**BOARD MEETING** 

**JUNE 15, 2021** 

**PUBLIC SESSION** 

TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE

WHOLE MEETING OF JUNE 8, 2021

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT the** Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 8, 2021, as presented.

The following recommendations are being presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 8, 2021:

#### 7.1.1 Larkin Estate Admission Awards 2021-2022

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of \$3,825.00 for Larkin Estate Admission Awards for eligible students, as presented.

#### 7.1.2 The Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revisions, as set out in Appendix A to be included in the Special Education Plan, *Building Bridges and Services 2021 and Beyond*, as presented.

#### 7.1.3 Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2021-2022

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2021-2022, as presented.

## 7.1.4 Niagara Catholic Theological Theme 2021-2022

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic Theological Theme 2021-2022, "Climbing Mountains Together in Faith" as presented.



# MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

## **TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held electronically on Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Director Cipriano for Vice-Chair Moody.

#### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

#### 1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Trustee Sicoli.

#### 2. Roll Call

Director Cipriano noted that Trustees Huibers and Moody asked to be excused.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Rhianon Burkholder		✓		
Kathy Burtnik		✓		
Frank Fera		✓		
Larry Huibers				✓
Daniel Moody				✓
Leanne Prince		✓		
Dino Sicoli		✓		
Paul Turner		✓		
<b>Student Trustees</b>				
Luca DiPietro		✓		
Sydney Yott		✓		

Director Cipriano reviewed the procedures for the appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair in accordance with Section 9 Subsection 7 of the Board By-Laws.

Trustee Burtnik nominated Trustee Burkholder, Trustee Burkholder accepted the nomination.

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT Rhianon Burkholder chair the June 8, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting. **CARRIED** 

The following staff were in attendance:

Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education; Ted Farrell, Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Kimberly Kinney, Gino Pizzoferrato, Superintendents of Education; Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; Clark Euale, Controller of Facilities Services; Anna Pisano, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services

#### 3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Prince

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 8, 2021, as presented.

**CARRIED** 

#### 4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Declaration of Conflict of Interest was declared by Trustee Fera with Item F4.3 of the In Camera Agenda. This trustee has family members who are teachers, or employees of the Board. He left the meeting during discussion of this item.

#### 5. Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 11, 2021

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 11, 2021, as presented.

**CARRIED** 

#### 6. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Burtnik requested Item 6.3 be held and Trustee Burkholder requested Item 6.6. These items were moved to Committee and Staff Reports Section C of the agenda.

#### 6.1 Research Collaborations in the Niagara Catholic District School Board 2020-2021

Presented for information.

#### 6.2 Larkin Estate Admission Awards 2021-2022

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of \$3,825.00 for Larkin Estate Admission Awards for eligible students, as presented.

#### 6.3 The Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services

Moved to Section C6

#### 6.4 <u>Draft Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2021-2022</u>

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Draft Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2020-2021, as presented.

#### 6.5 <u>Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities</u>

Presented for information.

#### 6.6 Capital Projects Progress Report Update

Moved to Section C6

#### 6.7 In Camera Items F1 and F3

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

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

**CARRIED** 

#### **B. PRESENTATIONS**

#### 1. New Student Trustee and Co-Chair – Student Senate 2021-2022/2022-2023 Introduction

Director Cipriano welcomed back Sydney Yott of Saint Paul Catholic High School and introduced Steffen Zylstra of Saint Michael Catholic High School as the Student Trustees for the 2021-2022/2022-2023 school years. Director Cipriano provided background on and welcomed Steffen as Niagara Catholic District School Board's 2021-2022/2022-2023 Student Trustee.

#### C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

#### 1. Multi-Year Strategic Plan Update

Director Cipriano provided an update on the Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

Director Cipriano answered questions of Trustees.

#### 2. Niagara Catholic Theological Theme 2021-2022

Director Cipriano introduced Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader.

Ms. Wood presented the Niagara Catholic Theological Theme for 2021-2022.

Ms. Wood answered questions of Trustees.

#### Moved by Trustee Prince

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic Theological Theme 2021-2022, "Climbing Mountains Together in Faith" as presented.

#### **CARRIED**

#### 3. <u>Niagara Catholic Elementary and Secondary Virtual Schools Family/Student and Educator</u> <u>Feedback 2020-2021 – Second Collection</u>

Director Cipriano provided background information on the Virtual Schools Feedback and introduced Christine Battagli, Consultant-Research, Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting.

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education and Ms. Battagli presented the Niagara Catholic Elementary and Secondary Virtual Schools Family/Student and Educator Feedback 2020-2021 – Second Collection for Trustee information.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells and Ms. Battagli answered questions of Trustees.

#### 4. Niagara Catholic Secondary Schools September 2021 Plan

Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education provided presented Niagara Catholic Secondary Schools September 2021 Plan.

Superintendent Farrell answered questions of Trustees.

#### 5. Monthly Updates

#### 5.1 Student Trustees' Update

Luca DiPietro and Sydney Yott, Student Trustees, presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

#### 5.2 Senior Staff Good News Update

Senior Staff highlights included:

#### **Superintendent Forsyth-Sells**

- Niagara Catholic is pleased to announce that three out of the five winners for the Mayor of St. Catharines Poetry Challenge are from Niagara Catholic: Luke, a Gr 8 student from St. James Catholic Elementary School; Audrey, a Gr. 6 student from the Niagara Catholic Virtual Elementary School and Kendra, a Gr. 6 student from Assumption Catholic Elementary School
- Assumption Catholic Elementary School is the only school in the Niagara Region to receive the Silver OPHEA Healthy School Award this school year.

#### 6. Consent Agenda Item A6.3 and A6.6

#### 6.1 <u>The Provisions of Special Education Programs and Services</u>

Trustee Burtnik acknowledged the work of Superintendent Pizzoferrato and his department in developing the Special Education Plan and for inspiring the public members of SEAC to engage in moving this Board forward.

#### Moved by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revisions, as set out in Appendix A to be included in the Special Education Plan, Building Bridges and Services 2021 and Beyond, as presented.

#### **CARRIED**

#### 6.2 <u>Capital Projects Progress Report Updated</u>

Clark Euale, Controller of Facilities Services answered questions of Trustees.

#### D. INFORMATION

#### 1. Trustee Information

Director Cipriano highlighted the memo from the Ministry of Education providing guidelines for outdoor year end celebrations.

#### E. OTHER BUSINESS

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

Director Cipriano noted that with the announcement that schools will remain closed and continue with virtual learning and the most recent announcement of the province entering stage 1 of the reopening plan all Board meetings will remain virtual until the end of June.

#### F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

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

**CARRIED** 

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 8:17 p.m. and reconvened at 8:53 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 8, 2021.

#### **CARRIED**

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

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section A: Student Trustees Included) held on May 11, 2021, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

#### SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section B: Student Trustees Excluded) held on May 11, 2021, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F3)

## H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Sicoli
THAT the June 8, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meet June 8, 2021.	ing of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on
Approved on September 14, 2021.	
Daniel Moody	Camillo Cipriano
Vice-Chair of the Board	Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**BOARD MEETING** 

**JUNE 15, 2021** 

**PUBLIC SESSION** 

TITLE: LARKIN ESTATE ADMISSION AWARDS 2021-2022

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of \$3,825.00 for Larkin Estate Admission Awards for eligible students, as presented.

Prepared by: Kim Kinney, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Kim Kinney, Superintendent of Education

Recommended by: Committee of the Whole

Date: June 15, 2021



# REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JUNE 8, 2021

#### LARKIN ESTATE ADMISSION AWARDS 2021-2022

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Larkin Estate Admission Awards are administered by the Board of Trustees of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Funding for the awards comes from a bequest from the estate of Maria Eveleen Larkin and Aimee Theresa Larkin. These awards have been administered annually since 1969 by the Board of Trustees of the former Lincoln County R.C.S.S. Board.

As of April 30, 2021 the undistributed earnings and the balance of the scholarship fund amounted to \$26,216.80 with projected interest in the amount of \$5,000 to the end of 2021. According to the terms of the bequest, the undistributed earnings may be paid to eligible students who are approved by the Board.

The Larkin Estate Admission Award is available to graduates of a Catholic high school situated in the jurisdiction of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Candidates must be enrolled in St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, or a school of nursing, social service work or a college or university offering such course. Applications have been reviewed and a list of qualifying candidates has been prepared, as noted on Appendix A (New Applicants).

The applicants have been made aware that they must provide proof that they have registered in the eligible courses and/or school in order to receive the award. This proof is in the form of an official letter from the registrar of either St. Michael's College or a school of nursing, social service work or a college or university offering such course. Candidates are also obliged to submit evidence of successful completion of their year's study in order to qualify for a renewal of the award. (Appendix B - Renewal Applicants)

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the payment of \$3,825.00 for Larkin Estate Admission Awards for eligible students, as presented.

Prepared by: Kim Kinney, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Kim Kinney, Superintendent of Education

Recommended by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: June 8, 2021

## LARKIN ESTATE AWARDS 2021-2022 New Applicants

Name	Amount to be Paid	Degree/Diploma	Graduate of:
1. Cassibo, Emily	· .	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School
2. Charles, Cheyenne	1 -	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Notre Dame College School
3. Cutler, Anastasia	\$225.00	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Notre Dame College School
4. Duerden, Joyden	\$225.00	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Notre Dame College School
5. Thomas, Miya	\$225.00	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Saint Michael Catholic High School
TOTAL	\$1,125.00		

## LARKIN ESTATE AWARDS 2021-2022 Renewal Applicants

Applicant Name	Year of Award	Amount to be paid	Degree/ Diploma	Graduate of:
<ol> <li>Brown, Jordanne</li> </ol>	2	\$225.00	Nursing	Notre Dame College
2. Khutornaya, Anna	2	\$225.00	Nursing	St. Michael Catholic High School
<ol><li>Mirabella, Cayla</li></ol>	2	\$225.00	Nursing	Denis Morris Catholic High School
4. Opalka, Stephanie	2	\$225.00	Nursing	Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School
5. Paul, Melanie	2	\$225.00	Nursing	Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School
6. Vallente, Karylle	2	\$225.00	Nursing	Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School
7. Kish, Kennedy	3	\$225.00	Nursing	Notre Dame College School
8. Miele, Kassandra	3	\$225.00	Nursing	Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School
9. Sawchyn, Hannah	3	\$225.00	Nursing	Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School
10. Schipper, Hannah	3	\$225.00	Nursing	Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School
11. Zuniga, Stefanie	3	\$225.00	Nursing	Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School
12. Erzar, Adriana	4	\$225.00	Nursing	Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School
	TOTAL	\$2,700.00		

**BOARD MEETING** 

**JUNE 15, 2021** 

**PUBLIC SESSION** 

TITLE: THE PROVISIONS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

AND SERVICES – SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN REVISIONS

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revisions, as set out in Appendix A to be included in the Special Education Plan, *Building Bridges and Services 2021 and Beyond*, as presented.

Prepared by: Gino Pizzoferrato, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Gino Pizzoferrato, Superintendent of Education

Recommended by: Committee of the Whole

Date: June 15, 2021



# REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JUNE 8, 2021

# THE PROVISIONS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES – SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN REVISIONS

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Ministry of Education requires district school boards to publicly make available a comprehensive report regarding the current special education programs and services of the Board. *Building Bridges to Services 2021 and Beyond* is our Board's current version of the Ministry of Education mandated Special Education Plan that includes the components that are defined in *Special Education in Ontario Kindergarten to Grade 12 Policy and Resource Guide 2017* as well as the protocols established in Policy and Program Memorandum 149.

In compliance with *Regulation 464/97*, Student Support staff consults with the Niagara Catholic Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) in the preparation and update of the Special Education Plan. Appendix A lists the revisions, as approved by the Special Education Advisory Committee at the SEAC meeting of June 2, 2021, that will be incorporated into the current Special Education Plan.

A checklist that notes the plan's component parts, updated sections and the URL leading to the Special Education Plan on our Board's website is annually completed and submitted to the London Regional Education Office by July 31st each year. Once all revisions are finalized, the 2021 Plan will be available to access through Niagara Catholic's website.

The Niagara Catholic District School Board recognizes that the updated Special Education Plan, *Building Bridges to Services 2021 and Beyond* is a valuable resource to students, parents, school and Board staff. In the fall of each year, the revised Special Education Plan is accessible via our Niagara Catholic District School Board website.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revisions, as set out in Appendix A to be included in the Special Education Plan, *Building Bridges and Services 2021 and Beyond*, as presented

Prepared by: Gino Pizzoferrato, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Gino Pizzoferrato, Superintendent of Education

Recommended by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: June 8, 2021

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN 2020-2021: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY of REVISIONS

#### **Across Special Education Plan:**

- Date changes from 2019-2020 to 2020-2021
- Clarification that the name of the department is Student Support and that as a department staff, we deliver Special Education programming and support
- Appendices moved to the end of the document and updating sample forms with newer version where available
- Change in document design of the Plan, moving it into a Word document for ease of future updates

#### Part 1: Model for Special Education

• Clarity and revision of language: "The foundation of programming and delivery is early intervention and ongoing data collection and assessment."

#### Part 2: Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) Process

- Cleaned up language around board practice for IPRC membership
- Update of 2020-2021 IPRC and IEP Data to reflect the current year

#### Part 3: Special Education Placements Provided by the Board

- Ensured language regarding services delivered by staff reflects current roles and practices
- Removal of references to discontinued programs and supports
- Include opening the meeting in prayer as part of the role of the Chair

#### **Part 5: Special Education Staff**

• Review and revision of staffing numbers

#### **Part 6: Specialized Equipment**

• Revision of procedures for accessing SEA equipment to reflect current practices

#### Part 13: Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

- Update membership names and contact information
- Update staff names and contact information

#### Part 14: Early Identification Procedures and Intervention Strategies

• Removal of reference to "home school" as the term may cause confusion between the student's "home school" based on their attendance and "home school" as in a student learning remotely and/or at home.

#### Part 15: Educational and Other Assessments

- Update to ensure accuracy in the names of standardized assessments being used including version number
- Update to reflect current practice for Psycho-educational assessment completion
- Update wait-time information to better reflect expected timelines

#### Part 16: Coordination of Services with Other Ministries or Agencies

• Update to ensure accuracy of currently accessed services from outside the board and most up-todate agency names

#### Part 17: Specialized Health Support Services in School Settings

• Update to ensure accuracy of service delivery models

#### **Part 18: Staff Development**

• Revise and updated to reflect current practices and PD opportunities

 Updated Accessibility Projects Completed Charts and Future Accessibility Projects for Consideration

BOARD MEETING

**JUNE 15, 2021** 

**PUBLIC SESSION** 

TITLE: BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETING DATES CALENDAR 2021-

2022

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2021-2022, as presented.

Prepared by: Corporate Services and Communications

Presented by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Recommended by: Committee of the Whole

Date: June 15, 2021



# REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JUNE 8, 2021

#### **BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETING DATES CALENDAR 2021-2022**

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the February 23, 2021 Board Meeting, the Board approved the 2021-2022 School Year Calendar for submission to the Ministry of Education. On May 14, 2021 the Director of Education was notified by the Ministry of Education that the "school year calendar submission for your elementary and secondary schools meets the requirements of Sections 2, 3 and 4 of *Regulation 304 – School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days*". (Appendix A)

Annually, staff utilizes the approved Board and Ministry of Education school year calendar to design the Board School Year Calendar and Meeting Dates along with a calendar of dates for school and system activities, celebrations, events, faith formation, meetings and professional development.

In compliance with the Niagara Catholic District School Board By-Laws on Annual Organizational Meeting (Section 7), Regular Meetings of the Board (Section 8) and Committee Meetings (Section 19), meeting date recommendations from the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC), the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and the Audit Committee along with historical annual meeting date adjustments for the Committee of the Whole and Board Meetings in December and June, a draft Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2021-2022 is presented for the consideration of the Committee of the Whole (Appendix B).

When the Board approves the Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2021-2022, staff will place a copy on Board websites, notify Board Committees and staff, produce a Board Meeting Dates Calendar for each school and a Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2021-2022 for distribution to all families.

Appendix A – May 14, 2021 Letter from the Ministry of Education

Appendix B – Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2021-2022 (Draft)

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Draft Board and Committee Meeting Dates Calendar 2020-2021, as presented.

Prepared By: Corporate Services and Communications

Presented By: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Recommended By: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: June 8, 2021

#### Ministry of Education

West Region 217 York Street, Suite 207 2nd Floor West London ON N6A 5P9 (519) 667-1440 1-800-265-4221 FAX (519) 667-9769

#### Ministère de l'Éducation

Région de l'Ouest 217, rue York, bureau 207 2e étage ouest London ON N6A 5P9 (519) 667-1440 1 800 265-4221 Télécopieur (519) 667-9769



May 14, 2021

Camillo Cipriano
Director of Education
Niagara Catholic District School Board
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON L3C 7C1

#### Dear Director Cipriano;

On behalf of the Minister of Education, I am pleased to inform you that your elementary and secondary 2021-2022 modified school year calendars are approved in accordance with subsection 5(1) of *Regulation 304 – School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days,* and are deemed compliant for posting.

As per the supporting documentation provided by the board, it is understood that consultation with stakeholder groups has taken place and that support for the modification has been obtained.

Please note that, in addition to the calendar submission, the board must submit its Professional Activity (PA) day descriptions no later than **May 28**. After May 28, a representative from the regional office may contact the board to discuss Ministry requirements for PA days where necessary. Following this, you will receive a **separate written confirmation** from the Regional Office, as well as an **automated notice** through the School Year Calendar Application, which will confirm completion of the 2021-2022 school year calendar process.

Regards,

Jeff Moser

Regional Manager

West Region



Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting

Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting

Policy Committee Meeting

Audit Committee Meetings

6:30 p.m.

4:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

10:00 a.m.

1st Wednesday of each month

4th Tuesday of each month

1st Thursday bi-monthly

As noted

SEAC

NCPIC

PC

AC

## NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

# 2021-2022 School Year Calendar & Meeting Dates

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Elementary & Secondary P.A. Day

Board Office Shutdown

Secondary Exams

**BOARD MEETING** 

**JUNE 15, 2021** 

**PUBLIC SESSION** 

TITLE: NIAGARA CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL THEME 2021-2022

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic Theological Theme 2021-2022, "Climbing Mountains Together in Faith" as presented.

Prepared by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader

Presented by: Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader

Recommended by: Committee of the Whole

Date: June 15, 2021



# REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JUNE 8, 2021

#### NIAGARA CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL THEME 2021-2022

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Rooted in the Mission Statement, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board and in compliance with the Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, one of the Board's two Strategic Directions is to "Build Strong Catholic Identity and Community to Nurture the Distinctiveness of Catholic Education".

As we approach the conclusion of the current three year theological theme, a system level committee was formed to design a new one year theological theme for Niagara Catholic for 2021-2022. A complete three year theological theme will be selected next year for 2022-2025 to align with the Board's next Strategic Plan and Directions.

#### **Theological Theme Committee**

Krista Wood – Board Chaplaincy Leader (Chair)
Fr. Paul MacNeil – Bishop's Representative
Chris Beatty – Secondary Teacher
Andrea Bozza – Board Mental Health Lead
Ariana Vetere- Chaplaincy Leader
Diana Conidi – Chaplaincy Leader
Rosanne Sandel – Administrator
Alexa MacInnis- Brock Student Teacher

#### **Development of the Theological Theme**

Early conversations emphasized the importance of recognizing the challenges we have faced in education and throughout the world throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Key themes which emerged from these discussions were a desire to focus on how we have and will continue to overcome obstacles together as a community of faith.

The theme will explore the importance of recognizing our individual faith journeys, the diverse experiences, challenges, and strengths we carry with us, as well as the significance of journeying together.

#### Theological Theme – 2021-2022

Through prayer, reflection, sharing and with the endorsement of Bishop Bergie, there was consensus on the following theme to guide Niagara Catholic through the next school year:

Climbing Mountains Together in Faith

#### **Scriptural Foundation and Connections for the Theme**

#### Psalm 120-134

The Psalms of Ascent: Songs for the Journey

This collection of 15 psalms speak about the journey of the Jewish people as they climbed the mountains on their way to Jerusalem. It highlights both the physical nature of climbing a mountain, as well as the spiritual metaphor of our journey towards Heaven.

As a community of faith, this calls us to reflect upon the both the joy and challenges of our daily lives. This past year has taught us the importance of adversity, perseverance, and patience. There are days when the challenges we face may seem overwhelming and to some impossible. And yet, we continue on, day after day, seeking to grow and journey together not only as individuals but as a whole community.

#### Psalm 121:1-2

I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

We, much like the Jewish people of the time, are all at different stages of our journey. Some of us stand at the base of the mountain looking upward with hope and anticipation of all that is to come when we reach our destination; others stare at the mountain in fear of the unknown; while many more find themselves at different heights an

d on all different sides of the mountain. None of us stand in the exact same location.

Our theological theme will also help us to explore and celebrate the diversity of our Niagara Catholic community, while also recognizing the challenges of equity and inclusivity.

#### **System Implementation 2021-2022**

Our theological theme will once again direct such elements as the daily prayer and resource package forwarded to all schools; Adult Faith Formation sessions; school and system faith-centered events; the Journey Retreat program focus; grade level retreats, prayer services, daily prayers, resources for all Administrators, Chaplaincy Leaders, Faith Ambassadors and faith connections for all staff through *myNiagaraCatholic* and the *Virtual Chapel*.

With the engagement of a new theological theme, *Climbing Mountains Together in Faith* may we all grow together on this great journey of faith, more deeply preparing ourselves to always meet the expectations of our Board's mission:

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.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Niagara Catholic Theological Theme 2021-2022, "Climbing Mountains Together in Faith" as presented.

Prepared by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader

Presented by: Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader

Recommended by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: June 8, 2021

**BOARD MEETING** 

**JUNE 15, 2021** 

**PUBLIC SESSION** 

TITLE: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL POWER – JULY & AUGUST 2021

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board empower Executive Council to approve any actions, of an emergency nature, recommended by the Director of Education, if a quorum cannot be achieved after a Special Meeting of the Board is called as per Board By-Laws, during the months of July and August 2021.

Prepared by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Presented by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Recommended by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: June 15, 2021



## REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING JUNE 15, 2021

#### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL POWER - JULY & AUGUST 2021

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In accordance with the Niagara Catholic District School Board By-Laws Section 10 – Special Meetings of the Board:

"Special meetings of the Board shall be held by order of the Board, on the written request of three (3) trustees, to the Chair or the Director of Education, on the call of the Chair, or at the request of the Director of Education. The trustees shall be given a twenty-four (24) hour notice for special meetings except in emergency situations. Such meetings shall be called for specific reasons. Such subjects shall be stated in the notice calling the meeting. Notwithstanding any other provisions to the Board's By-Laws, no other business shall be considered at a special meeting other than the subjects stated in the notice."

The following recommendation is presented in the event that it becomes necessary to call a Special Meeting of the Board to deal with emergency items only and a <u>quorum cannot be achieved</u>, after all reasonable attempts by the Director of Education to achieve quorum during the months of July and August 2021 have been exhausted.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board empower Executive Council to approve any actions, of an emergency nature only, as recommended by the Director of Education, only if a quorum cannot be achieved after a Special Meeting of the Board is called as per Board By-Laws, during the months of July and August 2021.

Prepared by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Presented by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer
Recommended by: Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/Secretary-Treasurer

Date: June 15, 2021

**BOARD MEETING** 

**JUNE 15, 2021** 

**PUBLIC SESSION** 

TITLE: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY

**COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEETING OF MAY 5, 2021** 

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of May 5, 2021 as presented for information.



# MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee held on <u>Wednesday, May 5, 2021</u>, at 6:30 pm Electronic Meeting in Compliance with Education Act Section 207 and Ontario Regulation 463/97 Section 5.1 (2) Public Access Phone Number: 1-647-749-124 (Tolls), Conference ID # 745 739 256.

Chair Racine called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

#### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

#### 1. Opening Prayers

- Chair Racine led with an opening prayer, in celebration of Catholic Education week.

#### 2. Roll Call

Members	Affiliations	Yes	Excused
Harvey, Dorothy	Niagara Children's Centre		✓
Helmeczi, Bill	Pathstone Mental Health		✓
Huxley, Kelsey	Indigenous Community Member	✓	
Murphy, Karen	Autism Ontario Niagara Region Chapter	✓	
Palombo, Pina	Down Syndrome Niagara	✓	
Racine, Anna	Community Member	✓	
Smith, Lorraine	Mainstream		<b>✓</b>
Smith, Rita	Community Living Port Colborne/Wainfleet	✓	
Thomas, Kerry	Community Living Welland/Pelham		✓
Wilson, Wendy	Indigenous Community Member		✓
Zoelman, Madeline	Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara Region	✓	
Burtnik, Kathy	Trustee of the Board	✓	
Huibers, Larry	Chair of the Board		✓
Butera, Serena	Student Senate Representative	✓	
Kerho, Chris	Principal, Elementary	✓	
Majka, Kelly	Vice-Principal, Secondary	✓	

Christalla (Chris) Kouroushis was an observer from NCPIC that evening. The following staff members were in attendance: **Gino Pizzoferrato**, Superintendent of Education, **Camillo Cipriano** – Director of

Education, **David O'Rourke**, Coordinator of Student Support, **Vincent Mancuso**, Behaviour Resource Teacher, and **Jennifer Lanese**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant to Superintendent Pizzoferrato.

#### 3. Approval of the Agenda

- Moved by Karen Murphy
- Seconded by Madeline Zoelman

**THAT** THE Special Education Advisory Committee approves the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of **May 5, 2021.** 

#### **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 Special Education Advisory Committee of April 7, 2021

- Moved by Serena Butera
- Seconded by Karen Murphy

**THAT** THE Special Education Advisory Committee approves the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of **April 7, 2021** as presented.

#### **CARRIED**

#### **B. PRESENTATION**

#### 1. <u>Virtual Presentation – Inclusion Means Everyone</u>

- Dr. Sheila Bennett (EdD), Professor of the Educational Students at Brock University was the keynote speaker.
- Dr. Bennett answered questions and comments from the audience.

#### C. AGENDA

#### 1. Other Related Items

#### 1.1 Annual Review of the Special Education Plan

- Jennifer Lanese emailed the Committee Members Pages 14 20 of the Special Education Plan as well as the Feedback Form before the meeting.
- A copy of both documents was also uploaded to the Chat at the start of the meeting.
- o David O'Rourke reminded the Committee Members about the process.
- David O'Rourke encouraged the Committee Members to contact him directly with any questions or concerns.
- The Committee Members were asked to submit comments and feedback on the provided link for the feedback/recommendation submission form.
- o All feedback is due by June 2, 2021.
- The final version of the Special Education Plan will be emailed to the Ministry later in July.

#### 1.2 <u>Sub-Committees Update</u>

a) The Communication Sub-Committee Members are still working on finalizing a draft of

the SEAC Brochure with the feedback previously given. They also had a joint meeting with Superintendent Pizzoferrato and they have drafted a social media post template. They are currently in the creative process awaiting approval from Jennifer Pellegrini. They hope to have more information at the June meeting.

- b) The Survey Sub-Committee had a fruitful meeting with Gino to discuss the draft survey. The survey is now with the Student Support Department for their feedback. They hope that there will be an updated draft at the June meeting.
- c) No update from the Policy Report Sub-Committee.
- d) No update from the Ministry Report Sub-Committee.

#### 1.3 Multi-Year Strategic Plan Update

- o Co-Chair Zoelman provided an update to the Committee Members.
- Jennifer Lanese emailed the MYSP Update to the Committee Members and a copy was also uploaded to the Chat before the meeting.
- o Co-Chair Zoelman provided an overview of the update.
- o Maria Sanchez-Keane will be providing an update at the June meeting.
- Superintendent Pizzoferrato told the group that the June meeting will allow the Committee Members an opportunity to provide feedback on the MYSP.

#### 1.4 Letter to Michelle Johnston of Niagara Region Public Health Department

- Chair Racine and Co-Chair Zoelman prepared a thank you letter to Michelle Johnston of Niagara Region Public Health Department.
- Jennifer Lanese emailed a copy of the letter to all Committee Members and a copy of the letter was also uploaded to the Chat.
- Chair Racine provided an overview of the letter that was drafted.
- Superintendent Pizzoferrato thanked Chair Racine and Co-Chair Zoelman for their work and time in preparing the letter.

#### 1.5 Policy Review

- The following Policy is currently being reviewed as part of the <u>Establishment and Cyclical Review of Policies Policy (100.5)</u> review process.
- To be considered, all submissions must identify the specific policy and include your name, phone number, address and affiliation with Niagara Catholic. Anonymous or pseudonymous submissions will not be considered
- Trustee Code of Conduct Policy (100.12)
- Please submit your feedback to <u>jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com</u> by 12.00 pm on May 31,
   2021.
- Jennifer Lanese emailed a copy of the Policy being vetted along with a reminder of the due date to all Committee Members.

- All Committee Members were encouraged to submit their feedback by the due date.
- The deadline for all feedback was originally set for <u>Wednesday, May 19, 2021</u> and later extended by Jennifer Pellegrini to <u>Monday, May 31, 2021</u> by 12:00 noon.
- Jennifer Lanese advised all Committee Members of the new deadline in a follow-up email.

#### D. FUTURE MEETINGS / INFORMATION ITEMS

- LDANR Summer Reading Rocks
  - One-on-One Literacy Program for students in Grades 1 8.
  - The program runs from July 12 August 25, 2021.
  - o Apply online at LDANiagra.org or contact Emily Glencross: <a href="mailto:eglencross@Ldaniagara.org">eglencross@Ldaniagara.org</a>.
- The Support Coordinators would like to extend their thanks for the funding support provided by the Youth Wellness Hub to complete the Psycho-Educational assessments. With this support, the Student Support Department was able to provide assessments to 14 students who otherwise would have been waiting a little longer. This opportunity is allowing their staff to gain valuable information that will support the program, goal setting and Pathway development for each student. Our team at Niagara Catholic is truly appreciative of the Youth Wellness Hub's support provided to our staff, students and families.

#### E. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND REFLECTION

- Chair Racine offered a moment of silence and reflection.
- F. NEXT MEETING Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 6:30 pm (Microsoft Teams Meeting).

#### G. ADJOURNMENT

- Moved by Madeline Zoelman
- Seconded by Pina Palombo

**THAT** the **May 5, 2021** meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned. **CARRIED** 

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.