302.6.10\)*](#)
- [*Fundraising Policy \(301.4\)*](#)
- [*Playground Equipment Policy \(702.1\)*](#)
- [*Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Policy \(800.7\)*](#)
- [*School Generated Funds Policy \(301.6\)*](#)
- [*Student Fee Policy \(301.11\)*](#)
- [*Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement Policy \(100.13\)*](#)
- [*Volunteering in Catholic Schools Policy \(800.9\)*](#)



Niagara Catholic District School Board

CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCILS POLICY

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

800 – Schools and Community Councils

Policy No. 800.1

Adopted Date: February 24, 1998

Latest Reviewed/Revised Date: March 28, 2017

PURPOSE OF THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

1. The purpose of the Catholic School Council, through active participation of its members is:
 - To build strong Catholic identity and community to nurture the distinctiveness of Catholic Education;
 - To advance student achievement and well-being for all students in their school community; and
 - To enhance the accountability of the education system to parents/guardians.
2. A Catholic School Council's primary means of achieving its purpose is by making recommendations to the Principal of the school and/or the Board.
3. Recommendations made to the Principal of the school and/or the Board on any matters that the Catholic School Council identifies as priorities will represent the general views of the school community and the best interests of all students in the school. Recommendations shall be in keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, along with the distinctive character, philosophy and goals of Catholic education, and respectful of the faith and traditions of the Catholic Church. The Board will retain all the powers and duties specified in the *Education Act* and its related Regulations.

MANDATE OF THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL COUNCIL

Each Catholic School Council in schools of the Niagara Catholic District School Board will bear the name "(School Name) Catholic School Council".

COMPOSITION

1. The composition of the Catholic School Council will ensure that parent/guardian members constitute a majority of the members and reflect the diversity of the school and include the following:
 - The number of parent/guardian members as specified in the Catholic School Council By-Laws or the number the Board determines appropriate.
 - The Principal of the school.
 - One teacher who is employed at the school.
 - One person who is employed at the school, other than the Principal/Vice-Principal or any other teacher (i.e. support staff).
 - A Catholic School Council in an elementary school will include:

- one student enrolled in the school who is appointed by the Principal of the school, if the Principal determines, after consulting the other members of the Catholic School Council, that the council should include a student.
 - A Catholic School Council in a secondary school will include:
 - one student enrolled in the school who is appointed by the student council, if the school has a student council, or
 - one student enrolled in the school who is elected, if the school does not have a student council.
 - Community representative(s) appointed by the Catholic School Council who are not employed at the school, or as specified in the By-Laws of the Catholic School Council.
 - One parent/guardian to represent the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE).
2. The Catholic School Council may appoint/elect one or more of the following individuals subject to the By-Laws of the Catholic School Council:
- A parish priest or representative from the local parish or a designate from the community representing the parish on the Catholic School Council.
 - One parent/guardian representative of a student with special education needs within the school to advocate for students with special education needs.

MEMBERSHIP

PARENT/GUARDIAN MEMBERS

1. To be eligible for election/appointment to the Catholic School Council, a person must:
 - Be a parent/guardian of a student enrolled in the school;
 - Reside within the Board's jurisdiction;
 - Support the Mission of Catholic education, and the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board; and
 - Fully participate in the annual Commissioning of the Catholic School Council members.
2. A parent/guardian who is employed by the Board is qualified to be elected/appointed to the Catholic School Council, and shall at the first meeting; notify the members of employment with the Board prior to the election.
3. A person is not qualified to be a parent/guardian member of a Catholic School Council if the parent/guardian is employed at the school.

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

To be eligible to be appointed as a community representative on a Catholic School Council, the community representative(s) must:

- Provide a letter of reference from a community organization to the Principal of the school to support the nomination;
- Reside within the Board's jurisdiction, and be qualified to vote for a member of the Niagara Catholic District School Board; and
- Support the Mission of Catholic education, and the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

ELECTIONS

Elections shall be held within the first 30 calendar days of the start of the school year, on a date that has been selected by the current Chair and/or Co-Chair(s) of the Catholic School Council, in consultation with the Principal of the school.

VACANCIES

A vacancy in the membership of the Catholic School Council does not prevent the Catholic School Council from exercising its authority.

Vacancies on the Catholic School Council may occur when:

- A parent/guardian member has reached the end of a year term;
- A member resigns; and/or
- A member is unable to fulfill his/her duties.

TERMS OF OFFICE

A person elected/appointed as a member of a Catholic School Council holds office from the date the person is elected/appointed until the date of the first meeting of the Catholic School Council after the elections held in the next school year.

OFFICERS

Chair/Co-Chairs

A Catholic School Council shall have a Chair or, if the By-Laws of the Catholic School Council so provide two Co-Chairs. An employee of the Board cannot serve as the Chair/Co-Chair of a Catholic School Council.

Sub-Committees

A Catholic School Council may establish sub-committees to carry out specific tasks or projects in accordance with the overall mandate of the Catholic School Council, as provided in the By-Laws of the Catholic School Council.

MEETINGS

A Catholic School Council shall meet between September to June at least four times in each school year. All meetings will be held at the school that has established the Catholic School Council and shall be open to the public. The Principal shall provide written notice of the date, time and location of the meetings to parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school.

VOTING

When a Catholic School Council votes on a matter, each member of the council other than the school Principal is entitled to vote.

BY-LAWS

Every Catholic School Council shall develop By-Laws ([Appendix A – By-laws Template](#)) within the first 60 days of the school year governing the conduct of the Catholic School Council's affairs.

AGENDAS/MINUTES AND FINANCIAL RECORDS

Agendas

Every effort will be made to distribute the agenda to members of a Catholic School Council at least five calendar days prior to the meeting by delivering a notice by e-mail and posting a notice on the school website ([Appendix B – Agenda Template](#)).

Delegations

Individuals may request in writing two weeks prior to the Catholic School Council meeting to be placed on the agenda. The Chair/Co-Chair(s), in consultation with the Principal may approve or deny such requests. The Principal will notify the individuals of the decision.

Minutes and Financial Records

1. A Catholic School Council shall keep and retain the approved minutes of its meetings and records of its financial transactions in accordance with the policies of the Board respecting the retention of documents by committees of the Board ([Appendix C – Meeting Minutes Template](#)).
2. The approved minutes of the Catholic School Council shall be posted on the school website and remain for four years.
3. The minutes and financial records shall be available for examination at the school by any person without charge for four years.

INCORPORATION

A Catholic School Council shall not be incorporated.

CONSULTATION BY THE NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Catholic School Councils shall be consulted by the Board and/or Principal for recommendations on new and revised policies and procedures with respect to:

- The student achievement and well-being of all students;
- The accountability of the education system to parents/guardians;
- The code of conduct;
- The appropriate dress code for students;

- The allocation of funding to the Catholic School Council;
- The fundraising activities by Catholic School Council members;
- The resolution of internal Catholic School Council disputes;
- The reimbursement of expenses of the Catholic School Council;
- The Board and school's action plans for improvement based on EQAO results and the communication of the plans to parents/guardians;
- The criteria and process for selection and placement of Principals/Vice-Principals;
- Any new educational initiatives at the Board and school levels; and
- The development of a plan for providing co-instructional activities.

In addition, Catholic School Councils may provide advice to the Board and/or Principal on any matters that the Catholic School Council identifies as priorities such as:

- The Catholic character of the school and/or the system;
- The preparation of the school year calendar;
- The development, implementation and review of all Board policies at the local level;
- The involvement with the Parish and liturgical celebrations and sacraments;
- Board and/or school policies regarding field trips for students;
- School budget priorities;
- The community use of school facilities;
- Fundraising activities;
- Participation in the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC);
- Information and training sessions: curriculum, program goals and priorities;
- The school Mission Statement; and
- Other issues deemed appropriate by the Board.

CONSULTATION WITH PARENTS

The Catholic School Council shall consult with parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school about matters under consideration by the Catholic School Council.

RESOLUTION

All members of the Catholic School Council are required to be in compliance with the Board's *Complaint Resolution Policy No. 800.3* and the Catholic School Council By-Laws.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All members of the Catholic School Council are required to be in full compliance with the Board's *Code of Conduct Policy No. 302.6.2* and the Catholic School Council By-Laws.

FUNDRAISING

1. Fundraising activities may be conducted in accordance with Board policies and procedures. Funds raised are to be used for a purpose approved by the Board and/or Principal.
2. Any funds and assets generated through fundraising activities assisted by the Catholic School Council are the property of the Board.

ANNUAL REPORT

1. Every Catholic School Council shall annually submit a written report of its activities/fundraising to the Principal of the school and to the Board. ([Appendix D – Annual Report Template](#))
2. On behalf of the Catholic School Council, the Principal shall provide a copy of the report to every parent/guardian of a student enrolled in the school by giving the report to the student for delivery or by posting the report in the school that is accessible to parents/guardians, or on the school website.

REMUNERATION

A person shall not receive any remuneration for serving as a member or officer of a Catholic School Council.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEETING OF
NOVEMBER 7, 2018**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of November 7, 2018, as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2018

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. in the Father Burns csc Boardroom at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

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

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Vice-Chair Murphy.

2. Roll Call

Members	Affiliations	Present	Excused	Absent
Anna Racine	The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario		✓	
Karen Murphy	Autism Ontario Niagara Region	✓		
Pina Palombo	Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara)	✓		
Bill Helmeczi	Pathstone Mental Health		✓	
Michael Jacques	Community Living Welland Pelham	✓		
Dorothy Harvey	Niagara Children's Centre	✓		
Rita Smith	Community Living Port Colborne/Wainfleet	✓		
Ted Nangle	Learning Disabilities Association – Niagara	✓		
Trustees				
Pat Vernal		✓		
Maurice Charbonneau			✓	
Student Senate Representative				
Donald Hingston		✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education; **Denice Robertson**, Principal, Secondary; **Tina DiFrancesco**, Recording Secretary

Introductions

Vice-Chair Murphy introduced Ted Nangle, new primary SEAC representative from the Learning Disabilities Association Niagara Region.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Dorothy Harvey
Seconded by Pina Palombo

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of November 7, 2018.

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 October 3, 2018

Moved by Pina Palombo
Seconded by Rita Smith

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 3, 2018 as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. VISIONING

1. Goals and Vision for 2018-2019

1.1 Goals and Vision for the 2018-2019 School Year

Vice-Chair Murphy reviewed the following SEAC goals with the members.

1. Dr. Sheila Bennett - Presentation
2. Hold a SEAC meeting at a school
3. Develop a Transition Survey relating to the transition process in schools

Superintendent Rocca has contacted Dr. Sheila Bennett regarding a future presentation. Denice Robertson, Principal, Lakeshore Catholic High school has offered her school to hold a future SEAC meeting.

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 3, 2018

1. **Learner Advocacy**

2. **Parent Outreach**

2.1 **ProGrant Event** – awaiting more information.

3. **Program and Service Recommendations**

4. **Special Education Budget**

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

6. **Other Related Items**

7. **Policy Review**

The following policies were presented for review.

Transportation and School Operations for Inclement Weather Policy (500.1)

Employee Attendance During Inclement Weather and Workplace Closure Policy (201.9)

Student Senate – Secondary Policy (100.6.1)

Student Senate – Elementary Policy (100.6.2)

Supporting Children and Students with Prevalent Medication Conditions Policy (NEW)

Feedback can be submitted to jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com by January 11, 2019

E. SEAC REPORT

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

- Information is being sent to Principals regarding the change in start time for all Niagara Catholic Special Education Advisory Committee Meetings from 7:00p.m. to 6:30p.m.

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

- Same as noted above

F. AGENCY REPORTS

1. Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Pina Palombo

- Celebrating DS Awareness week of November 1 – 7, 2018. Created by the Canadian Down Syndrome Society, Canadian Down Syndrome Week will be celebrated in place of National Down Syndrome Awareness Week, every November 1-7. The Canadian Down Syndrome Society's annual "See the Ability" billboard is also unveiled to celebrate National Down Syndrome Awareness Week.
- The Halloween Party was another huge success; Great to see so many new young families again.
- Upcoming Christmas Party is going to be held at Heartland Forest this year on Sunday, December 16, 2018.
- G-MC Homies with Chromies Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 9 at the Sky zone again this year and back to Boston Pizza for pizza and a special visit from Santa.
- G-MC Homies with Chromies provided a free trip for our DS group children and adults to see the Maple Leafs. The foundation picked up the tab for all costs for bus, tickets, pizza; they had a box seat and met some of the hockey players that night.
- Cross Fit with G-MC Homies was this past Sunday, November 4 and was well attended.
- The next DS meeting has been scheduled for this coming Sunday, November 11 from 3:00p.m. – 5:00p.m.

2. The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario – Anna Racine

- Nil Report

3. Pathstone Mental Health – Bill Helmeczi

- Nil Report

4. Community Living, Welland Pelham – Michael Jacques

- **REACTION4Inclusion** - Community Living is celebrating 10 years of this Youth Leadership Conference and share in the building of a collective vision for an inclusive Ontario. The event is being held on *March 29 and 30, 2019 at the Kingsbridge Conference Centre, King City*. For further information go to www.communitylivingontario.ca or contact ebranje@communitylivingontario.ca.
- **Together We're Better Contest 2019**. Community Living Ontario is promoting its *Together We're Better* contest and invites elementary school aged children from across Ontario to participate in a contest that promotes and raises awareness about inclusive education. Students can participate in this contest by creating a video, story or poem that shows how *Together We're Better* because students of all abilities are included. The deadline for the video, story, or poem submission is **Monday, January 28, 2019**.

5. Autism Ontario Niagara Region – Karen Murphy

- Autism Ontario Niagara Region Chapter welcomes Dawn Tuckwell as Chapter Manager. She can be reached at chaptermgr.niagara@autismontario.com, 905-682-2776 Ext 201.

- A provincial survey was conducted in October asking participants (parents, caregivers, adults with autism) to rank in priorities the top five. Transitions from school (whether it was elementary to secondary or transitioning out of secondary school was fourth and the number one concern was inadequate educational support.
- A new website will be launching soon.
- Autism Ontario is looking at the way we address autism, specifically first person terminology, with the goal of being more inclusive.
- Recreation program needs survey is delayed but will be launched short.

6. Niagara Children's Centre – Dorothy Harvey

- Niagara Children's Centre has had some organization restructuring this summer.
- School based rehabilitation services in Niagara are transitioning from our Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) to a shared model between the LHIN and the Niagara Children's Centre. OT, PT and Speech are transitioning to the Niagara Children's Centre. The LHIN oversees nursing. Looking a better integration of services.
- Looking at pathways for children with autism. McMaster Children's Hospital is the hub.
- There is a new medical clinic at the Niagara Children's Centre.
- Niagara Children's Centre will host three information nights for parents of children with special education needs who will be transitioning into Kindergarten-Year 1 in September 2019.
 - November 12, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Niagara Children's Centre
 - December 6, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Niagara Falls (4037 Longhurst Ave, Niagara Falls)
 - January 22, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Welland (Community Living Welland Pelham)
- Trillium Grant – Education conference with keynote speaker.
- Parent talks evening continues.

7. Community Living Port Colborne/Wainfleet – Rita Smith

- All the proceeds, from this year's SMILE cookies sold at Tim Hortons (in Port Colborne) will be coming to Community Living Port Colborne - Wainfleet to help us fund children's programs (for all youth in Port Colborne). CLPCW does not receive any funding from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services to run children's program, so we are very grateful for the funds we received from Tim Hortons. Our programs are all inclusive. Because Port Colborne has limited programming for youth, our classes are open to everyone. Currently we are offering cooking and baking programs, music lessons, swimming, bowling, drama, kids club, hip hop, teen groups and homework club.
- Our transitioning into adulthood program is also very successful. This program, requested by parents, teaches young people basic life skills that they will need as they leave school and make plans to live on their own. Such skills as cooking, grocery shopping, money management, work skills, healthy relationships, laundry, personal hygiene, maintaining a home, safety skills and much more. We also spent a week at Lakeshore Catholic High School presenting the "Living Outloud" program to these young adults. This program created by Morgan Cooper (who is also the mother of a child with an intellectual disability) is ability focused coaching and gets the young people to think about what lights them up, what their passions are and what are they going to do once their education is completed. It was very well received.

8. Learning Disabilities Association Niagara Region - Ted Nangle

- LDANR is opening registration for winter programs. With the pending programs, LDANR is repositioning our program pricing models.
- LDANR recently was advised we would be receiving a Trillium Grow Grant that will be used to grow and support Math Programming.

G. STAFF REPORTS

1. Lisa Selman – Principal, Elementary

- Nil Report

2. Denice Robertson – Principal, Secondary

- IEP's have been updated and sent home. The Special Education departments continue to welcome discussions with parents as their child's academic, social and emotional needs evolve. As we approach midterm, Educational Resource Teachers are monitoring the progress of students with Individual Education Plans and maintaining dialogue with classroom teachers in regard to accommodations outlined in the IEP.
- November 14 is Grade 9 Take Our Kids to Work Day. We look forward to hearing about our student experiences.

Blessed Trinity Secondary

- Educational Resource Teachers will meet with each Grade 9 student who is taking Religion during Semester 1 to ensure that they have a community service placement and to assist in finding one if they do not.
- Planning has begun to select students who will to travel to King City for the Reaction4Inclusion Conference on March 29 and 30. Thank you to Community Living for their continued support as our students glean so much from this leadership summit.
- Over the past few months, we have established new partnerships with Habitat for Humanity Grimsby who have agreed to assist us with providing co-op placements and life skills opportunities to our students. We have a student who is working there daily and continues to develop hands-on, real world skills to prepare him for the transition from secondary school.
- NEW LISTENING CENTER – we have discovered a vast array of discarded audio equipment that we have repurposed into a listening center here in our classroom. Books with accompanying CDs have proven to be very popular in class and now students have the opportunity to put on one of multiple headphones and experience the same story as their peers simultaneously.
- WRESTLING – three of our students have expressed an active interest in joining our Wrestling Team here at Blessed Trinity. Tryouts are occurring in early November. Blessed Trinity hosts a very large wrestling tournament each year in the spring.
- FILM – several of our students have embarked on the study of film in a unit that was developed as part of the Social Skills Development course. Students are studying genres, characters, cinematography and have engaged in some lively classroom discussions involving the importance of the mass media and the role that it plays in all of our lives.

Denis Morris

- Two teams will compete at the Special Olympics basketball-qualifying tournament on November 2.
- Grade 8 students will be visiting on November 14 and those students with individual needs will be taking part in both the large group activities, as well as smaller, personalized visits.
- Students in Special Education are being supported daily individually, in small groups and in the classroom setting. Educational Resource Teachers are making regular visits to the culinary classroom, assisting in the preparation and culmination of a variety of delicious dishes.
- Our Capacity Building Series for October addressed students with Down Syndrome. We provided staff with an article regarding teaching strategies and supports designed to help our students with Down Syndrome.

Holy Cross

- Our class is experiencing the change of seasons with various autumn activities. Two of our graduates attended the retreat at Heartland Forest. After a beautiful day of reflection, hikes and low rope activities, they returned with 15 pumpkins for their classmates to decorate this Halloween.
- Several of our students will be participating in an after school Cooking is Cool program in the coming weeks. ABA strategies will be utilized to help students understand kitchen safety, read recipes and prepare meals in an organized and supportive environment. Students who require it will use visual schedules and augmentative devices to assist them. It will take place in the Holy Cross-culinary kitchen with our own Chef.
- In addition, our students have been actively involved in our school's pilgrimage for our sister school in Haiti. From raising pledges to sorting envelopes to embarking on the walk, we came together to support those in need.

Lakeshore Catholic

- This week our class is creating an inclusive random act of kindness banner.
- Our Special Education class has assumed full responsibility of the school's vending machine services. Students are really enjoying the learning opportunities, which include stocking product, reviewing supply/demand, counting revenue/profits, and customer service.
- New fine motor skills craft activities have become very popular with our kids.
- In recent weeks, many of our students have participated in class trips, e.g., Niagara Falls (photography & geography), Grade 9 Retreat, & SNAP.
- Many of our students dressed up for Halloween and participated in the student council haunted house activity.

Notre Dame College

- Swim team has begun and we have four students who will be competing this year. We are looking forward to our first meet on Thursday. November 15.
- Several students from the Special Education area, their families and friends joined us on Pilgrimage Sunday. Their donations and commitment, and enthusiasm were all part of a wonderful day.

Saint Francis

- We have begun to plan for our Special Education Christmas event at Saint Francis, which will take place on December 13. We are very excited to host this bi-annual event once again this year! Our event will include Christmas crafts, Christmas music and a Christmas dance. We look forward to seeing as many Special Education Classroom students and staff from the seven other high schools as possible on December the 13 at Saint Francis!

Saint Michael

- TAY meeting and Special Class IPRCs were held in October to ensure that students are appropriately placed.
- We have met with an architect to redesign our Special Education Class. We look forward to seeing his plans. The changes will allow for an additional quiet room and change our kitchen into a "teaching kitchen", one that is open to the classroom.
- Our school staff is continuing the transition to G suite and google classroom. This is particularly beneficial to Special Education students as they can see announcements, review missing notes, get reminders from teachers and have access to Google Read and Write for all of their work.

Saint Paul

- Our three new staff members have acclimated very well in their new roles. As well, our three new students have made a nice, smooth transition to the high school environment.
- On Wednesday, October 10, Saint Paul hosted this area's Special Olympics Soccer qualifier at Mitchelson Park. Our unified team went undefeated (4-0); we will find out in the spring if we qualified for the provincial championships.
- Our students hit the ground running in their courses and are already doing great things! Our students in the Culinary Class are responsible for making muffins (and other baked goods) for the school's breakfast program. We have a couple of senior students who are completing a variety of life-skills tasks around the school (e.g., delivering messages, photocopying, recycling, filling water bottles, etc.).

3. Pat Rocca – Superintendent of Education

- Nomination letters from agency representatives to join the SEAC for the 2018-2022 term of office are being accepted.
- Superintendent Rocca thanked Pat Vernal for all her support as a Niagara Catholic Trustee.
- Superintendent Rocca is requesting feedback from the SEAC members on various questions. More information to follow at the December meeting.

4. Jim Di Gioia – Coordinator Special Education

Report Submitted

- The Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Supervisors launched Student Support's latest afterschool program for students on the Autism spectrum this past Tuesday. The program is a six-week Cooking Is Cool program being held at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary under the direction of the Chef, Holy Cross's culinary instructor. Eleven students from Holy Cross Catholic and Saint Francis Catholic Secondary are enrolled in the program that targets developing socialization and life-skill development for students living with ASD. The

program is funded through the Ministry of Education. The current after-school program, Beats and Bots, combining music and robotics, is wrapping up in Niagara Falls this week as well.

- Student Support staff have helped facilitate over 250 referrals for students in Kindergarten Year 1 to Speech Services Niagara Speech and Language screening program. Based on their level of need, these students will receive screening and/or speech therapy blocks before they turn five years of age. Kindergarten Teachers and Early Childhood Educators, alongside their school Educational Resource Teacher worked to identify students who may benefit from early intervention therapy.

H. TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. Pat Vernal – Trustee

- Monitoring the budget.
- Working on system priorities.
- Working on a survey that started last spring, in preparation to send out to all stakeholders.

2. Maurice Charbonneau – Trustee

- Nil Report

I. STUDENT REPORT

1. Donald Hingston – Student Senate Representative

- The Ontario Catholic Student Leadership conference held in October went very well. The keynote address was by a Catholic rap artist.
- Student Senate have made changes to their policy regarding elections and have added a Community Representative on the Student Senate.

J. NCPIC REPORT

- Nil Report

K. ALLIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. Learner Advocacy

2. Parent Outreach

3. Program and Service Recommendation

4. Special Education Budget
5. Annual Review, Special Education Plan
6. Other Related Items
7. Policy Review

M. CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter was received from the Upper Grand District School Board requesting that the Ministry of Education amend the Education Act so that every board shall promote awareness and understanding of permanent brain injury resulting from prenatal alcohol exposure, including best practices to support pupils who may have FASD.
2. A letter was received from the Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic District School Board regarding the Special Education funding model.

N. QUESTION PERIOD

O. NOTICES OF MOTION

P. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

1. Sheila Bennett – future presentation.
Superintendent Rocca has contacted Dr. Sheila Bennet regarding a future presentation.
2. Living Outloud - presentation
Rita Smith, Community Living Port Colborne/Wainfleet suggested a future presentation.

Q. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. The annual SEAC Dinner will start at 6:00p.m. prior to the December 5th meeting.

R. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at 6:30p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre

S. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Michael Jacques

Seconded by Trustee Vernal

THAT the November 7, 2018 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 7:30p.m.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: APPOINTMENT OF NIAGARA CATHOLIC SPECIAL
EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEMBERS**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board appoint the following local association representatives to serve as Special Education Advisory Committee members for the term of 2018-2022:

Anna Racine – Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario (Niagara Chapter)
Pina Palombo – Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Primary
Rob Lavorato – Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Alternate
Bill Helmeczi – Pathstone Mental Health
Andrew Howcroft – Community Living Welland/Pelham – Primary
Michael Jacques – Community Living Welland/Pelham – Alternate
Dorothy Harvey – Niagara Children’s Centre
Rita Smith – Community Living Port Colborne/Wainfleet
Ted Nangle – Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region
Lorraine Smith – Mainstream
Karen Murphy – Autism Ontario Niagara Region

Prepared by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education
Presented by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education
Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Date: December 18, 2018



REPORT TO THE BOARD DECEMBER 18, 2018

APPOINTMENT OF NIAGARA CATHOLIC SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEMBERS

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In the Education Act, Ontario Regulation 464/97 (O. Regulation 464/97) Special Education Advisory Committees outlines the composition, eligibility requirements and length of term served by the membership of this Board committee.

Sections 1, 2, 5 and 6 below are the excerpts from O. Regulation 464/97:

1. In this Regulation, “local association” means an association or organization of parents that operates locally within the area of jurisdiction of a Board and that is affiliated with an association or organization that is not an association or organization of professional educators but that is incorporated and operates throughout Ontario to further the interests and well-being of one or more groups of exceptional children or adults. O. Regulation 464/97, s. 1.
2. (1) Every district school Board shall establish a Special Education Advisory Committee that shall consist of,
 - (a) subject to subsections (2) and (3), one representative from each of the local associations that operates locally within the area of jurisdiction of the Board, as nominated by the local association and appointed by the Board;
 - (b) one alternate for each representative appointed under clause (a), as nominated by the local association and appointed by the Board;
 - (c) such number of members from among the Board’s own members as is determined under subsection (4), as appointed by the Board;
 - (d) where the number of members appointed under clause (c) is less than three, one alternate, as appointed by the Board from among its own members, for each member appointed under clause (c);
 - (e) one or two persons to represent the interests of Indian pupils, as provided by section 4; and
 - (f) one or more additional members appointed under subsection (5).
- (2) The Board shall not appoint more than twelve (12) representatives under clause (1) (a).
- (3) Where there are more than twelve (12) local associations within the area of jurisdiction of the Board, the Board shall select the twelve (12) local associations that shall be represented.
- (4) The number to be appointed by the Board under clause (1) (c) shall be the lesser of,
 - (a) three; and
 - (b) twenty-five (25) per cent of the total number of members of the Board, rounded down to the nearest whole number.

- (5) For the purposes of clause (1) (f), the Board may appoint one or more additional members who are neither representatives of a local association nor members of the Board or another committee of the Board. O. Regulation 464/97, s. 2.
5. (1) A person is not qualified to be nominated or appointed under section 2 or 3 to a Special Education Advisory Committee of a Board unless the person is qualified to vote for members of that Board and is resident in its area of jurisdiction.
6. Subject to section 7, each of the persons appointed to a Special Education Advisory Committee of a Board shall hold office during the term of office of the members of the Board and until a new Board is organized. O. Regulation 464/97, s. 6.

The attached letters of nomination have been received for consideration of appointment to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the 2018-2022 term of office.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board appoint the following local association representatives to serve as Special Education Advisory Committee members for the term of 2018-2022:

Anna Racine – Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario (Niagara Chapter)
Pina Palombo – Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Primary
Rob Lavorato – Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Alternate
Bill Helmeczi – Pathstone Mental Health
Andrew Howcroft – Community Living Welland/Pelham – Primary
Michael Jacques – Community Living Welland/Pelham – Alternate
Dorothy Harvey – Niagara Children’s Centre
Rita Smith – Community Living Port Colborne/Wainfleet
Ted Nangle – Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region
Lorraine Smith – Mainstream
Karen Murphy – Autism Ontario Niagara Region

Prepared by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 18, 2018



TOURETTE SYNDROME ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

"The Building Blocks for a Better Tomorrow"

November 04, 2018

ADVISORY BOARD

Dr. Stuart ABLON
Psychologist

Dr. Marino BATTIGELLI
M.D., F.R.C.P.(C)
Chief of Psychiatry

Dr. Laura CHAMPION
Psychologist

Dr. Dan DALTON
Ph.D., C.
Psychologist

Dr. Shawn S.K. KAO
M.D., F.R.C.P.(C)
Paediatrician

Mr. A. Tom LEOUSIS
B.A., M.A., LL.B.
Barrister, Solicitor,
Advocat

Dr. B. Duncan McKINLAY
Psychologist

Dr. Keith MELOFF
M.D., F.R.C.P.(C)
Neurologist

Dr. Michelle PEARCE
M.D., F.R.C.P.(C)
Psychiatrist

Dr. Robyn J. STEPHENS
PdD., C.Psych.
Neuropsychologist

Ms. Dorothy WILLIS
(B.A.)S.ED.
Education

Niagara Catholic District School Board

427 Rice Road

Attention: Chair of the Board, NCDSB

Re: Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Position.

The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario would like to nominate Ms. Anna Racine for membership to the Niagara Catholic's Special Education Advisory Committee.

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

Rickdhensley@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Richard D. Hensley

Founding Member

20 Procee Circle, RR #1, Barrie, Ontario L4M 4Y8
Telephone 1-888-274-2226 Email tsao@primus.ca
Web Site www.tourettesyndromeontario.ca



November 15, 2018

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

ATTN: Chair of the Board

Dear Chair of the Board,
The Down Syndrome Caring Parents Association would like to nominate Pina Palombo for membership as the primary representative and Rob Lavorato as the alternate representative to Niagara Catholic's Special Education Advisory Committee.

Pina Palombo and Rob Lavorato meet the qualification criteria, as they are residents within the area of jurisdiction of the board, and are able to vote for the current Board of Trustees.

Their contact information is listed below:

Pina Palombo
15 Windemere Rd
St. Catharines ON L2T 3W1
905-704-0377
pinataraba@gmail.com

Rob Lavorato
71 Monarch Park Drive
St. Catharines ON L2M 6V4
905-327-7663
rob.lavorato68@gmail.com

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding my request.

Sincerely,

Doris Fiander
President

November 7, 2018

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

Attention: Chair of the Board

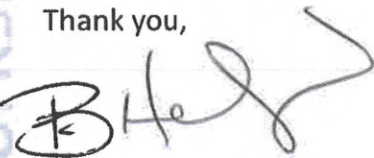
Dear Chair of the Board:

The Pathstone would like to nominate Bill Helmeczi for membership as the primary representative to Niagara Catholic's Special Education Advisory Committee.

Bill Helmeczi meets the qualification criteria, as he/she is a resident within the area of jurisdiction of the Board and is able to vote for the current Board of Trustees.

Bill Helmeczi
1338 Fourth Avenue, St. Catharines, L2S 0G1
905-688-6850 ext 161
Email: bhelmeczi@pathstone.ca

Thank you,



Bill Helmeczi, RP, RSW
Director, Strategic Initiatives, Standards and Practices
Pathstone Mental Health
1338 Fourth Avenue, St. Catharines, ON
L2S 0G1

Treatment Works!



Administrative Offices
Bureau administratif
535 Sutherland Ave.,
Welland, ON
L3B 5A4
Tel: 905-735-0081
Fax: 905-735-2256
E-Mail:
communityliving@
cl-wellandpelham.ca

Children's Services
Les services des enfants
c/o ACW Child Care – Woodlawn
300 Woodlawn Road
Welland, ON
L3C 7L3
Tel: 905-735-2211
Fax: 905-735-2276

Employment Services
Service d'embauche
c/o Seaway Mall, Suite GG4
800 Niagara Street
Welland, ON
L3C 5Z4
Tel: 905-732-1023
Fax: 905-732-0528

Family Support Services
Service de support
de famille
535 Sutherland Ave.,
Welland, ON
L3B 5A4
Tel: 905-735-0185
Fax: 905-735-9431

Residential Services
Service résidentiels
535 Sutherland Ave.,
Welland, ON
L3B 5A4
Tel: 905-735-9019
Fax: 905-735-9431

Volunteer Services
Service volontaires
535 Sutherland Ave.,
Welland, ON
L3B 5A4
Tel: 905-735-0081
Fax: 905-735-9431

Community Access
Supports
Accès Communautaire
Soutien
535 Sutherland Ave.,
Welland, ON
L3B 5A4
Tel: 905-735-0081
Fax: 905-735-9431

Website
Site de web
www.cl-wellandpelham.ca

November 7, 2018

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

Attention: Chair of the Board

Dear Chair of the Board:

Community Living Welland Pelham would like to nominate **Andrew Howcroft and Michael Jacques** for membership as the primary and secondary representative, respectively, to Niagara Catholic's Special Education Advisory Committee.

Michael and Andrew meet the qualification criteria, as they are a resident within the area of jurisdiction of the Board and are able to vote for the current Board of Trustees.

Andrew Howcroft's contact information is listed below.
Address: 7420 Lakewood Cres., Niagara Falls, ON L2G 7V3
Phone Number: 905-984-1749
Email: andrewhowcroft@cl-wellandpelham.ca

Michael Jacques's contact information is listed below.
Address: 64 Concorde St., Fonthill, ON L0S 1E5
Phone Number: 905-892-4564
Email: michael.jacques1@gmail.com

Thank you,

Name Francine Beaudoin
Title: President – Community Living Welland Pelham Board of Directors

OUR MISSION: ADVOCATE FOR, PROMOTE AND FACILITATE THE FULL PARTICIPATION, INCLUSION AND CITIZENSHIP OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

NOTRE MISSION: L'AVOCAT POUR, FAVORISENT ET FACILITENT LA PLEINE PARTICIPATION, L'INCLUSION ET CITOYENNETÉ DES PERSONNES QUI ONT UN DISABILITÉ INTELLECTUEL

December 2, 2018

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



Attention: Chair of the Board and Director of Education

Niagara Children's Centre would like to nominate Dorothy Harvey for membership on the Niagara Catholic Special Education Advisory Committee.

Dorothy Harvey meets the criteria as she is able to vote for the current Board of Trustees and lives within the jurisdiction of the Board.

As the Director of Rehabilitation Services, Dorothy oversees the rehabilitation and support services for children and youth presenting with physical, developmental or communicative delays or disabilities. The services include physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech language pathology, social work, therapeutic recreation, preschool resource services and aquatic programs.

I am confident that she will bring a valuable perspective to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

Dorothy's contact information is below for your information.

Address: 12 Boese Court, St. Catharines L2N 7E7

Phone number: 905-935-2305 (home), 905-688-1890 ext 200 (work), 289-929-4964 (cell)

Email Address: gcharvey@sympatico.ca (home), dorothy.harvey@niagarachildrenscentre.com (work)

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Oksana Fisher
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Dorothy Harvey



COMMUNITY LIVING
Port Colborne-Wainfleet

*Inspiring Possibilities
In a community where everyone belongs*

November 7, 2018

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

Attention: Chair of the Board

Dear Chair of the Board:

Community Living Port Colborne~Wainfleet would like to nominate Rita Smith for membership as our primary representative to Niagara Catholic's Special Education Advisory Committee.

Rita Smith meets the qualification criteria, as she is a resident within the area of jurisdiction of the Board and is able to vote for the current Board of Trustees.

Contact Information:


Rita Smith
Address: 66 Cross St., Port Colborne L3K 1L2
Phone Number: 905 834-9150
Email: ritas@clpcw.com

Thank you,



Executive Director

100 McRae Ave., Port Colborne, ON, L3K 2A8
t. 905 835-8941 f. 905 835-5515
www.PortColborneCommunityLiving.com





Idanr • Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region

The right to learn, the power to achieve

November 9, 2018
Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road,
Welland, Ontario
L3C 7C1

Attn: Chair of the Board

Dear Chair of the Board:

The Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region (LDANR) would like to nominate Ted Nangle for membership as the primary representative for NCDBS's SEAC.

Ted meets the qualification criteria, as he is a Board member on the LDANR Board of Directors, a resident within the area of jurisdiction of the board, and is able to vote for the current Board of Trustees and, therefore, a separate school supporter.

LDANR is the local Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario chapter in Niagara. We are a charitable, not-for-profit agency, with the purpose of providing resources and support to individuals who are affected by learning disabilities within the Niagara Region. We provide leadership in learning disabilities advocacy, research, education and services, and advance the full participation in society of children, youth and adults with learning differences.

If you require additional information as you consider this request, please free to contact me at 905-688-5550 ext. 4566. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jayne Morrish", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jayne Morrish
Chair, LDANR

November 15, 2018

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

Attention: Chair of the Board

Dear Chair of the Board:

Mainstream would like to nominate Lorraine Smith for membership as the primary representative to Niagara Catholic's Special Education Advisory Committee.

Ms. Smith meets the qualification criteria, as she is a resident within the area of jurisdiction of the Board and is able to vote for the current Board of Trustees.

Lorraine's contact information is listed below.

Address: 206 Borden Ave. Port Colborne
Phone Number: 905 834 9015
Email: lsmith@mainstreamservices.com

Sincerely,



Kevin Berswick
Executive Director



December 12, 2018

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Niagara Chapter of Autism Ontario, please accept this letter as formal notification that Karen Murphy will be the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Representative from Autism Ontario for the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

Karen Murphy can be reached at m_murphy7@sympatico.ca or (905)227-9249.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require clarification on this matter. I can be reached at brittany@autismontario.com.

Kind Regards,

**Brittany Sherwood
Chapter Support and Volunteer Coordinator
Autism Ontario
brittany@autismontario.com**

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION'S ANNUAL REPORT 2018

The Director of Education's Annual Report 2018
is presented for information.

*A hard copy of the Director's Annual Report 2018 will be distributed at the Board
Meeting.*

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

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

Date: December 18, 2018



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE BOARD DECEMBER 18, 2018

DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2018

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In compliance with the Education Act, Section 283(3), the Chief Executive Officer of a Board is required to submit to the Board an Annual Report highlighting the action taken during the preceding twelve (12) months. A copy of the annual report must be submitted yearly to the Minister of Education before January 31, 2019.

For the 2018 Annual Director's Report, the Minister of Education provided Director's of Education with an outline of specific information to be included, at a minimum, in the Annual Report. The Niagara Catholic Director's Annual Report 2018 is once again presented in a new layout and contains all of the information as required by the Minister of Education.

It is expected that the Annual Report is posted on a Board's website with a link to the Ministry's website for access to the Director's Annual Report. Once the Board receives the Director's Annual Report 2018, it will be placed on the Niagara Catholic website at *niagaracatholic.ca* and *My Niagara Catholic* and linked to the Ministry's website.

In addition to these requirements, copies of the Niagara Catholic Director's Annual Report 2018 are provided to the Trustees of the Niagara Catholic District School Board along with the following individuals and organizations;

- Bishop Bergie and all Parish Priests in the Diocese of St. Catharines
- Principals, Vice-Principals and Administrators
- Niagara Catholic Alliance Committee
- Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee
- Special Education Advisory Committee
- Catholic School Council Chairs
- CUPE, OECTA Elementary and Secondary
- Local Member of Parliament (MP), Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) and Mayors

Electronic copies of the Director's Annual Report 2018 will be sent to;

- All Catholic School Boards in Ontario
- Institute for Catholic Education, OCSTA, CCSTA
- Other Educational Institutions
- Municipal Libraries - Niagara Region

A hard copy of the Director's Annual Report 2018 will be distributed at the Board Meeting.

The report on the Director's Annual Report 2018 is presented for information.

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

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

Date: December 18, 2018

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: TRUSTEE EXPENSES AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018**

The Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 report is
presented for information.

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

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

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

Date: December 18, 2018



REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 18, 2018

TRUSTEE EXPENSES AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As elected officials, school trustees are guardians of the public trust. The establishment of a distinct trustee expense policy by school boards to promote financial integrity, accountability and transparency improves public confidence in Ontario's public education system.

It is the responsibility of individual Trustees to submit reasonably related specific expenses incurred in the role and responsibility of Catholic Trustees ensuring that all expenses claimed by Trustees are associated with the responsibilities of a Board member in compliance with the Education Act, Regulations and Board Policy.

Pursuant to the Education Act, Boards may establish a policy in order to reimburse trustees for all or part of his or her out of pocket expenses reasonably incurred in connection with carrying out the responsibilities of a board member.

In accordance with Niagara Catholic's Board Policy #100.13 Trustee expenses and reimbursement (Appendix A), it is required that all Trustee expenses for the previous year will be posted annually on the Board website and reported publicly to the Board before December 31 of the current year. Expenses are reported under the following categories:

- a. Office equipment
- b. Office supplies
- c. Conference and workshops
- d. Travel for Board sanctioned business
- e. Miscellaneous - Other costs

As required by the Education Act, the Boarder Public Sector Expenses Directive and Board Policy, all Expense Reports for each Trustee will remain on the Board website for one year after the expiry of the term of office.

Attached to the report is **Appendix A**, which provides the Trustee expenses for the previous fiscal year 2017-2018.

The Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 report is presented for information.

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

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

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

Date: December 18, 2018

APPENDIX A

2017-2018 Trustee Expenditures & Reimbursement								
Trustees	Position	Acct #	Office Equipment	Office Supplies	Conferences & Workshops	Travel	Internet	Total Expenses
Burtnik, Kathy	Trustee	702			1,655.89	190.67	360.00	2,206.56
Charbonneau, Maurice	Trustee	703		95.52	0.00	243.01	360.00	698.53
Fera, Frank	Trustee	705		90.40	2,583.62	466.06	360.00	3,500.08
MacNeil, Fr. Paul	Chair	708			1,630.48	785.50	360.00	2,775.98
Nieuwesteeg, Ed	Trustee	706			0.00	0.00	360.00	360.00
O'Leary Ted	Trustee	701			3,017.46	299.09	360.00	3,676.55
Sicoli, Dino	Trustee	704			2,894.55	181.39	360.00	3,435.94
Vernal, Pat	Vice-Chair	707			3,623.48	440.05	360.00	4,423.53
Total - Trustees			\$0.00	\$185.92	\$15,405.48	\$2,605.77	\$2,880.00	\$21,077.17

2017-2018 Student Trustee Expenditures & Reimbursement								
Trustees	Position	Acct#	Office Equipment	Office Supplies	Conferences & Workshops	Travel	Internet	Total Expenses
Student Trustee (A)	Student Trustee	709	878.05	0.00	4,609.85	365.76	0.00	5,853.66
Student Trustee (B)	Student Trustee	710	878.05	0.00	4,170.68	0.00	0.00	5,048.73
Total - Trustees			\$1,756.10	\$0.00	\$8,780.53	\$365.76	\$0.00	\$10,902.39

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: CHRISTMAS CARDS 2018

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
Teri Cristelli, Arts and Student Leadership Consultant

Presented by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 18, 2018



PRESENTATION BACKGROUND

**Board Meeting
December 18, 2018**

CHRISTMAS CARDS 2018

Schools throughout Niagara Catholic were invited to submit one (1) piece of artwork designed by their students in order to create the 2018 Niagara Catholic Christmas Cards. A Selection Committee selected the 2018 Niagara Catholic Christmas Cards.

The parents/guardians of the students whose artwork was chosen to represent the Niagara Catholic District School Board have received copies of their child's artwork on Christmas cards.

The following students had their artwork selected to be shared with the Niagara Catholic community for the Christmas Season of 2018 and will be recognized and presented with plaqued cards at the Board Meeting.

Student First	Student Last	Grade	School
Sabrina	Zima	11	Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School
Ava	Curvelo	11	Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School
Jorja	Ugulini	8	St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School
Bridget	Cahill	2	Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School
Sofia Melena	Covelli Orsini	8	Loretto Catholic Elementary School
Zia	Amlani	8	Mary Ward Catholic Elementary School
Kaitlyn	Guitard	11	Saint Michael Catholic High School
Dakota	Webb	8	St. Andrew Catholic Elementary School
Anesa	Meraram	7	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School
Christian	DiDomenico	11	Saint Paul Catholic High School

Prepared by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education
Teri Cristelli, Arts and Student Leadership Consultant

Presented by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 18, 2018

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM
ST. MARY CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

The School Excellence Program report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 18, 2018



SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM ST. MARY CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Contact Info

5719 Morrison Street,
Niagara Falls, Ontario
L2E 2E8
ph: 905.354.7744

[Contact](#)

Grades

K – 8

Enrollment

186 as of October
2018

Principal

Rosetta Araujo

Superintendent

Pat Rocca

Catholic School Council

Chair:

Sarah Elefante

Co-Chair:

Claudia Moran

Parish

St. Patrick



St. Mary Catholic Elementary School was formally opened on February 5, 1956. It consisted of ten classrooms and housed the Niagara Falls Separate School Board's Administrative Offices. We have since expanded to meet the needs of the community with an addition and renovation formally blessed in February 1996. We celebrated 50 years of Catholic education on October 23, 2005.

St. Mary Catholic Elementary School is a part of the [Saint Paul Catholic High School](#) Family of Schools.

School Mission Statement

As Catholic educators at St. Mary School, our goal is to work in a collaborative partnership with the family in the task of educating each child spiritually, morally, intellectually and physically.

School Motto

"Faith builds brighter tomorrows."

Prepared by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 18, 2018

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN NIAGARA

The Catholic Education in Niagara report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Jennifer Pellegrini, Communications Officer
Chris Beatty, Communications Teacher at Saint Michael Catholic High School

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

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

Date: December 18, 2018



REPORT TO THE BOARD DECEMBER 18, 2018

CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN NIAGARA

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This staff report to the December Board meeting is presented to the Board of Trustees 2018-2022 as you embark on a new term of office.

The report is a video which was designed by Jennifer Pellegrini, Communications Officer and Chris Beatty, Communications Teacher at Saint Michael Catholic High School along with various staff members and supported by our schools.

The report captures and highlights a sample of the many exceptional faith-based programs, supports and services provided to all students and families by our exemplary staff.

This report is a prelude to the annual Director's Report 2018 which is required of all school boards by the Minister of Education.

The Catholic Education in Niagara report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Jennifer Pellegrini, Communications Officer
Chris Beatty, Communications Teacher at Saint Michael Catholic High School

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

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

Date: December 18, 2018

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: TRUSTEE HONORARIUM FOR THE YEAR DECEMBER 1,
2018 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2019**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Trustee Honorarium for the year period from December 1, 2018 to November 30, 2019, as noted in Appendix A, as follows:

\$16,673 for the Chairperson of the Board
\$13,636 for the Vice-Chairperson of the Board
\$10,599 for the Other Trustees

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

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

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

Date: December 18, 2018



REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 18, 2018

TRUSTEE HONORARIUM FOR THE YEAR DECEMBER 1, 2018 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2019

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Ontario Regulation 357/06 sets out the method for calculating the limits on honoraria paid to Trustees under Section 191 of the Education Act. The regulation states that the honorarium shall consist of the following four components:

- 1) The base amount for the year
- 2) The enrolment amount for the year
- 3) The attendance amounts payable to the member for the year.
- 4) The distance amounts payable to the member for the year.

The year of a member's term of office begins on December 1st and ends on the following November 30th.

In accordance with the provisions of Ontario Regulation 357, the honorarium will be adjusted each year to take into consideration the changes in enrolment from the previous year.

Compensation adjustments are being suspended until the new government can conduct a review and put in place an appropriate expenditure management strategy. As a result, the ministry will not be increasing the base amount for the school board trustees' honorarium as announced in the 2018-2019 GSN memo (2018: B06).

The amendments to O. Reg. 357/06, Honoraria for Board members under the Education Act, implement the updates to trustee honoraria communicated through the August 24, 2018, B-memo for the term of office beginning on December 1, 2018. *The regulation has been amended to maintain the honoraria base amount limit of \$5,900 for district school boards trustees, the rate in place since 2006.*

In accordance with Board Policy #100.11, we have now calculated the Trustee Honorarium for the year period from December 1, 2018 to November 30, 2019, as noted in Appendix A.

Please note that the new honorarium for all Trustees will be as follows:

- \$16,673 for the Chairperson of the Board
- \$13,636 for the Vice-Chairperson of the Board
- \$10,599 for the Other Trustees

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Trustee Honorarium for the year period from December 1, 2018 to November 30, 2019, as noted in Appendix A, as follows:

\$16,673 for the Chairperson of the Board

\$13,636 for the Vice-Chairperson of the Board

\$10,599 for the Other Trustees

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

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

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

Date: December 18, 2018

HONORARIUM PAYABLE TO BOARD TRUSTEES	DECEMBER 1, 2018 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2019		
	Annual Base Amount	Annual Enrolment Amount	Annual Total Honorarium
MAXIMUM BASE AMOUNT	\$5,900		
Increase in CPI	0.0%		
Maximum Base Amount for the year	\$5,900		
Enrolment ADE - 2017-2018		21,480	
Enrolment Factor		\$1.75	
Enrolment Amount		\$37,590	
Number of Members		8	
MAXIMUM ENROLMENT AMOUNT*		\$4,699	
MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR MEMEBERS	\$5,900	\$4,699	\$10,599

*Maximum Enrolment Amount = Enrolment Amount / Number of Members

HONORARIUM PAYABLE TO BOARD CHAIR	DECEMBER 1, 2018 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2019		
	Annual Base Amount	Annual Enrolment Amount	Annual Total Honorarium
MAXIMUM BASE AMOUNT	\$5,900		
Increase in Core Consumer Price Index	0.0%		
Maximum Base Amount for the year	\$5,900	\$4,699	
ADDITIONAL BASE AMOUNT FOR CHAIR	\$5,000		
Enrolment ADE		21,480	
Enrolment Factor		\$0.05	
Enrolment Amount (A)		\$1,074	
Minimum Amount (A < \$500)		\$500	
Maximum Amount (A > \$5000)		\$5,000	
ADDITIONAL ENROLMENT AMOUNT		\$1,074	
MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR MEMEBERS	\$10,900	\$5,773	\$16,673

HONORARIUM PAYABLE TO BOARD VICE CHAIR	DECEMBER 1, 2018 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2019		
	Annual Base Amount	Annual Enrolment Amount	Annual Total Honorarium
MAXIMUM BASE AMOUNT	\$5,900		
Increase in CPI	0.0%		
Maximum Base Amount for the year	\$5,900	\$4,699	
MAXIMUM BASE FOR VICE-CHAIR	\$2,500		
Enrolment ADE		21,480	
Enrolment Factor		\$0.025	
Enrolment Amount (A)		\$537	
Minimum Amount (A < \$250)		\$250	
Maximum Amount (A > \$2,500)		\$2,500	
ADDITIONAL ENROLMENT AMOUNT		\$537	
MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR MEMEBERS	\$8,400	\$5,236	\$13,636

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: REVISED ESTIMATES FOR THE YEAR 2018-2019

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approves the Report on the Revised Estimates for the year 2018-2019, as presented.

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

Presented by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services
John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

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

Date: December 18, 2018



REPORT TO THE BOARD DECEMBER 18, 2018

REVISED ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 2018-2019

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Ministry of Education requires that the Revised Estimates be filed annually on December 15. While the *Education Act* does not require school boards to approve the Revised Estimates, the practice at Niagara Catholic District School Board is to seek board approval. This approval allows us to include the most recent and accurate budget figures in our annual audited Financial Statements.

The revised Estimates reporting cycle allows the board an opportunity to update Original Estimates filed in June by incorporating current, October 31st enrolment data and a number of months of financial activity into the estimates. This update also provides the Ministry with an updated projection of our Boards' financial positions compared to initial financial projections.

The Revised Estimates are an estimate only, and changes can and will happen between the time that Revised Estimates are submitted and the year-end is audited. In June 2018, the Board approved the 2018-2019 Original Estimate authorizing in-year expenses totaling \$269 million. Funding of the expenses was provided through in-year grants and other revenues totaling \$271 million.

Niagara Catholic's 2018-2019 Revised Estimates provide for expenses of \$272 million, revenues of \$273 million resulting in a balanced plan.

Niagara Catholic District School Board is currently in the final year of our multi-year recovery plan with Ministry of Education. The established financial targets and sustainability for the remainder of the fiscal year (August 31, 2019) is a commitment that has been approved by this Board.

The following information is attached for the review of the Trustees:

APPENDIX A	Revised Average Daily Enrolment (A.D.E.) & Utilization
APPENDIX B	Revised Full Time Equivalent (FTE)
APPENDIX C	Revised Grants for Student Needs (GSN) Funding
APPENDIX D	Revised 2018-2019 Expenditures
APPENDIX E	Revised 2018-2019 Schedule 10 Expenditures
APPENDIX F	Revised Special Education Envelope

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approves the Report on the Revised Estimates for the year 2018-2019, as presented.

Prepared by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business

Presented by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business
John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary Treasurer

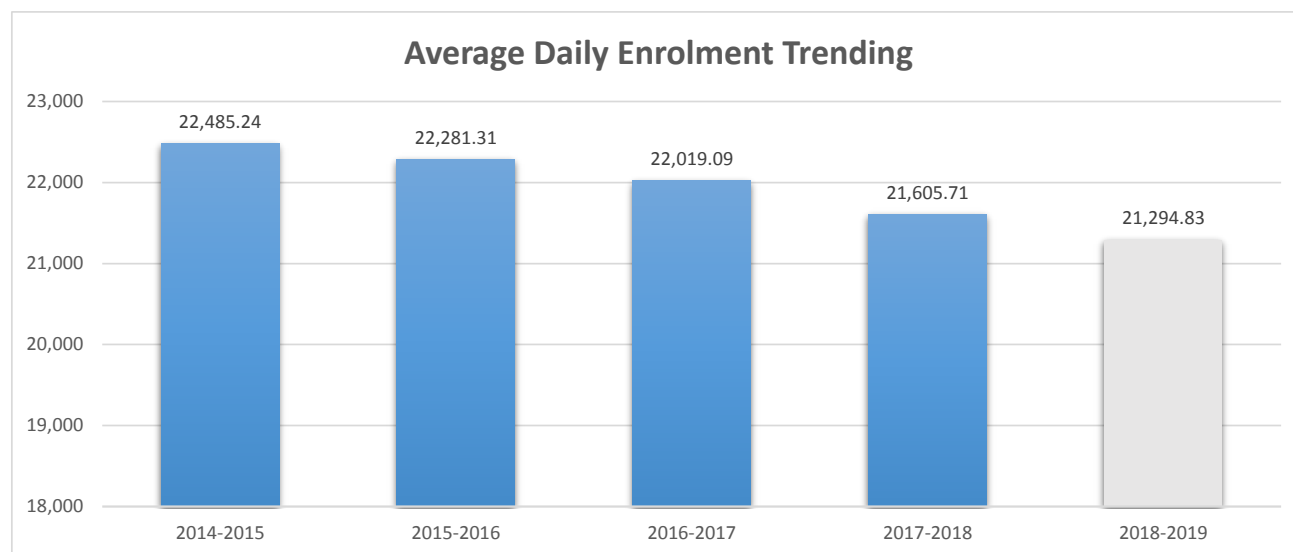
Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education/Secretary Treasurer

Date: December 18, 2018

Average Daily Enrolment

	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2018-2019
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ORIGINAL ESTIMATES	REVISED ESTIMATES
JK - SK	2,639.60	2,644.10	2,667.70	2,596.95	2,509.00	2,602.90
Grade 1 - Grade 3	4,537.17	4,462.10	4,364.70	4,259.75	4,215.00	4,198.17
Grade 4 - Grade 8	7,658.20	7,689.45	7,673.10	7,608.53	7,591.00	7,580.90
Total Secondary	7,154.88	7,068.61	6,901.85	6,704.44	6,555.00	6,477.86
Total Day School	21,990	21,864.26	21,607.35	21,169.67	20,870.00	20,859.83
Adult, Con Ed., High Credit and Summer School	495.39	417.05	411.74	436.04	425.00	435.00
Total Enrolment	22,485.24	22,281.31	22,019.09	21,605.71	21,295.00	21,294.83

Average daily enrolment is the number of full-time pupils enrolled on October 31, 2018 and March 31, 2019

Utilization Capacity

	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2018-2019
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ORIGINAL ESTIMATES	REVISED ESTIMATES
ELEMENTARY PANEL						
Ground Capacity	16,732	16,755	16,789	16,901	16,875	16,875
Average Daily Enrolment	14,835	14,796	14,706	14,465	14,315	14,382
Utilization Capacity	88.52%	88.35%	90.07%	88.60%	88.60%	88.60%
SECONDARY PANEL						
Ground Capacity	7,086	7,296	7,296	7,296	7,296	7,296
Average Daily Enrolment	7,155	7,069	6,902	6,704	6,555	6,478
Utilization Capacity	100.97%	96.88%	94.60%	91.89%	89.84%	88.79%
Total Utilization	92.32%	90.91%	89.71%	87.49%	86.34%	86.30%

Appendix B

FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (F.T.E.) REVISED ESTIMATES 2018-2019

	2018-2019 ORIGINAL ESTIMATES	2018-2019 REVISED ESTIMATES	Change FTE	Change %
TOTAL INSTRUCTION				
Classroom Teachers	1,238.87	1,243.88	5.01	0.40%
Principal / VP Instructional Time	9.54	10.37	0.83	8.70%
Teacher Assistants	289.00	302.50	13.50	4.67%
Early Childhood Educators	103.00	104.00	1.00	0.97%
Professionals, Paraprofessionals and Technicians	93.60	93.60	0.00	0.00%
Library & Guidance	56.00	56.00	0.00	0.00%
Principals & VPs	64.46	64.97	0.51	0.79%
School Office	89.10	89.10	0.00	0.00%
Coordinators and Consultants	15.53	15.53	0.00	0.00%
Total Instruction FTE	1,959.10	1,979.95	20.85	1.06%
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION				
Administration				
Trustees	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00%
Student Trustees	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00%
Director and Supervisory Officers	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00%
Board Administration	46.00	46.00	0.00	0.00%
Total Administrations	62.00	62.00	0.00	0.00%
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION				
Pupil Transportation	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00%
Total Transportation	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00%
PUPIL ACCOMMODATION				
School Operations and Maintenance	189.00	189.00	0.00	0.00%
Total FTE	2,212.10	2,232.95	20.85	0.94%

GRANTS FOR STUDENT NEEDS

OPERATING REVENUE ALLOCATION

	ORIGINAL	REVISED ESTIMATES	VARIANCE
	ESTIMATES		
	2018-2019	2018-2019	
Pupil Foundation	\$116,627,126	\$116,710,696	\$83,570
School Foundation	\$16,311,965	\$16,310,233	(\$1,732)
Special Education	\$28,969,882	\$29,305,026	\$335,144 A
Language Allocation	\$4,190,514	\$4,500,139	\$309,625 B
Learning Opportunities	\$5,413,479	\$5,499,576	\$86,097
Rural and Northern Education	\$120,557	\$120,557	\$0
Continuing Education Allocation	\$1,677,808	\$1,635,636	(\$42,172)
Teacher Qualification	\$25,152,310	\$25,183,856	\$31,546
Restraint Savings	(\$64,921)	(\$64,921)	\$0
New Teacher Induction	\$81,326	\$79,162	(\$2,164)
ECE Q&E	\$1,386,758	\$1,426,661	\$39,903
Transportation	\$10,379,241	\$10,433,354	\$54,113
Administration and Governance	\$7,064,823	\$6,996,453	(\$68,370)
School Operations & Maintenance	\$20,633,423	\$20,599,989	(\$33,434)
Community Use of Schools	\$292,242	\$292,242	\$0
Declining Enrolment	\$855,414	\$889,405	\$33,991
Indigenous Funding	\$453,440	\$479,062	\$25,622
Safe and Accepting Schools	\$393,101	\$392,639	(\$462)
Permanent Financing of NFP	\$117,487	\$117,487	\$0
General Operating Allocation	\$240,055,975	\$240,907,252	\$851,277
Minor Tangible Capital Assets	\$6,001,958	\$6,022,681	\$20,723
Trustee Association Fee	\$43,017	\$43,017	\$0
Total School Renewal Allocation	\$3,800,181	\$3,795,599	(\$4,582)
Capital Grants - Temporary Accommodations	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0
Capital Debts Payments - Interest	\$2,852,150	\$2,852,150	\$0
Total Capital Allocation	\$13,447,306	\$13,463,447	\$16,141
Total Allocation	\$253,503,281	\$254,370,699	\$867,418

* Education Program Other Grants not included

A. August 24, 2018 SEPPA Adjustment to Special Education Funding

B. Increase attributed to ESL pupils and French Language minutes

REVISED EXPENDITURES

	2018-2019	2018-2019	Variance	Commitments
	Original Estimates	Revised Estimates		
TOTAL INSTRUCTION				
Classroom Teachers	\$134,113,734	\$135,782,569	\$1,668,835	Increase in Classroom Teachers and allocation of Principal Instruction time.
Supply Staff	\$5,522,367	\$6,761,409	\$1,239,042	Increase replacement costs for Teaching, E.A.s and E.C.E.s
Teacher Assistants	\$16,997,112	\$17,115,914	\$118,802	Increase in staffing compliment
Early Childhood Educators	\$5,727,124	\$5,653,137	-\$73,987	Rate adjustment
Textbooks and Supplies	\$4,743,143	\$4,850,491	\$107,348	
Computers	\$733,754	\$733,000	-\$754	
Professionals, Paraprofessionals and Technicians	\$7,898,267	\$7,788,392	-\$109,875	Rate Adjustment
Library & Guidance	\$4,172,132	\$4,159,957	-\$12,175	
Staff Development	\$65,000	\$508,000	\$443,000	Additional \$400,000 from E.P.O funding previously not in original estimates.
Department Heads	\$249,195	\$311,357	\$62,162	
Principals & VPs	\$10,763,311	\$9,625,678	-\$1,137,633	Allocated to instructional time in Classroom teachers category above
School Office	\$5,447,416	\$6,005,925	\$558,509	Reallocation of a percentage of software costs to school office
Coordinators and Consultants	\$2,740,088	\$1,877,431	-\$862,657	Reallocated to Classroom Teachers Category
Continuing Education	\$4,331,766	\$4,317,566	-\$14,200	
Total Instruction Expenses	\$203,504,409	\$205,490,827	\$1,986,418	
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION				
Administration				
Trustees	\$273,153	\$267,204	-\$5,949	In-Year Honorarium Base Funding Freeze
Director and Supervisory Officers	\$1,466,686	\$1,420,344	-\$46,342	In-Year Executive Compensation Freeze
Board Administration	\$5,948,214	\$5,944,264	-\$3,950	
Total Administrations	\$7,688,053	\$7,631,811	-\$56,242	
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION				
Transportation				
Pupil Transportation	\$10,175,191	\$10,175,192	\$1	
Total Transportation	\$10,175,191	\$10,175,192	\$1	
PUPIL ACCOMMODATION				
School Operations and Maintenance	\$23,160,161	\$22,498,983	-\$661,178	Caretaker and Cleaner replacement savings, reduction in utility estimates in June
Pupil Accommodation	\$3,922,350	\$3,861,275	-\$61,075	
Amortization	\$14,393,454	\$14,985,000	\$591,546	Revised Capital Amortization Schedule
Interest Charges	\$117,487	\$117,487	\$0	
Total Pupil Accommodation	\$41,593,452	\$41,462,745	-\$130,707	
School Generated Funds Expenses	\$6,995,000	\$7,557,500	\$562,500	Adjusted to fiscal 2017-2018 actual expenses
Total Expenses Schedule 10	\$269,956,105	\$272,318,075	\$2,361,970	

SCHEDULE 10 EXPENSES

Appendix E

SCHEDULE 10 ANNUAL ESTIMATES 2018-2019

	Salaries and Wages	Employee Benefits	Staff Development	Supplies and Services	Interest Charges	Rental Expenses	Fees and Contract Services	Other Expenses	Amortization	Total Expenses
			04	05	07	08	09	10	12	
TOTAL INSTRUCTION										
Classroom Teachers	\$120,479,057	\$15,194,012	\$0	\$81,000	\$0	\$0	\$28,500	\$0	\$0	\$135,782,569
Supply Staff	\$6,146,735	\$614,674	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,761,409
Teacher Assistants	\$13,073,027	\$4,042,887	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$17,115,914
Early Childhood Educators	\$4,361,533	\$1,291,604	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,653,137
Textbooks and Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,768,591	\$0	\$0	\$81,900	\$0	\$0	\$4,850,491
Computers	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$733,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$733,000
Professionals, Paraprofessionals and Technicians	\$5,864,748	\$1,540,944	\$0	\$222,700	\$0	\$0	\$160,000	\$0	\$0	\$7,788,392
Library & Guidance	\$3,392,534	\$697,923	\$0	\$38,000	\$0	\$0	\$31,500	\$0	\$0	\$4,159,957
Staff Development	\$450,000	\$0	\$58,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$508,000
Department Heads	\$311,357	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$311,357
Principals & VPs	\$8,691,774	\$926,904	\$0	\$7,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,625,678
School Office	\$3,590,298	\$1,146,146	\$37,750	\$624,731	\$0	\$0	\$607,000	\$0	\$0	\$6,005,925
Coordinators and Consultants	\$1,644,244	\$182,186	\$6,000	\$45,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,877,431
Continuing Education	\$2,938,066	\$480,713	\$6,500	\$411,500	\$0	\$55,320	\$410,467	\$15,000	\$0	\$4,317,566
Total Instruction Expenses	\$170,943,375	\$26,117,993	\$108,250	\$6,931,522	\$0	\$55,320	\$1,319,367	\$15,000	\$0	\$205,490,827
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION										
Administration										
Trustees	\$99,600	\$9,187	\$0	\$35,400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$123,017	\$0	\$267,204
Director and Supervisory Officers	\$1,087,031	\$103,012	\$33,300	\$52,000	\$0	\$0	\$90,000	\$55,000	\$0	\$1,420,344
Board Administration	\$2,834,878	\$774,285	\$44,950	\$1,106,750	\$0	\$93,000	\$975,900	\$114,500	\$0	\$5,944,264
Total Administrations	\$4,021,510	\$886,485	\$78,250	\$1,194,150	\$0	\$93,000	\$1,065,900	\$292,517	\$0	\$7,631,811
TOTAL TRANSPORTATION										
Transportation										
Pupil Transportation	\$124,002	\$33,976	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,767,213	\$250,000	\$0	\$10,175,192
Total Transportation	\$124,002	\$33,976	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,767,213	\$250,000	\$0	\$10,175,192
PUPIL ACCOMMODATION										
School Operations and Maintenance	\$9,647,787	\$2,913,568	\$19,300	\$9,030,027	\$0	\$70,000	\$818,300	\$0	\$0	\$22,498,983
Pupil Accommodation			\$0	\$0	\$3,291,075	\$570,200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,861,275
Amortization			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,985,000	\$14,985,000
Interest Charges			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$117,487	\$0	\$117,487
Total Pupil Accommodation	\$9,647,787	\$2,913,568	\$19,300	\$9,030,027	\$3,291,075	\$640,200	\$818,300	\$117,487	\$14,985,000	\$41,462,745
School Generated Funds Expenses				\$7,557,500						\$7,557,500
Total Expenses Schedule 10	\$184,736,674	\$29,952,022	\$205,800	\$24,713,199	\$3,291,075	\$788,520	\$12,970,780	\$675,004	\$14,985,000	\$272,318,075

* Estimates include \$1,300,000 in Education Program Other Revenues.

SCHEDULE 9 - REVENUE \$273,554,189

Employee Future Benefits (\$1,004,000)

ACCUMULATED SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) AVAILABLE FOR COMPLIANCE \$232,114

SCHEDULE 10A SPECIAL EDUCATION
EXPENSES

Appendix F

SCHEDULE 10A AND 10B

SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPENSES		Salaries and Wages	Employee	Staff	Supplies and	Rental	Fees and Contract	Other	Self Contained	Total Expenses	
			Benefits	Development	Services	Expenses	Services	Expenses	Amortization		Allocation
				04	05	08	09	10	12		
TOTAL INSTRUCTION											
Classroom Teachers	510	\$4,600,288	\$554,121	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,159,409	
Supply Staff		\$841,918	\$84,192	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$926,110	
Teacher Assistants	531	\$10,374,050	\$3,213,445	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,587,495	
Early Childhood Educators	532	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Textbooks and Supplies	550	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$615,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$640,000	
Computers	540	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$38,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$38,000	
Professionals, Paraprofessionals and Technicians	560	\$2,092,580	\$612,165	\$0	\$128,500	\$0	\$115,000	\$0	\$200,000	\$3,148,245	
Staff Development	580	\$0	\$0	\$18,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$18,000	
Department Heads	670	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Principals & VPs	610	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
School Office	620	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Coordinators and Consultants	590	\$202,855	\$23,267	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$226,122	
ELEMENTARY SPECIAL EDUCATION		\$18,111,692	\$4,487,190	\$18,000	\$786,500	\$0	\$140,000	\$0	\$200,000	(\$80,942)	\$23,662,440
TOTAL INSTRUCTION											
Classroom Teachers	510	\$2,056,370	\$247,700	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,305,070	
Supply Staff		\$210,480	\$21,048	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$231,527	
Teacher Assistants	531	\$2,698,977	\$829,442	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,528,419	
Early Childhood Educators	532	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Textbooks and Supplies	550	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$160,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$165,000	
Computers	540	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$34,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$34,000	
Professionals, Paraprofessionals and Technicians	560	\$166,848	\$47,103	\$0	\$18,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$281,951	
Staff Development	580	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Department Heads	670	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Principals & VPs	610	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
School Office	620	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Coordinators and Consultants	590	\$102,340	\$11,651	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$113,992	
SECONDARY SPECIAL EDUCATION		\$5,235,014	\$1,156,945	\$0	\$213,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$50,000	(\$974,261)	\$5,685,698
TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPENDITURES		\$23,346,705	\$5,644,135	\$18,000	\$999,500	\$0	\$145,000	\$0	\$250,000		\$29,348,137
SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING*											\$29,010,134

* Includes \$500,000 SEA Based Funding transferred to Revenue

(\$338,003)

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

TITLE: FINANCIAL REPORT 2018-2019 AS AT NOVEMBER 30, 2018

The Financial Report 2018-2019 as at November 30, 2018 is presented for information

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: December 18, 2018

**Niagara Catholic DSB
2018-19 Interim Financial Report**

Estimated Change November 30, 2018

Summary of Financial Results

(\$Thousands)	2017-2018 Actuals	Original Estimates	Revised Estimates	In-Year Change	
				\$	%
Revenue					
Estimated Revenue	268,248	270,508	272,632	2,124	0.8%
				0	-
Total Revenue	268,248	270,508	272,632	2,124	0.8%
Expenditures					
Classroom	201,599	202,364	205,490	(3,126)	(1.5%)
Administration	7,917	7,688	7,631	57	0.7%
Transportation	9,860	10,175	10,175	0	0.0%
Pupil Accommodation	38,800	41,475	41,430	45	0.1%
Other	7,396	7,112	7,674	(562)	(7.9%)
Total Expenditures	265,572	268,814	272,400	(3,586)	(1.3%)
In-Year Surplus (Deficit)					
Available for Compliance	2,676	1,694	232	(1,462)	n/a

Change in Budget

Change in Pupil Accommodation from Actual to Estimates reflects the change in our capital amortization schedule. In Year change Classroom indicates the additional investment in Teachers, E.A. and ECEs and replacement costs.

Risks & Recommendations

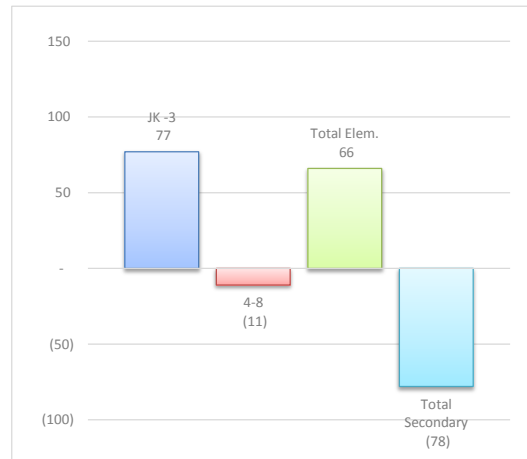
We anticipate achieving all our Ministry Targets for August 2019. These results assume 2018-2019 full funding for Education Program Other committed by the Ministry of Education in April 2018.

Summary of Enrolment

ADE	Original Estimates	Revised Estimates	In-Year Change	
			#	%
Elementary				
JK -3	6,724	6,801	77	1.1%
4-8	7,591	7,580	(11)	-0.1%
Total Elementary	14,315	14,381	66	0.5%
Secondary <21				
Pupils of the Board	6,555	6,477	(78)	-1.2%
Other Pupils	90	90	-	0.0%
Total Secondary	6,645	6,567	(78)	-1.2%
Total	20,960	20,948	(12)	-0.1%

Note: Forecast is based on October 31st count date

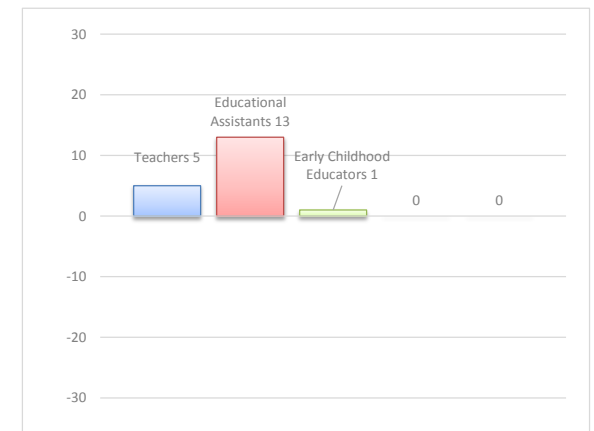
Changes in Enrolment: Budget v. Forecast



Summary of Staffing

FTE	Original Estimates	Revised Estimates	In-Year Change	
			#	%
Teachers	1,278	1,283	5	0.4%
Educational Assistants	289	302	13	4.5%
Early Childhood Educators	103	104	1	1.0%
Other Instructional	291	291	0	0.0%
Total Instructional	1,961	1,980	19	1.0%
Non Instructional	243	243	0	0.0%
Total FTE	2,204	2,223	19	0.9%

Changes in Staffing: Budget v. Forecast



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC – DECEMBER 4, 2018**



December 4, 2018

Niagara Catholic's 2018-2022 Board of Trustees Sworn In at Inaugural Meeting

The Board of Trustees elected for 2018-2022 began their term of office on December 4



Niagara Catholic's 2018-2022 trustees-elect during a Mass at St. Julia Catholic Church, prior to the Inaugural Meeting at Denis Morris Catholic High School, along with Bishop Bergie. In back, from left, are Larry Huibers, Frank Fera, Paul Turner, Bishop Bergie and Dan Moody, and student trustees Jade Bilodeau and Madison McKinney. In front, from left, are Kathy Burtnik, Rhianon Burkholder, Leanne Prince and Dino Sicoli.

with a Mass and Commissioning at St. Julia Catholic Church, officiated by Bishop Bergie. The Inaugural Board Meeting followed in the Alumni Theatre at Denis Morris Catholic High School, where the Honourable Madama Justice Jane Milanetti of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice administered the Declaration and the Oath of Allegiance to each Trustee. Trustee Frank Fera was acclaimed as Chair of the Board and Trustee Dino Sicoli was elected Vice-Chair of the Board until

December 2019. Congratulations to Chair Fera and Vice-Chair Sicoli. [Chair Fera](#) and [Chair Sicoli's](#) opening remarks are available on the Board website. We look forward to working with our Board of Trustees as we continue to build upon Niagara Catholic's strong foundation of excellence in Catholic education.

Appreciation is extended to Monsignor Leo Clutterbuck, Pastor of St. Julia Catholic Church, Board Chaplaincy Leader Krista Wood, Denis Morris Catholic High School Principal Dan Di Lorenzo, and the DM Choir, Student Council, Prefects and staff for their participation in Mass, and for planning and hosting the Inaugural Meeting.

A very special thank you to Bishop Bergie, Bishop of St. Catharines and Honourary Chair of the Board, Justice Milanetti, Principals, Vice-Principals, Administrators, staff and partners in Catholic education for your presence at the Mass and Inaugural Meeting.

Capital Projects Update

The first Committee of the Whole Meeting of the new term of the Board saw a number of housekeeping items attended to by trustees.

The new Board received an update on capital projects currently in progress. Design work for the \$1.5-million expansion to include 49 new child care spaces at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School in Niagara is under way. Occupancy is expected in Fall of 2019.

Design work is also currently under way for the \$5-million expansion and renovation to Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary School, to accommodate the consolidation of Monsignor Clancy and St. Charles Catholic Elementary Schools.

Accountability Financial Report Presented

Niagara Catholic's auditors have completed their annual year-end audit, and our Consolidated Audited Financial Statements for fiscal year-end 2017-2018. Niagara Catholic ended the fiscal year with an accumulated operating fund surplus of \$4.3 million. Read the complete report in section C2 of the agenda, available [here](#).

Keep up with Niagara Catholic

Have you checked our [Good News page](#) lately? If you're not, you could be missing some great stories. Hop on over to see what's new at Niagara Catholic, including our coverage of the [visit of Most Reverend Luigi Bonazzi](#), Apostolic Nuncio to Canada, to Niagara Catholic on November 27. While you're online, take a moment to watch our adorable [Kindergarten Open House](#) video and a video featuring our [secondary school](#) students, who tell us why they love their school, and [a very cute video](#) featuring students from St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School.

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 follow our Wandering Wisemen and our Office Elf – and to stay in the know.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
CALENDAR OF EVENTS – JANUARY 2019**



JANUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 New Year's Day Happy 2019!	2 Christmas Break	3 December 24—January 4, 2019	4	5
6	7 Welcome Back! Classes Resume	8	9 SEAC Meeting	10 NCPIC Meeting	11	12
13	14	15 SAL Meeting CW Meeting	16 Annual Baby Celebration	17	18 Elementary PA Day	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Secondary Exams Begin Family Literacy/ Numeracy Day	26
27	28	29 Policy Committee Board Meeting	30	31 Secondary Exams End		


**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS
DECEMBER 7, 2018
DECEMBER 14, 2018**

ENTERPRISE

ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

 enterprisecanada.com/ontario-legislative-highlights-december-7

December 6, 2018

December 7, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

CHRISTMAS DON'T BE LATE – Mid-December is always the most wonderful time of the year around Queen's Park, as everyone looks forward to the Legislature's winter break. This year that feeling is even more pronounced, amid palpable exhaustion for politicians of all denominations who have been going full tilt since the spring. Many factors have conspired to make 2018 a unique grind: PC leadership upheaval mere weeks before the start of a gruelling election campaign; an expedited transition process; the almost immediate recall of the House; the bedlam of a new government with 73 rookie MPPs, scores of newbie staff and a different party in power after 15 years; and that new government driven to make rapid and significant change. A much-needed breather has arrived, with the House rising a week ahead of schedule. MPPs will next convene February 19, after the Family Day long weekend.

MISMANAGING EXPECTATIONS – A bad year for the Ontario Liberals got predictably worse this week when Auditor General **Bonnie Lysyk** tabled her annual report. Usually the A-G's report is a gift for the Opposition, but in this case she played Santa for **Doug Ford's** Tories, exposing a litany of bureaucratic mismanagement that mostly happened on the Liberal watch. This didn't stop the NDP from wailing that the Tories will make it worse, but it all amounted to a platform for Ford and company to reiterate their foundational pledges to clean up government in general. Indeed, within minutes of Lysyk's report appearing, a government news release was out rebuking the "reckless overspending, lack of oversight and soft-on-compliance approaches under the previous government" and touting that the Ford government "continues to take swift action to restore trust in the province's finances." Typical of the maladministration cited by Lysyk – and duly highlighted by the Tories, sure to be used as fodder for their change agenda – were \$730 million in social assistance overpayments, 76% of them to people who were no longer Ontario Works recipients.

WITNESS BOXING – Perhaps no-one will be happier to see 2018 in the rear-view mirror than

ex-Premier **Kathleen Wynne**, who endured an extra humiliation this week when she was compelled to testify at the select committee – the PC-dominated, no-Liberal committee – looking into her government’s fiscal management. By most accounts Wynne comported herself well as she was grilled on her Fair Hydro Plan, giving as good as she got – particularly denouncing Ford’s criticisms as “outrageous hyperbole.” She even got a bit of support from New Democrat MPPs like **Sandy Shaw**, who scorned the committee hearings as “political theatre” and concluded, “there’s no smoking gun ... where everybody gasps and goes, ‘We got to the bottom of this.’” But the Tories certainly made their point, with PC MPP **Ross Romano**, who had been particularly aggressive in questioning Wynne, later telling reporters, “I don’t believe I heard anything by way of an apology.”

GOOD COP, BAD COP – It’s not hard to imagine Liberal supporters plotting revenge should they ever regain power, and they no doubt filed away the controversy around newly-appointed Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner **Ronald Taverner** for future reference. Taverner just happens to be a long-time friend of Ford’s, which in today’s politics is grounds for scandal. Every government naturally turns to people it knows and trusts, so accusations of cronyism are inevitable. In Taverner’s case, the dudgeon revolves around changes in the recruitment criteria that enabled him to qualify for the post. Nonetheless it was an independent process, as Ford vociferously pointed out. “I had zero influence,” he insisted. “I told them very clearly, I don’t want anything to do with this whatsoever.” Ford also angrily dismissed suggestions Taverner might manipulate investigations – say, around the Premier himself, which would be the OPP’s purview. “I can’t influence and tell the police what to do. It’s very simple,” Ford asserted.

UNION SOLDIERS – Ford’s government butting heads with public sector labour unions is widely seen as unavoidable, but private sector unions – where many members have been known to support the Tories – could be a different story. However, one big private sector union has made it clear it will not be playing nice. Leaders of the 300,000-member Unifor are angry at Ford’s pleas of helplessness in the face of the pending closure of the General Motors plant in Oshawa. They have joined forces with OPSEU – another of Canada’s biggest unions, representing some 150,000 Ontario civil servants – in a formal alliance to battle what they called Ford’s “destructive agenda.” Unifor President **Jerry Dias** set the bar for the coming fight during a speech caught by television cameras. Pausing in his remarks about the Oshawa situation, Dias looked up and muttered, “You know, Doug ... fuck you.” The line was met with thunderous applause.

CITY HALL OF FAME – In all the tumult of the Ford government’s first few months, the shrinking of Toronto City Council is arguably his most notable move to date – thanks largely to the intense media attention around it. That attention amped up again this week as the new council was sworn in, as all involved scrutinize how well the smaller council performs. One of the new council’s first acts was to double their staff budgets (which was criticized by the provincial Tories), while the first meeting between Ford and re-elected Toronto Mayor **John Tory** was described as cordial but tense. Meanwhile, as other municipal politicians were sworn in, swearing of a different kind was heard under the breath of some in Ford’s inner circle as

they watched the inauguration of **Patrick Brown** – Ford’s predecessor as PC leader – as Mayor of Brampton. Adding to their revulsion (their disdain of Brown is hardly a state secret) was the fact that the ceremonial chain of office was presented by a party icon, former Premier **Bill Davis**. This week also marked the political rebirth of a few Liberals unseated in June’s election, with **Bill Mauro** debuting as Mayor of Thunder Bay, **Kathryn McGarry** taking over as Mayor of Cambridge and **Jim Bradley** sworn in as a Niagara Regional Councillor before being elected Chair by his council peers.

IN THE HOUSE

- Prior to rising for the winter break, **Steve Clark**, the Minister responsible for Red Tape Reduction, introduced Bill 66, the *Restoring Ontario’s Competitiveness Act* – sweeping legislation to change, harmonize or eliminate more than 30 rules and regulations across 12 ministries to reduce the regulatory burden on business.
- Three government bills passed before the House recessed: Bill 32, updated rules around gas distribution; Bill 34, repealing the previous government’s *Green Energy Act* (interestingly, only three Liberal MPPs were on hand for the vote, and Wynne wasn’t among them); and Bill 57, implementing fiscal measures announced in the fall economic statement.

For the current status of government legislation, click [Government Bills](#).

FOR THE RECORD

“Part of where the previous government and, frankly, the federal government, have lost the storyline, is in making the connections to impacts on people. Some of the – I’ll call them the environmental sophisticates – they actually mock that approach.”

Environment Minister **Rod Phillips**, unapologetic about the populist tone of his climate change plan – which includes smallish measures such as a day dedicated to cleaning up litter.

“Nous sommes, nous serons ! [We are, we will be!]”

Chant at protests outside MPPs’ offices by francophones angry at the Ford government’s cuts to their services. Independent MPP **Amanda Simard**, who quit the PC caucus over the issue, was among the demonstrators in Hawkesbury.

“You know, that’s the best thing about being from St. Thomas — I’m not going to want a GO station or a subway in my riding.”


Transportation Minister **Jeff Yurek**, telling the *Toronto Star* he is able to make impartial decisions about Toronto’s transit system – a not-so-subtle dig at former Liberal Transportation Minister **Steven Del Duca**, who was accused of political interference

around a GO station in his home riding of Vaughan.

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ENTERPRISE

ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

 enterprisecanada.com/ontario-legislative-highlights-december-14

December 13, 2018

December 14, 2018

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

PLEDGE DRIVE – Whatever other issues might be keeping **Doug Ford's** Tories up at night, they headed off one potential firestorm quickly and quietly, with Municipal Affairs Minister **Steve Clark** asking ministry staff to create an oath of office that doesn't pledge fealty to the Queen. This stemmed from newly elected Hearst councillor **Gaetan Baillargeon**, who refused to take the traditional oath, arguing that he has no loyalty to authorities responsible for residential schools, reserves and broken treaties. "I pledge allegiance to the Indigenous peoples. [The Queen], she doesn't represent me. Nor does the Crown," Baillargeon explained. "I represent the people that I work for and that's the people of Hearst, and the Indigenous peoples of Canada." He was on the verge of being forced to vacate the seat, but Clark – who initially said "no exceptions" – acknowledged the need for a different oath, and has assigned staff to come up with one that better reflects Indigenous views.

POLICE STATE – A lot has happened since Ford's Tories took power, but it's only been six months, which means they are still in the traditional 'honeymoon' period with the voters who installed them. As such, the tribulations – scandals, even – Ford incurs now probably won't factor much into the distant-future election. Nonetheless, the ongoing fuss about Ford family friend **Ron Taverner's** appointment as OPP Commissioner – which takes effect this coming Monday – appears to have some staying power. Not one but two of his predecessors have expressed dismay at the appointment process. First, it was former OPP Commissioner **Chris Lewis** decrying, "the fix was in," citing a change in the recruitment rules to grease the skids for Taverner. Then **Brad Blair**, the current interim OPP Commissioner, went the formal route, sending a letter to the provincial Ombudsman calling for an inquiry into the hiring. Blair – who, it should be noted, was in the running for the job that ultimately went to Taverner – wrote that

“the concern of political interference runs counter not only to the principles of a democratic society but also to fully effective policing.” Ford steadfastly denies any involvement in Taverner’s appointment, and dismissed Blair’s complaint as “sour grapes.”

PICK A NUMBER – Pop quiz: This year’s budget deficit is a) \$6.7 billion; b) \$11.7 billion; c) \$15 billion; or d) \$12.3 billion? The answer is any of the above, depending on who’s doing the calculations. (In order, it would be a) the previous Liberal government; b) the Auditor General; c) Finance Minister **Vic Fedeli**; d) Financial Accountability Officer **Peter Weltman**.) For most voters, the actual number is moot – it’s either zero or a lot, and Ford’s election promises included getting the budget back to balance. Weltman, in his annual fiscal analysis, sounded an ominous note in that regard, warning that the annual deficit will rise to \$16 billion within five years unless the government makes massive spending cuts and/or increases taxes.

NITTY GRITTY COMMITTEE – While Fedeli is front and centre on budgetary matters, it’s Treasury Board President **Peter Bethlenfalvy** who faces much of the heavy lifting in trying to find savings. He has opted to set up a team of MPPs for that purpose, launching a new Audit and Accountability Committee – touted as the only one of its kind in Canada. A Legislature sub-committee, the panel will decide on where to direct resources, through a lens of “strong fiscal management ... by driving special audits through the province’s ministries, agencies and transfer payment partners.”

GET YOUR KICKS ON BILL 66 – While there is an obvious attraction to the efficiency of changing a bunch of laws in one fell swoop, omnibus legislation has a habit of taking on a life of its own, often forcing governments to fight battles on multiple fronts. We’ll see if that is the fate of Bill 66, the *Restoring Ontario’s Competitiveness Act* introduced just before the House rose for its winter break. Ostensibly an effort to cut red tape – the bill softens some 30 regulatory requirements across a dozen ministries – it has triggered an avalanche of warnings about increasing risks in a range of areas including child care, water protection, the Greenbelt and worker safety. Expect chatter about the bill all winter as various interest groups unpack its implications.

RUMOURS & RUMBLINGS

SOURCE CODE

Whether any of his current troubles leave a lingering stain on Ford remains to be seen, but a perhaps more worrisome trend became apparent as the OPP Commissioner story unfolded. Just as with other controversies, journalists were able to quote senior Tories – unnamed, of course – giving the inside scoop about alleged dissension within the party ranks. No doubt this subversion infuriates Ford, as it would any political leader, while the anonymity of the quotes has naturally led to waves of gossip about who the sources might be. Word is that Ford and those closest to him are determined to clamp down on what they see as akin to treason.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

As the Ford government's transition has evolved in recent months, largely lost in the commotion is a new location for PC headquarters. Virtually since the party was founded its HQ was in downtown Toronto. But its home is now in suburbia, in the very heart of Ford Nation near Bloor and Islington in Etobicoke (56 Aberfoyle Cres., to be precise). The office is on the fourth floor of an eight-story building, surrounded by high-rise apartment complexes – a long way, symbolically as well as distance-wise, from the previous digs at Church and Adelaide just blocks from Toronto City Hall.

FOR THE RECORD

“Right now, the government spends roughly \$10,000 per person per year on programs. How are you going to reduce your expenditures in light of increased demand for your core services? It's going to be very challenging I think.”

Financial Accountability Officer Peter Weltman, warning of tough decisions ahead to avoid a continually ballooning deficit.

“A lot of people said, ‘Why don't you just cross your fingers, why don't you just lie or say it through your teeth?’ People say [politicians] always lie. They never hold their word. I wanted to show people that it's part of me and hopefully people respect what I did.”

Hearst councillor Gaetan Baillargeon, who refused to recite the traditional oath to the Queen to be sworn in – prompting the provincial government to create an alterative oath.

“I support in principle being at the table to discuss transit with the province given that they have an enormous amount of power over us, and we can't deny that reality. [But] I don't believe the City should go to the table and just say, ‘Hey, how can we help you screw us?’”

Toronto Councillor **Josh Matlow**, insisting the City shouldn't “capitulate” to the Ford government's plan to take over Toronto's subway system.

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**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
OCSTA 2019 CATHOLIC TRUSTEES SEMINAR – JANUARY 17-
19, 2019**



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

2019 CATHOLIC TRUSTEES SEMINAR



October 1, 2018

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 2019 Catholic Trustees Seminar – January 18 & 19**

LOCATION: Delta Hotels by Marriott Toronto Airport

ATTACHMENT: Preliminary Program

2019 Catholic Trustees Seminar – January 18-19

We are pleased to invite Trustees, Directors of Education, and Student Trustees of Ontario Catholic District School Boards to attend OCSTA's 2019 Catholic Trustees Seminar, which will be held January 18 - 19 at the Delta Hotels by Marriott Toronto Airport & Conference Centre (655 Dixon Rd, Toronto, ON M9W 1J3). This event offers the opportunity for OCSTA members to:

- **Learn** more about current and emerging issues in Catholic education
- **Engage** subject experts in discussion on issues important to your role as a guardian and advocate for Catholic education
- **Celebrate** Mass as a provincial community of Catholic school board leaders
- **Network** with trustee peers from across the province

Please see further details below and click [here](#) to register for the Catholic Trustees Seminar.

Labour Relations Meeting – Saturday, January 19, 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

The Labour Relations Department of OCSTA will host a working lunch meeting for Chairs (or Alternates in the case of conflict) and Directors of Education on January 19 at 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm. Please click [here](#) to register for the Labour Relations Meeting.

Catholic Trustees Seminar – Registration and Hotel Reservations

REGISTRATION

Early Bird Rate (until November 30, 2018)

\$372.90 (\$330.00 + \$42.90 HST)

Full payment must be received in the OCSTA office by this date.

Regular Rate (after November 30, 2018)

\$423.75 (\$375.00 + \$48.75 HST)

Student Trustee Fee

(same as above)

Additional 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.

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

Payment can be made online by credit card.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Registration Fees:

- **Until December 7, 2018** – full refund
- **December 8 to 14, 2018** – 50% of the registration fee will be refunded.
- **After December 14, 2018** – no refund, under any circumstances, will be issued. Substitutions are welcomed.

Additional Dinner Ticket:

A full refund will be issued for cancellations received by **January 7, 2019**. 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 or by fax at 416-932-9459 within the specified timelines.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Room Rates:

The Delta Hotels by Marriott Toronto Airport & Convention Centre has set aside a block of rooms for delegates and guests attending the OCSTA 2019 Catholic Trustees Seminar, starting at the discounted rate of **\$140.00 + applicable taxes and fees**.

To secure the OCSTA discounted rate, **rooms must be booked by December 21, 2018**. After this date the rate will be provided on the basis of availability.

Room Reservation Procedure:

Please note that hotel rooms may be reserved *for Seminar registrants only*. On a regular basis, OCSTA will send a list of registrants to the hotel and then email the school board secretary with instructions to communicate with the hotel regarding check-in/check-out dates, payment, etc.

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



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

2019 Catholic Trustees Seminar

Delta Hotels by Marriott Toronto
Airport & Conference Centre



THURSDAY, JANUARY 17	
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm <i>International Foyer</i>	Registration
FRIDAY, JANUARY 18	
7:30 am <i>International Foyer</i>	Registration
7:30 am <i>International C</i>	Breakfast
8:30 am <i>International A & B</i>	Gathering Prayer, Opening Remarks Presentation of OCSTA Short Video Awards - Catholic Elementary Schools <i>Todd Lalonde, Seminar Chair, OCSTA</i>
8:45 am <i>International A & B</i>	“Embracing the Call to Serve” <i>Laura Hughes, Directrice, Office provincial de l'éducation de la foi catholique de l'Ontario</i>
9:45 am <i>International A & B</i>	Presentation of OCSTA Short Video Awards – Catholic Secondary Schools <i>Todd Lalonde, Seminar Chair, OCSTA</i> President’s Report and Q & A <i>Beverley Eckensweiler, President, OCSTA</i>
10:30 am <i>International Foyer</i>	Break
10:45 am <i>International A & B</i>	<i>The Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Education</i>
11:30 am	Regional Meetings
<i>Mississauga A</i>	West
<i>Mississauga B</i>	East
<i>Paris</i>	North East
<i>New York</i>	Central
<i>Toronto AB</i>	North West
12:30 pm <i>International C</i>	Lunch
12:30 pm <i>London</i>	Student Trustee Lunch and Discussion
1:15 pm	Concurrent Workshops
<i>Mississauga A</i>	1) “Board Meeting Protocol – Best Practices” <i>James Lochrie, B.Sc., CPP-T, Certified Professional Parliamentarian and Teacher of Parliamentary Law</i>
<i>Mississauga B</i>	2) “The Legislated Roles and Responsibilities of School Board Trustees” <i>Colleen Landers, Northeastern CDSB</i> <i>Tricia Chapman, Chair, Durham CDSB</i> <i>Michael Hines, Partner, Hicks Morley LLP</i>



FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 (CONT'D)	
New York	3) "Labour Negotiations and the Role of OCSTA and Local Catholic School Boards" <i>Sharon Duffy</i> (moderator), Director of Labour Relations, OCSTA <i>Kathy Burtnik</i> , Past President, OCSTA; Niagara CDSB <i>Patrick Daly</i> , Past President, OCSTA; Chair, Hamilton-Wentworth CDSB <i>Michelle Lamarche</i> , Superintendent of HR, Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB <i>Terry Lyons</i> , Director of Education, Windsor-Essex CDSB
Toronto AB	4) "How Media and Community Relations Can Strengthen the CDSB Profile" <i>Michelle Griepsma</i> , Chair, PVNC CDSB <i>Michael Nasello</i> , Director of Education, PVNC CDSB <i>Galen Eagle</i> , Communications Manager, PVNC CDSB <i>Rory McGuckin</i> , Director of Education, Toronto CDSB <i>John Crocco</i> , Director of Education, Niagara CDSB
2:30 pm	Break
2:45 pm <i>(same rooms as above)</i>	Concurrent Workshops <i>(repeated – rooms same as above)</i>
2:45 pm London	Student Trustee Workshop <i>Luke Stocking</i> , Development & Peace
4:00 pm	Meeting Adjourned
5:30 pm International C Foyer	Reception <i>(Cash Bar)</i>
6:00 pm Plaza A	Buffet Dinner <i>(Cash Bar)</i>
SATURDAY, JANUARY 19	
7:30 am International C	Breakfast
8:30 am Plaza C	Eucharistic Celebration <i>Father Patrick Fitzpatrick</i> , OCSTA Chaplain
9:30 am International A & B	Module: "Foundations in Catholic Education" <i>Mark McGowan</i> , Professor, Department of History, University of Toronto
10:30am International A & B	"Millennial Trends" <i>David Coletto</i> , Founding Partner and CEO of Abacus Data, Inc.; Marketing Research Leader; Expert on Millennials
11:30 am International A & B	Closing Remarks & Adjournment
12:30 pm – 2:30 pm International A & B	Labour Relations Meeting (for <u>Chairs</u> (or Alternates in the case of conflict) and <u>Directors of Education</u> – lunch will be served)



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
OCSTA 2018 ANNUAL FINANCE BRIEF: “PARTNERS IN
EXCELLENCE: BALANCING EQUITY & EFFICIENCY**

Submission to

The Minister of Education

**Partners in Excellence:
Balancing Equity & Efficiency**

December 10, 2018



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association



Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association

Mission Statement

Inspired by the Gospel, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association provides the provincial voice, leadership and service for elected Catholic school trustees to promote and protect publicly funded Catholic education in Ontario.

Vision Statement

Ontario is enriched by a publicly funded Catholic education system, governed by locally elected Catholic school trustees who serve with faith, commitment and compassion.

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Introduction

The Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) was founded in 1930. It represents 237 elected Catholic trustees who collectively represent 29 English-language Catholic district school boards. Together, these school boards educate approximately 545,000 students from junior kindergarten to grade 12 and adults in continuing education programs province-wide.

Inspired by the Gospel, the Mission of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association is to provide leadership, service and a provincial voice for Catholic school boards in promoting and protecting Catholic education.

Annually, OCSTA submits a brief to the government with recommendations for improvements to the funding of education. Recommendations are made on the basis that the education funding system in Ontario must respond to four essential principles:

Equity: A funding formula must distribute education dollars equitably among all Ontario school boards and their students;

Adequacy: The level of funding for education must be adequate to ensure quality education for today's students;

Autonomy/Flexibility: The model must allow school boards the autonomy and flexibility in spending they require to achieve the distinctive goals of their system, and to meet local needs; and

Accountability: The educational funding model must include mechanisms that ensure the appropriate degree of accountability for all parties and transparent processes and reporting mechanisms to support efficient and effective use of educational resources for students.

The recommendations contained in this brief were approved by the members of OCSTA and are important issues to the Catholic school Boards in this province. In some cases, they represent on-going concerns of our Catholic school boards. We trust that the Minister of Education will seriously consider our recommendations as part of the government's on-going commitment to consultation. As always, we would be pleased to meet with representatives of the Ministry to discuss any of the following items in more detail.

Policy Context: Managing Transformation A Modernization Action Plan for Ontario

OCSTA appreciates our Province's current fiscal and economic reality. We are also cognizant of the government's modernization plans to build a modern, sustainable government while avoiding involuntary staffing reductions across the broader public sector. We have taken these considerations into account in our education policy and funding recommendations outlined in this submission. We want to take this opportunity to provide some comments on the government's line by line review and Modernization Action Plan that was released on September 25, 2018.

Catholic School Boards as Partners in Service Delivery

Catholic school boards work closely with the Ministry of Education to develop education programs, budgets and curriculum that support the legislative and regulatory requirements spelled out in the *Education Act*. We have enjoyed a positive working relationship for many years with all stakeholders in the education sector, including all Ontario political parties. Our school board trustees are the democratically elected representatives of the 2.4 million Catholic school ratepayers with the responsibilities for:

- Establishing the education mission of the Board
- Developing school board policies that promote and protect Catholic education
- Promoting the constitutional right of the Catholic school community to govern, manage and control Catholic schools.

Our Catholic school boards are therefore more than mere transfer payment agencies that deliver education programs to students. We are directly supported by 2.4 million Catholic ratepayers and have been an integral part of the history and culture of the province for over 175 years.

Efficiencies at Catholic School Boards

Throughout their history, Catholic school boards have been committed to being as effective and efficient as possible and the vast majority have found significant cost efficiencies in the following areas:

1. Student transportation consortia
2. Purchasing consortia
3. Curriculum co-operatives
4. Ontario Education Collaborative Marketplace (non-profit group that sources products and services for the education sector at price discounts)
5. Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC) provides a central repository for resources and provides a host of services for school boards, e.g. managing energy costs through regulatory intervention at Ontario Energy Board.

These partnerships have and continue save Ontario taxpayers millions of dollars each year. The Auditor General states that "school boards have been increasing their use of group purchasing arrangements to acquire goods and services.We noted that the value of school board purchases acquired through supplier agreements negotiated by the Ontario Education

Collaborative Marketplace increased from \$10 million in 2010 to \$112 million in 2016” (2017 Annual Report, Chapter 3, section 3.12 p.615-616).

Risk Based Regulatory Management

The Modernization Action Plan report makes reference to moving toward a Risk Management Model of regulation. This would reduce the “complex array of prescriptive compliance-oriented reporting [and be] replaced by a centralized reporting on those things that matter most to the design, funding, and delivery of results—namely, efficiency, productivity, and performance information” (p.21). OCSTA strongly supports a reduction in the reporting requirements school boards currently face and further streamlining of regulation. Restoring school board flexibility and autonomy in the design of programs is a key priority for our boards.

Grants for Student Needs Funding Model

The Modernization Action Plan report makes specific comments on the funding framework in the education sector that OCSTA has concerns with. In particular, the report suggests that the British Columbia and Quebec government’s model of funding education may point the way to improving the sustainability of the sector in Ontario (p. 11). However, Quebec for one does not have a publicly funded Catholic school system and BC only partially funds Catholic schools. Such a shift would undermine Catholic education in Ontario and contradict the government’s public stated support for Catholic education funding. It would also introduce substantial and unjustified disruption in Ontario’s school system with no costs savings, since the overall number of students would not change.

The report indicates as well that education funding has increased by about 1.7% Company Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) while enrollment has decreased by about 0.5%. Although education funding is largely determined by enrollment, other factors also impact the overall spending envelope. For example, labour settlements, capital repairs and new school construction are not directly tied to enrollment. Also various special purpose grants are used to accommodate a school board’s unique circumstance (location/remoteness, special education, student transportation etc.).

The report suggests that the GSN model of funding may be outdated and one alternative arrangement would be to tying funding to the achievement of outcomes by providing funding to individuals who would choose service providers via market mechanisms (p. 23). This policy option would have far reaching consequences for the functioning of school boards in Ontario. Boards that have lower than average student achievement (on what measure?) would be penalized or receive reductions in funding. Replacing school base budgets as determined through the GSN with market mechanisms would result with a disproportionate allocation of funding to schools which is inconsistent with basic principles of equity and fairness.

Summary

The Modernization Action Plan does offer many important recommendations that should be explored further. For example, OCSTA would support the need to examine government procurement practices, especially in the context of student transportation. We would also support further examination of improving digital approaches to managing administrative functions and the need for increased broad band infrastructure for our schools.

Student Transportation

School board budgets currently face increasing pressures to meet existing program and service obligations. Many school boards are currently running significant deficits in funding student transportation. The structure and funding of student transportation is not based on the needs of a school board. The funding model is based on a “historical amount –each boards’ 1997 spending level with annual adjustments of enrollment and inflation, and other minor adjustments. The most important influences on a school board’s student transportation costs are not factored into the model such as enrollment density, geography, the number of special needs students and safety hazards.

In addition, the current competitive procurement process that school boards must follow in securing transportation has resulted in significant cost increases. In one case of a large urban transportation consortium, costs increased by roughly 20% that had to be absorbed by the affected school boards. A number of other recent RFP’s by transportation consortia has resulted in similar increases.

OCSTA Recommendations

- **That the student transportation funding formula be restructured to reflect the actual needs of school boards;**
- **Ensure coterminous school boards are able to provide comparable transportation services and be funded to support those services relative to proximity and density of its schools;**
- **That the competitive procurement process be reviewed so as to restore school board autonomy and flexibility in securing school bus operator contracts;**

School Bus Driver Retention

School boards across Ontario are facing a shortage of qualified school bus operators. The impact of the amendments to the *Employment Standards Act, 2000* introduced by “Bill 148” and the increases in the minimum wage and the guaranteed minimum daily hours for part-time workers negatively impacted the operational costs for small and medium sized bus operators. These legislative changes make it difficult for bus operators to maintain services and to hire and retain qualified drivers. This circumstance has resulted in delays and cancellations and generally inadequate transportation services for school boards which in turn negatively impacts student learning and well-being.

The previous government created a “School Bus Driver Retention Program” with an initial investment of a \$60 million program of three direct bonus payments to bus drivers. These payments are designed to improve recruitment and retention rates of drivers through a financial incentive. However, the program has only just started and the results are unknown at this time.

Recommendations

- **That the Ministry continue to review the results of this program in the broader context of restructuring the student transportation funding formula to meet the needs of school boards.**

21st Century Programs and Services for Students with Differing Abilities Including Diverse Learning Needs

Student Mental Health

Recent research from Centre for Addiction and Mental Health shows that roughly 328,000 children in grades 7-12 report moderate to serious psychological distress (2016). The Provincial Centre for Excellence in Children and Youth Mental Health state that schools need to develop comprehensive mental health supports and strategies to address the growing challenge. In addition, with the legalization of recreational use of cannabis, many school boards anticipate greater demands on mental health resources and supports, with the potential increased use of cannabis products and accompanying impacts on student mental health and well-being.

Catholic school boards have developed comprehensive mental health strategies to build awareness/organizational capacity, reduce stigma, use evidence based best practices for promotion and prevention strategies and partner with community based organizations.

Rural and northern school boards face unique issues with fewer professional resources to support student mental health services. Boards need more resources to expand promotion and prevention programs at the elementary and secondary school level. Key program areas include suicide prevention, anxiety issues, behaviour problems and addictions.

OCSTA Recommendations

- **That the Ministry of Education ensure funding for student mental health is a priority and equitable and sustainable for all school boards.**
- **That the Ministry of Education continue to support funding of a board level “Mental Health Lead” into the Grants for Student Needs structure. We also encourage the government to monitor and update the financial supports to boards to support local mental health initiatives.**
- **That the Ministry of Education continue to address the changing nature of student mental health needs as evidenced in the need for on-going enhanced prevention/intervention and aligned staff professional development supports for students with mental health challenges in transition.**

Special Education

The vast majority of Ontario’s Catholic school boards are running deficits in meeting the educational, psychological and support needs of its exceptional students. More sophisticated diagnostic techniques related to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), have resulted in significant increase in identifying this segment of the student population and led to increases in demand on special education services in Boards.

Additionally, with the introduction of full-day kindergarten, school boards must reallocate funding between different program areas to ensure students receive the educational services and supports they require. In many cases, school boards are having their special education grant reduced due to phased in changes to a key part of the grant structure.

The “high needs” amount of the grant is being replaced by the Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount (DSENA). This new model is composed of the Special Education Statistical Prediction Model (SESPM), Measures of Variability Amount (MOV) and Base Amount for Collaboration and Integration. This new grant structure has redistributive funding impacts across all boards, some gaining and some losing funding.

School boards also face a range of other funding and program challenges in meeting the needs of special education students. For example, boards struggle to fund the specialized staff required to support students with complex behavioural needs. This may include staff support for student transportation to treatment programs and other support services. Another example are the operational costs associated with classroom design to accommodate students that require quiet spaces for learning and behavioural management interventions.

OCSTA Recommendations

- **That the Minister establish a Special Education Working group with a stakeholder advisory board to review the adequacy of special education funding, including the structure of the DSNEA;**
- **That the Ministry of Education review “needs based” funding models for high needs special education students to supplement the overall Special Education Grant structure.**

Funding Programs to Support Students on Long-Term Suspensions, Exclusions and Expulsions

The Ministry of Education requires school boards to provide students who are expelled or who have been placed on long term suspensions with opportunities to continue their education. The Education Act specifically requires boards to:

- Provide at least one program for students who have been expelled from all schools of the board;
- Offer at least one program for students on long-term suspensions, that is, suspensions lasting longer than five days;
- Assign a student who has been expelled only from his or her school to another school of the board.

For expelled students, boards must establish programs that include the following components:

- A planning meeting to determine the specific academic and non-academic program requirements;
- A Student Action Plan that outlines the goals, objectives and learning expectations including provision for the students' progress with respect to his or her Student Action Plan;
- A re-entry plan to assist with the student's transition back to school and integration in the school.¹

Programs for student on long-term suspensions are similar as those for expelled students. Both sets of programs require boards to consult with parents, school staff, community agencies (social services, mental health, cultural etc.) in an effort to assess the students' needs and provide the appropriate programing.² Boards also have the flexibility to take into consideration the local circumstances such as geography, local resources and the availability of community supports.

However, school boards face growing challenges with respect to funding these sorts of programs and developing adequate re-entry plans and programs for expelled students. For example, re-entry plans require boards to identify academic and non-academic supports for expelled students that may not be readily available in a given region of the province. In addition, with the increase in students with various mental health challenges and other special needs, the acceleration of on-line bullying and various challenges to developing culturally sensitive programs, combined with the complex program development requirements of the Ministry, board resources are inadequate.

OCSTA Recommendations

- **That the Ministry of Education increase student mental health funding for boards and designate that funding for programs specifically related to re-entry plans for expelled students;**
- **Provide capacity building funding to enable boards to further develop relationships with community agencies to support student programs in these areas.**

¹ See PPM 142 School Board Programs for Expelled Students, 2012.

² See PPM 141 School Board Programs for Students on Long-Term Suspensions, 2012.

Information Technology Infrastructure

In order to function effectively and efficiently and to meet both internal and external reporting requirements, school boards have become more reliant on information technology in both administrative and academic areas. A portion of the Foundation Grant (reduced in 2009-10 and 2010-11) provides funding for the latter, however there is no specific IT grant for administrative needs. Computer hardware and software quickly become obsolete and must be refreshed in order to maintain efficiency and effectiveness. Although the cost of hardware has generally decreased over the years, the cost of sophisticated software programs, support and training have escalated. These costs must be funded from the board administration envelope and have contributed to expenditure increases over the past few years.

In the past the GSN has not provided any one-time funding for the upgrading of the foundation ICT infrastructure (e.g., servers, network switches and network communications), which has a maximum life cycle of seven-to-ten years. Consideration needs to be given as to how these replacement needs are best addressed in the future. OCSTA recognizes that the backlog of technological needs is so great that the Ministry will not be able to fund all that is required in a single year. It is critical, however, that the Ministry of Education signal its intention to address this pressing need.

In 2016, the Ministry announced a Broadband Modernization Program project to support school boards to ensure that barriers to achieving adequate broadband connectivity are addressed. This program intends to address, in a systematic, phased approach, closing the broadband connectivity gaps that schools may face and promises to be a key enabler to supporting student outcomes. OCSTA believes this initiative should continue and looks forward to working with the Ministry as it supports our school boards to ensure sufficient broadband access and funding to support digital learning in our schools.

OCSTA Recommendations

- **That the Minister of Education consult with OCSTA and School Boards to ensure appropriate funding and resources are made available to fully implement Broadband Modernization.**

Education Accessibility Standard

Since the passage of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*, (“AODA”) and its key regulations O. Reg. 429/07 and O.Reg. 191/11 providing schools with specific requirements in customer service and standards for accessibility, Ontario’s 29 Catholic school boards have worked diligently to provide an environment in all of its facilities that fosters independence, dignity and respect for all students and staff with disabilities. Our school boards are fully committed to providing services that are free of barriers and biases to students, parents and the broader school community.

Our boards strive to ensure that the principle of equity in opportunity is reflected and valued in our learning and working environments. Our boards are committed to ensure that people with disabilities have the equal opportunities to access services, programs and educational experiences that are available to all others they serve.

Catholic school boards in Ontario have continued to meet all targets and timelines in respect of the implementation of accessibility requirements in employment, information and communication and student transportation. In addition, Ontario’s Catholic school boards have developed multi-year accessibility plans, as required by O. Reg. 191/11 on Accessibility Standards. In general, these plans describe the measures each board will take, over several years, to identify, remove and prevent barriers for people with disabilities who work, learn and participate in the school community, primarily in the areas of employment, information and communication and student transportation.

In terms of an Education specific accessibility standard, the key issues are costs and timelines. Based on our boards’ experience with the requirements in meeting customer service and standards for accessibility described in O. Reg. 191/11, the financial costs are significant. The Ministry of Education currently does not fund via the GSN or EPO specific program dollars to assist boards in meeting the requirements of the regulation. This problem will be exacerbated with an additional Education Accessibility Standard regulation, assuming no new money is attached to its implementation. This means boards will have to adjust existing accessibility plans and priorities and this will likely impact the timelines for full implementation of the education accessibility standard.

OCSTA Recommendations

- **That the government continue to move the process forward and work with education stakeholders on the design of an education accessibility standard;**
- **That the Ministry of Education transitional funding be attached to any new regulations related to an Education Accessibility Standard.**

Capital Funding

Paramount for school boards with regard to capital/facility planning is predictability and flexibility. It is essential boards have sufficient autonomy to plan on a district-wide basis, for the most effective and efficient means of addressing capital requirements.

The urgent and on-going needs of school boards include the following:

1. Old schools need to be re-built;
2. Deferred maintenance needs still exist in all school boards;
3. Ultimately all schools will need to meet AODA accessibility standards, but there are no funds earmarked to address these needs; and
4. Even with overall decreases in enrolment, new schools need to be built in boards' growth areas that are sometimes far from existing schools.

The Ministry of Education now issues calls for applications for capital projects. Each of these calls gives the appearance of being a one-off call, with no certainty about whether or when there will be another. As a consequence, many boards have treated these calls as though there will be no other. A multiplicity of different projects, which under the previous system were streamed into specific capital programs, is now herded into a single funding stream. This makes it difficult for boards to assign priorities and difficult for Ministry officials to make decisions that are fair and equitable.

In addition, the current approvals process under this single funding stream for capital projects is administratively burdensome. Significantly streamlining this process will go some distance to increasing efficiency and lessening the administrative burdens for school boards. It will as well reduce the timeframe for the planning and building of new and renovated schools.

The current situation would also benefit from the creation of a multi-year program to address capital needs. This would add an element of predictability to the system and would make it possible for school boards to plan and clearly articulate those plans to the Ministry. It would also make it easier for the Ministry to review applications and make allocations in an orderly and transparent manner that reflect the priorities of both the Ministry and school boards.

OCSTA Recommendations

- **That the Ministry of Education establish a multi-year capital funding process in order to restore the ability of both the Ministry of Education and school boards to plan for future capital needs.**
- **That the Ministry of Education significantly streamline the capital approvals process for school boards to reduce administrative costs.**

Sick Leave Costs

The financial costs associated with the sick leave provisions contained within the central terms of our boards' collective agreements is a significant issue. Currently, all employee groups are able to access up to 11 days payable at 100% and up to 120 days payable at 90%, for a combined total of up to 131 paid days of sick leave per year. Cost increases associated with these provisions, combined with the indirect costs associated with replacement staff, occasional teachers, and increased administrative burdens associated with managing higher utilization, are leaving many of our school boards struggling to meet obligations.

While OCSTA continues to collect absenteeism data from its member boards, in 2016, SBCI conducted a study of 54 school boards (inclusive of certain Catholic, public, French Catholic and French public school boards) which highlighted the growth of average sick leave utilization across the sector as a whole and the associated financial magnitude of the problem. According to publicly available reports³, absenteeism rates have, on average, risen from less than 9 days in 2010-11 to over 11 days in 2015-16, with an associated cost of approximately \$1.0 billion. Over the 2010-11 to the 2015-16 period, sick leave utilization grew significantly in every employee category:

- Elementary teachers: 29% increase in sick days, >11 days
- High school teachers: 26% increase in sick days, <10 days
- Educational assistants: 41% increase in sick days, 16 days
- Custodians: 23% increase in sick days, >16 days
- Early childhood educators:* 37% increase in sick days, > 13 days

(* period for ECEs ranged from 2013-14 to 2015-16)

There can be little debate that the exponential growth in sick leave utilization is directly linked to the sick leave plan modification that was introduced to the sector in 2012. While attendance support programs are one tool to assist in curbing growing costs, these types of programs alone are insufficient to address the magnitude of the increase in utilization. Government must also be committed to working with school boards and Trustee Associations to negotiate meaningful changes to the central sick leave collective agreement provisions.

OCSTA Recommendations

- **That Boards be supported by the Ministry of Education in implementing attendance support and disability management programs.**
- **That the Government work with trustee associations and school boards to negotiate meaningful changes to the central sick leave collective agreement provisions.**
- **That the Government fund the increase in sick leave costs until a new model is in place.**

³ See <https://www.therecord.com/news-story/7316863-jump-in-teachers-sick-days-affecting-students-report-warns/?S=E>

School Board Flexibility and Autonomy

Catholic district school boards in Ontario face increased budget pressures in the delivery of educational programs and services required by the Ministry of Education. As part of an expanding list of programs and services, the ministry continues to significantly reduce boards' flexibility and autonomy. In addition, the ministry continues to reduce boards' flexibility in developing specific policies for students or implementing ministry policy directives. The recent proposed revisions to the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline is one example.

The ministry has also placed increased restrictions on how school boards spend their capital and operating funds. For example, the increased number of areas in the GSN that are "enveloped" reduces a school boards' budget flexibility along with more targeted EPO grants. These restrictions on school boards have reduced their capacity to plan for, fund and operate specific education programs that serve the unique needs of their local constituents.

Ontario's publicly funded school boards require sufficient flexibility and autonomy to realize their unique mandates. This is particularly true with regard to the distinct mission of Catholic School Boards.

OCSTA Recommendations

- **That the Ministry of Education develop new regulations/policies to restore school board autonomy and flexibility:**
 1. **In overall school board planning/program design and the implementation of ministry policy directives;**
 2. **Remove restrictions (enveloping) on operating funds that reduce school board flexibility.**

Top-Up Funding

In the 2015-16 Grants for Student Needs (GSN) funding announcement the School Board Efficiencies and Modernization (SBEM) initiative was implemented. These measures resulted in changes to (1) **Top-up funding** and benchmarks under the School Facility Operations and Renewal Grant; (2) School Foundation Grant; (3) the Geographic Circumstances Grant; and (4) the Declining Enrolment Grant.

The 2017-18 year was the final year for phase-in of changes to (elimination) of Base Top-up funding. Top-up funding changes were introduced as an incentive for boards in management of underutilized space. *“One effect of this funding (Top-up) has been to sustain schools in areas where it would make more sense from a program, fiscal, demographic and geographic perspective to rationalize school space through measures that might include closure or consolidation.”*

The government’s clear intent of this funding change was to incent boards to maximize school space utilization via school consolidations and closures. In June 2017, the Liberal government announced a moratorium on any new school closure processes and has been further extended by the incoming Conservative government pending a review of the school accommodation review process. The moratorium has resulted in Boards being unable to consolidate or close schools which would allow mitigation of the complete loss of top-up funding which came into full effect with the 2017-18 GSN.

Instructional Space Loading used in determining Capacity and Utilization Rates (*table below*) do not appropriately reflect On-The-Ground operational, health & safety, and staffing ratio considerations for specific programs, such as science, music, computer, and broad-based technologies.

Instructional Space	Elementary Loading	Secondary Loading
Kindergarten	26	-
Classroom	23	21
Special Education	9	9
Resource Room	12	12

OCSTA Recommendations

- That in light of the June 2017 moratorium on school consolidations & closures, the government retroactively adjust the 2017-18 and 2018-19 impact of the removal of Top-up funding to Boards.
- That until the moratorium on school closures is removed, Boards be held harmless from the impact of Top-up funding removal.
- Boards should have the ability to make fiscally prudent decisions related to rightsizing underutilized schools in its jurisdiction;
- That classroom loading calculations be adjusted to allow a Board's operational, health & safety and staffing ratios to be considered when calculating utilization rates.

Summary of Recommendations

Student Transportation

- That the student transportation funding formula be restructured to reflect the actual needs of school boards;
- Ensure coterminous school boards are able to provide comparable transportation services and be funded to support those services relative to proximity and density of its schools in an area;
- That the competitive procurement process be reviewed so as to restore school board autonomy and flexibility in securing school bus operator contracts;

School Bus Driver Retention

- That the Ministry of Education continue to review the results of this program in the broader context of restructuring the student transportation funding formula to meet the needs of school boards.

21st Century Programs and Services for Students with Differing Abilities Including Diverse Learning Needs

Student Mental Health

- That the Ministry of Education ensure funding for student mental health is a priority and equitable and sustainable for all school boards.
- That the Ministry of Education continue to support funding of a board level “Mental Health Lead” into the Grants for Student Needs structure. We also encourage the government to monitor and update the financial supports to boards to support local mental health initiatives.
- That the Ministry of Education continue to address the changing nature of student mental health needs as evidenced in the need for on-going enhanced prevention/intervention and aligned staff professional development supports for students with mental health challenges in transition.

Special Education

- That the Minister of Education establish a Special Education Working group with a stakeholder advisory board to review the adequacy of special education funding, including the structure of the DSNEA;
- That the Ministry of Education review “needs based” funding models for high needs special education students to supplement the overall Special Education Grant structure.

Funding Programs to Support Students on Long-Term Suspensions, Exclusions and Expulsions

- That the Ministry of Education increase student mental health funding for boards and designate that funding for programs specifically related to re-entry plans for expelled students;
- Provide capacity building funding to enable boards to further develop relationships with community agencies to support student programs in these areas.

Information Technology Infrastructure

- That the Minister of Education consult with OCSTA and School Boards to ensure appropriate funding and resources are made available to fully implement Broadband Modernization.

Education Accessibility Standard

- That the government continue to move the process forward and work with education stakeholders on the design of an education accessibility standard;
- That the Ministry of Education transitional funding be attached to any new regulations related to an Education Accessibility Standard.

Capital Funding

- That the Ministry of Education establish a multi-year capital funding process in order to restore the ability of both the Ministry of Education and school boards to plan for future capital needs.
- That the Ministry of Education significantly streamline the capital approvals process for school boards to reduce administrative costs.

Sick Leave Costs

- That Boards be supported by the Ministry of Education in implementing attendance support and disability management programs
- That the Government work with trustee associations and school boards to negotiate meaningful changes to the central sick leave collective agreement provisions.
- That the Government fund the increase in sick leave costs until a new model is in place.

School Board Flexibility and Autonomy

- That the Ministry of Education develop new regulations/policies to restore school board autonomy and flexibility:
 1. In overall school board planning/program design and the implementation of ministry policy directives;
 2. Remove restrictions (enveloping) on operating funds that reduce school board flexibility.

Top-Up Funding

- That in light of the June 2017 moratorium on school consolidations & closures, the government retroactively adjust the 2017-18 and 2018-19 impact of the removal of Top-up funding to Boards.
- That until the moratorium on school closures is removed, boards be held harmless from the impact of Top-up funding removal.
- Boards should have the ability to make fiscally prudent decisions related to rightsizing underutilized schools in its jurisdiction;
- That classroom loading calculations be adjusted to allow a Board's operational, health & safety and staffing ratios to be considered when calculating utilization rates.

Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association
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**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2018**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
OCSTA MEMORANDUM – BILL 66: RESTORING ONTARIO'S
COMPETITIVENESS ACT, 2018**



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Beverley Eckensweiler, *President*
Michelle Griepsma, *Vice President*
Nick Milanetti, *Executive Director*

December 10, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
- All Catholic District School Boards

FROM: Beverley Eckensweiler, President

SUBJECT: **Bill 66: Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act, 2018**

Summary:

On Thursday, December 6, 2018, the Minister of Economic Development and Trade introduced Bill 66 for first reading. The bill's overall purpose is to reduce regulatory burdens on business enterprises by streamlining regulations across government. As stated in the government's press release:

If passed, the *Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act* will, along with regulatory changes, cut business costs, harmonize regulatory requirements with other jurisdictions, end duplication and reduce barriers to investment.

Proposed Legislative Amendments Affecting the Education Sector:

The bill introduces changes to the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* and *Education Act* that may concern our school boards. First, the bill introduces amendments to the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* that would remove restrictions on home-based child care providers, allowing additional children. Second, the bill lowers the age of children that authorized recreational programs can serve from six years to four years of age. Third, the bill amends the *Education Act* in respect of the conditions required for third party childcare programs.

Below are highlights of the proposed amendments:

Currently, sub-subparagraph 1 iv A of subsection 6 (3) of the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* provides that the group of children in the care of a one home child care provider may not include more than two children who are younger than two years old. This sub-subparagraph is amended to increase the number to three children who are younger than two years old.

Currently, sub-subparagraph 1 iv B of subsection 6 (3) of the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* provides that the group of children in the care of two home child care providers may not include more than four children who are younger than two years old. This sub-subparagraph is amended to increase the number to six children who are younger than two years old.

Currently, subparagraph 2 iii of subsection 6 (3) of the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* provides that the group of children in the care of an unlicensed child care provider may not include more than two children who are younger than two years old. This subparagraph is amended to increase the number to three children who are younger than two years old.

Currently, subparagraph 3 iv of subsection 6 (3) of the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* provides that, with respect to in-home services, financial assistance must be provided under the Act for child care in order to be excepted from the application of subsection 6 (1). This subparagraph is repealed.

Currently, paragraph 4 of subsection 6 (4) of the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* provides that only children who are six years old or older may be registered in an authorized recreational and skill building program. This paragraph is amended to lower the age restriction to children who are four years old or older.

Currently, paragraph 2 of subsection 259 (2) of the *Education Act* provides that a board must ensure that a third party program operated for the purposes of section 259 of the Act is led by an early childhood educator or another person who meets criteria set out in a regulation made under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*. This paragraph is repealed.

Currently, paragraph 1 of subsection 259.1 (2) of the *Education Act* provides that a board must ensure that a third party program operated for the purposes of section 259.1 of the Act must meet the requirements set out in subsection 259 (1) or (2) or be a program prescribed by the regulations. This paragraph is re-enacted to provide that a board must ensure that a third party program operated for the purposes of section 259.1 of the Act must be a child care centre licensed under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* or another program prescribed by the regulations made under the *Education Act*.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Andrews at sandrews@ocsta.on.ca