



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 in the Father Kenneth Burns c.s.c. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Di Lorenzo for Vice-Chair Burkholder. Trustee Joyner acted as Vice-Chair.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Trustee Bruzzese

2. Roll Call

Chair Di Lorenzo noted that Trustee Benoit, Huibers and Student Trustee Johnstone asked to be excused, and Trustee Burkholder joined electronically.

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

The following staff were in attendance:

Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education; **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Kimberly Kinney, Gino Pizzoferrato, Pat Rocca, Domenic Massi, Joseph Zaroda**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Clark Euale**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Julia Tiessen**, Executive Officer of Human Resources; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Marino

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 14, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

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

5. Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 10, 2023

Moved by Trustee Marino

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 10, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

6. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Di Lorenzo requested Item 6.4 be held. This item was moved to Committee and Staff Reports Section D of the agenda.

6.1 Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities

Presented for information.

6.2 Capital Projects Progress Report Update

Presented for information.

6.3 2023-2024 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants

Presented for information.

6.4 Student Achievement Plan 2023-2024

Moved to Section D

6.5 Attendance Area Review – Blessed Trinity Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools Terms of Reference

Moved by Trustee

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revision to Terms of Reference for the Blessed Trinity Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee as follows:

- i. Establishment of the attendance area for the New Town of Lincoln (Beamsville) Catholic Elementary School (located on Greenlane Road, east of Ontario Street); and review and recommend modified attendance area boundaries for Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School (Grimsby), St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School (Grimsby), St. Edward Catholic Elementary School, St. John Catholic Elementary School, St. Mark Catholic Elementary School, and St. Martin Catholic Elementary School, within the Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School – Family of Schools.
- ii. Align student enrolment across the Blessed Trinity Catholic Elementary Family of Schools in order to alleviate enrolment pressure.

CARRIED

Moved by Trustee Joyner

THAT the Committee of the Whole adopt consent agenda items.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. GOVERNANCE POLICIES

1. Governance Policies for Recommendation to the Board

1.1. Community Use of Facilities Policy (800.2)

Director Cipriano noted no vetting comments were received for the Community Use of Facilities Policy (800.2).

Following discussion, the Committee of the Whole recommended the following additional amendments:

- No amendment

Moved by Trustee Bruzzese

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Community Use of Facilities Policy (800.2), as presented.

APPROVED

1.2. Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy (301.1)

Domenic Massi, Superintendent of Education, presented feedback received from the vetting process and highlighted recommended amendments to the Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy (301.1), following the vetting process.

Following discussion, the Committee of the Whole recommended the following additional amendments:

- No amendment

Moved by Trustee Marino

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy (301.1), as presented.

APPROVED

2. Governance Policies Prior to Vetting

2.1. Employee Hospitality Policy (201.14)

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services, presented the Employee Hospitality Policy (201.14).

The Committee of the Whole suggested the following amendments:

- Paragraph 6 – change to “*All approved expenditures*”

The Committee of the Whole requested that the Employee Hospitality Policy (201.14), be vetted from November 15, 2023 to January 23, 2024 with a recommended deadline for presentation to the Committee of the Whole in February, for consideration to the Board in February.

2.2. Student Transportation Policy (500.2)

Superintendent Vetrone presented the Student Transportation Policy (500.2)

The Committee of the Whole suggested the following amendments:

- No amendment

The Committee of the Whole requested that the Student Transportation Policy (500.2), be vetted from November 15, 2023 to January 23, 2024 with a recommended deadline for presentation to the Committee of the Whole in February, for consideration to the Board in February.

3. Governance Policy Review Schedule

Presented for information.

D. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Facilities Services: State of Infrastructure 2023-2024

Clark Euale, Controller of Facilities Services presented the Facilities Services: State of Infrastructure 2023-2024 for Trustee information.

Controller Euale answered questions of Trustees.

2. **K-12 Experiential Learning and Technology, Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM), Cooperative Education and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)**

Joseph Zaroda, Superintendent of Education provided background information on the K-12 Experiential Learning and Technology, Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM), Cooperative Education and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) and introduced Erin Farkas, Coordinator-Experiential Learning (K-12) - Technology, Specialist High Skills Major, Co-op and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program, Pat Mete, Coordinator of Student Success, Tino Nuccitelli, Consultant- Specialist High Skills Major Certifications, Dual Credits and Experiential Learning.

Ms. Farkas, Mr. Mete and Mr. Nuccitelli presented the SHSM and OYAP report for Trustee information.

Ms. Farkas, Mr. Mete and Mr. Nuccitelli answered questions of Trustees.

3. **Monthly Updates**

3.1 **Student Trustees' Update**

Student Trustee Emilio Geremia presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

3.2 **Senior Staff Good News Update**

Senior Staff highlights included:

Superintendent Kinney

- Along with 20 delegates attending the *When Faith Meets Pedagogy Conference*, Niagara Catholic presented four workshops.
- Rose Gentilcore and Amanda Boyer, our early years and religion consultants, recently hosted a workshop centered on the faith journey of young learners and explored the book "Drawing God" by Karen Kiefer. The fifth World Drawing Day on November 8th garnered an overwhelming response with over 3,000 students from 245 classes participating.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells

- St. Christopher Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Catholic has nominated the outstanding kindergarten team for the Early Childhood Community Development Center Kindergarten Team Excellent Award.
- St. Michael Catholic Elementary School, during Treaty Recognition Week, set up a Tiny Museum displaying indigenous artifacts. Additionally, congratulations to St. Michael for securing first place in the Niagara region's Paint a Plow initiative, with the slogan "Catch Our Drift." The school will be provided with a truck and trailer for participation in the Niagara-on-the-Lake Santa Claus Parade.

Superintendent Massi

- Emmy, an eighth-grade student at St. John Henry Newman organized a heartfelt cancer fundraiser in gratitude for her mother's battle with breast cancer and the support received at Juravinski Cancer Center. Selling pink bracelets for a \$2 donation throughout October in the school foyer, Emmy and her team raised a total of \$1,600. On November 10th, Emmy and her mom visited Juravinski to present the donation, highlighting the school community's strong support for the cause.

Trustee Marino

- Remembrance Day ceremonies and presentations were well-prepared, informative, and effectively conveyed the significance of the occasion. The students' outstanding behavior, their attentiveness, and respect during the ceremonies were noteworthy.

4. Consent Agenda Item A6.4 Student Achievement Plan 2023-2024

Superintendent Kinney answered questions of Trustees.

E. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 2024 OCSTA Trustee Award of Merit

1.2 2024 OCSTA Student Trustee Alumni Award

Director Cipriano highlighted the 2024 OCSTA Trustee Award of Merit and Student Trustee Alumni Award, and noted the deadline for receipt of nominations in the OCSTA office is 12:00 p.m. Friday, January 12, 2024.

1.3 OCSTA Memorandum – Consultation on Accelerated Apprenticeship Pathway

Director Cipriano highlighted the OCSTA Memorandum regarding Consultation on Accelerated Apprenticeship Pathway and noted the November 17, 2023 deadline for feedback.

F. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

Director Cipriano reminded Trustees of the Special In-Camera Board meeting on November 21, 2023 beginning at 6:00 pm.

Director Cipriano noted that in two weeks, the November board meeting will signify the completion of the first year of the four-year term for this Board of Trustees. Following this, on December 5th, will be the Organizational Board meeting at 6:00 pm. Prior to the Organizational Board meeting will be the Indigenous training session for trustees at 4:30 pm, led by Gary Parker.

G. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

H. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

I. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Marino

THAT the November 14, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **November 14, 2023.**

Approved on **December 5, 2024.**

Rhianon Burkholder
Vice-Chair of the Board

Camillo Cipriano
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer