



We are a *Christ-centered Catholic faith community*  
 that celebrates diversity and fosters spiritual growth,  
 inspiring all to reach their full potential in mind, body and spirit.

AGENDA AND MATERIAL

**BOARD MEETING**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023  
 6:30 P.M.**



*PUBLIC ACCESS LIVE STREAM LINK*  
<https://niagaracatholic.ca/meetings-livestream/>

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

**A. ROUTINE MATTERS**

- |     |   |      |
|-----|---|------|
| 1.  | Land Acknowledgement  | -    |
| 2.  | Opening Prayer – Trustee Huibers  | -    |
| 3.  | Roll Call   | -    |
| 4.  | Approval of the Agenda  | -    |
| 5.  | Declaration of Conflict of Interest   | -    |
| 6.  | Minutes of the Board Meeting  | -    |
| 6.1 | November 28, 2023   | A6.1 |
| 6.2 | December 5, 2023  | A6.2 |
| 7.  | <u>Consent Agenda Items</u>   |      |
| 7.1 | Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 5, 2023 and Consideration of Recommendations | A7.1 |
| 7.2 | Trustee Honorarium for the Year November 15, 2023 to November 14, 2024  | A7.2 |
| 7.3 | Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023  | A7.3 |
| 7.4 | Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of October 4, 2023                    | A7.4 |
| 7.5 | Approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) Meeting of May 11, 2023             | A7.5 |
| 7.6 | Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange   | A7.7 |
| 7.7 | In-Camera Agenda Items F1, F2 & F3  | -    |

**B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

- |    |                       |    |
|----|-----------------------|----|
| 1. | Christmas Cards – Kim | B1 |
|----|-----------------------|----|

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

- |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| 1. | E-Learning – Joe  | C1 |
| 2. | Niagara Catholic Equity Action Plan 2023-2026 – Lee Ann | C2 |

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

- |     |  |      |
|-----|--|------|
| 1.  | Correspondence   | -    |
| 1.1 | Letter From Minister Lecce   | D1.1 |
| 2.  | Report on Trustee Conferences Attended   | -    |
| 3.  | General Discussion to Plan for Future Action   | -    |
| 4.  | Trustee Information  |      |
| 4.1 | Calendar of Events – January 2024  | D4.1 |
| 4.2 | OCSTA 2024 AGM & Conference – May 2-4, 2024  | D4.2 |
| 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**

- |    |                               |   |
|----|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Notice of Motion Submission   | - |
| 2. | Notice of Motion Presentation | - |

**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 19, 2023**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF  
NOVEMBER 28, 2023**

---

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of November 28, 2023, as presented.



## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, November 28, 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.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Land Acknowledgement

Land Acknowledgement statement was delivered by Student Trustee Johnstone.

2. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Marino.

3. Roll Call

Chair Di Lorenzo noted that Trustee Benoit asked to be excused and that Trustee Bruzzese, Trustee Huibers, Student Trustee Johnstone and Student Trustee Geremia 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             | ✓       |                        |        |         |
| <b>Student Trustees</b> |         |                        |        |         |
| 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**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Clark Euale**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Julia Tiessen**, Executive Officer of Human Resources; **Linda Marconi**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services

4. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Joyner  
Seconded by Trustee Huibers

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of November 28, 2023, as presented.

**CARRIED**

5. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

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

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

6.1 **October 24, 2023**

Moved by Trustee Marino  
Seconded by Trustee Burkholder

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of October 24, 2023, as presented.

**CARRIED**

6.2 **November 21, 2023**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder  
Seconded by Trustee Joyner

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of November 21, 2023, as presented.

**CARRIED**

7. **Consent Agenda Items**

Chair Di Lorenzo requested Items 7.1 and 7.2 be held. These items were moved to Committee and Staff Reports Section C of the agenda.

7.1 **Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 14, 2023 and Consideration of Recommendations**

Moved Section C4

7.1.1 **Community Use of Facilities Policy (800.2)**

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

**7.1.2 Admission of Elementary and Secondary Students Policy (301.1)**

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

**7.1.3 Attendance Area Review – Blessed Trinity Catholic Elementary and Secondary Family of Schools – Terms of Reference**

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.

**7.2 Approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) of May 11, 2023**

Moved to Section C

**7.3 Approved Minutes of the Growth & Retention Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of May 30, 2023**

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Growth & Retention Ad Hoc Committee Meeting of May 30, 2023, as presented.

**7.4 Approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting of September 22, 2023**

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting of September 22, 2023, as presented.

**7.5 In-Camera Items F1, F2, F3, F4 & F8.1**

Moved by Trustee Joyner  
Seconded by Trustee Bruzesse

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

**B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. 2022-2023 Contract Expenditures Greater than \$750,000**

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services presented the 2022-2023 Contract Expenditures Greater than \$750,000 report for Trustee information.

Superintendent Vetrone answered questions of Trustees.

2. **Temporary Relocation of St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School to W.E Brown Public Elementary School**

Clark Euale, Controller of Facilities Services presented the Temporary Relocation of St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School to W.E. Brown Public Elementary School report.

Controller Euale answered questions of Trustees.

Moved by Trustee Joyner

Seconded by Trustee Bruzzese

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the temporary relocation of the staff and students of the existing St. Elizabeth CES to William E. Brown Public Elementary School in Wainfleet, in order to facilitate and expedite the construction of the new joint-use school at the current site of St. Elizabeth CES. The timing of this would include the relocation of staff and students to the temporary location immediately following March Break 2024 in order to minimize disruption during the school year, and would continue until the opening of the new school anticipated for September 2024.

**CARRIED**

3. **Audited Consolidated Financial Reports 2022-2023**

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services presented the Audited Consolidated Financial Reports 2022-2023.

Moved by Trustee Joyner

Seconded by Trustee Bruzzese

**THAT** the Audit Committee recommend to the Niagara Catholic District School Board the approval of the Audited consolidated Financial Reports 2022-2023, as presented.

**CARRIED**

4. **Consent Agenda Item A7**

4.1 **Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 14, 2023 and Consideration of Recommendations**

It was noted that Rose Gentilcore's name was spelled incorrectly.

Moved by Trustee Joyner

Seconded by Trustee Bruzzese

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole of November 14, 2023, as amended.

**CARRIED**

**4.2 Approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) of May 11, 2023**

Trustee Di Lorenzo noted he was in attendance.

Moved by Trustee Joyner  
Seconded by Trustee Bruzesse

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of May 11, 2023, as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

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

**1. Correspondence**

Nil

**2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended**

Nil Report

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

Director Cipriano noted that a social will follow the December 19, 2023 Board meeting.

**4. Trustee Information**

**4.1 Calendar of Events – December 2023**

Director Cipriano highlighted the December 2023 Calendar of Events.

**4.2 Annual Advent Faith Formation and Luncheon – December 14, 2023**

Director Cipriano extended an invitation to Trustees to the Annual Advent Faith Formation and Luncheon being held on December 14, 2023.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano.

**5. Open Question Period**

None Submitted

**E. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**1. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMISSION**

None Submitted

**2. NOTICE OF MOTION PRESENTATION**

None Presented



## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Covered under consent agenda section

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

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

Moved by Trustee Joyner  
Seconded by Trustee Bruzzese

**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 24, 2023, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

Moved by Trustee Joyner  
Seconded by Trustee Bruzzese

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Audit Committee Meeting of November 22, 2023, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4)**

Moved by Trustee Joyner  
Seconded by Trustee Bruzzese

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION B: Trustee & Director Only of November 21, 2023, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F8.1)**

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

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

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Marino  
Seconded by Trustee Turner

**THAT** the November 28, 2023 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

---

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **November 28, 2023**.

Approved on **December 19, 2023**.

---

Danny Di Lorenzo  
Chair of the Board

---

Camillo Cipriano  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2023**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF  
DECEMBER 5, 2023**

---

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of December 5, 2023, as presented.



# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD DECEMBER 5, 2023

Minutes of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on December 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns C.S.C. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

## A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. **Meeting Call to Order – Camillo Cipriano, Director of Education/CEO/Secretary-Treasurer**

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chief Executive Officer and Director of Education Camillo Cipriano, in accordance with section 208-4 of the Education Act.

2. **Land Acknowledgement – Student Trustee Johnstone**

Student Trustee Johnstone opened the 2023 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board with a Land Acknowledgement.

3. **Opening Prayer**

Director Cipriano welcomed James Carnegie, Temporary Board Chaplaincy Leader who led the meeting with a prayer.

4. **Roll Call**

Director Cipriano noted that Trustee Benoit was excused and Trustee Turner 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        |         | ✓                      |        |         |

| <b>Student Trustees</b> |   |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Charlotte Johnstone     | ✓ |  |  |  |
| Emilio Geremia          | ✓ |  |  |  |

Special Guest:  
 Harry Korosis, Board Solicitor

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

5. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder  
 Seconded by Trustee Joyner

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board of December 5, 2023, as presented.

**CARRIED**

6. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No Disclosures of Interest were declared with any items on the Agenda of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board.

7. **Election Procedures**

Director Cipriano reviewed the procedures for the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair in accordance with Section 8 Subsection 4 of the Board By-Laws, asked if there were any questions of the procedures before proceeding and appointed Harry Korosis, Board Solicitor and Superintendent Vetrone, as scrutineers if required.

8. **Election of Chair**

Director Cipriano called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Board.

Moved by Trustee Marino  
 Seconded by Trustee Turner

**THAT** Trustee Di Lorenzo be nominated for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to hold office from December 5, 2023 until the 2024 Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Director Cipriano asked Trustee Di Lorenzo if they wished to stand for the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Trustee Di Lorenzo accepted the nomination.

Following three calls for nominations there were no further nominations forthcoming.

Moved by Trustee Marino  
Seconded by Trustee Huibers

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

**CARRIED**

Trustee Di Lorenzo was acclaimed to the position of Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board until the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board in 2024.

Director Cipriano turned over the Chairship of the Annual Organization Meeting of the Board to Chair Di Lorenzo.

**9. Election of Vice-Chair**

Chair Di Lorenzo called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board.

Moved by Trustee Di Lorenzo  
Seconded by Trustee Turner

**THAT** Trustee Burkholder be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to hold office from December 5, 2023 until the 2024 Organizational Meeting of the Board.

**CARRIED**

Chair Di Lorenzo asked Trustee Burkholder if they wished to stand for the position of Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Trustee Burkholder accepted the nomination.

Following three calls for nominations there were no further nominations forthcoming.

Moved by Trustee Joyner  
Seconded by Trustee Marino

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

**CARRIED**

Trustee Burkholder was acclaimed to the position of Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board until the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board in 2024.

**10. Chair's Remarks**

A copy of Chair Di Lorenzo remarks are attached to the Minutes for information and are posted on the *Board*, and *My Niagara Catholic* websites.  
(Appendix A)

**11. Vice-Chair's Remarks**

A copy of Vice-Chair Burkholder remarks are attached to the Minutes for information are posted on the *Board*, and *My Niagara Catholic* websites.  
(Appendix B)

## **B. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

### **1. Board Committees**

Director Cipriano presented the Report on Board Committees, in accordance with Board By-Law 19 which calls for Trustee membership on Board Ad Hoc, Statutory, Standing and Liaison Committees until 2024.

Director Cipriano stated that members to the committees are appointed by the Chair of the Board in consultation with the Vice-Chair of the Board. He asked that Trustees submit their completed form to the Office of the Director of Education by the December Board Meeting.

In compliance with Board By-laws, the Chair, in consultation with the Vice-Chair will appoint trustees to the various committees of the Board. A report on the recommended names will be presented at the January Committee of the Whole meeting for a recommendation to the January Board meeting for approval of Board Committees for 2024.

Moved by Trustee Marino

Seconded by Trustee Huibers

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the continuation of the following Ad Hoc Committees for the year 2024:

- Blessed Trinity Catholic Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee
- Denis Morris, Holy Cross, and Saint Francis Catholic Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee
- Growth and Retention Committee Ad Hoc Committee
- Lakeshore Catholic Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee
- Notre Dame College Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee
- Saint Michael and Saint Paul Catholic Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee

**CARRIED**

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

## **D. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Joyner

Seconded by Trustee Turner

**THAT** the December 5, 2023 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

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

---

---

Minutes of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **December 5, 2023.**

Approved on **December 19, 2023.**

---

Danny Di Lorenzo  
Chair of the Board

---

Camillo Cipriano  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**CHAIR DI LORENZO'S REMARKS**

**Annual Organizational Meeting  
of the Niagara Catholic District School Board  
December 5, 2023**

I am deeply honoured and humbled to have been re-elected Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board. Your support and vote of confidence mean a great deal to me, and I am excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for entrusting me with this important responsibility.

As we embark on this journey together, I want to acknowledge the collective dedication of the entire Board to the mission, vision, and commitment of Catholic education. The trust you have placed in me is not taken lightly, and I am committed to working collaboratively with the other trustees to advance our shared goals.

Our current focus on the strategic plan reflects our commitment to enhancing the educational experience of every student entrusted in our care. By working together, we can improve and create an environment where our faith is of the utmost importance in the development of every child. I am confident that through our collective efforts, we will make decisions that will support our students' academic achievement, spiritual growth, and mental wellbeing.

As we move forward, accountability and transparency will be paramount. Open communication and a clear understanding of our responsibilities will strengthen our ability to serve the families who have placed their trust in Niagara Catholic. Our goal is to support every child in reaching their fullest potential.

Equity and inclusion are fundamental principles that guide our faith, and they shall remain the cornerstone of this Board. In making decisions that impact students, we must always prioritize what is best for every individual. One of the top priorities of this Board is to ensure that no student is ever left behind.

I look forward to the upcoming year with optimism and enthusiasm. Together, we can continue to make a positive impact on the lives of our students and their families. I am honoured to serve as your Chair and am eager to collaborate with each of you to build upon our successes and strive for continuous improvement.

Once again, thank you for your trust and confidence.



## **APPENDIX B**

### **VICE-CHAIR BURKHOLDER'S REMARKS**

#### **Annual Organizational Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board December 5, 2023**

I would like to start by thanking my fellow trustees in entrusting me with the position of Vice-Chair. I promise I won't let you down.

This is an opportunity for all of us to serve in our faith and continue to advocate for Catholic education. Collaboratively, as Danny said, with Chair Di Lorenzo, my fellow trustees, we can make a difference. I believe that we always do the best for Niagara Catholic, our community, staff, and, most importantly, our students.

Thank you again.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2023**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TOPIC: CHRISTMAS CARDS 2023**

---

---

---

---

Prepared by: Kim Kinney, Superintendent of Education  
Teri Cristelli, Arts and Student Leadership Consultant

Presented by: Kimberly Kinney, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 19, 2023



## PRESENTATION BACKGROUND

**Board Meeting  
December 19, 2023**

### CHRISTMAS CARDS 2023

Schools throughout Niagara Catholic were invited to submit one (1) piece of artwork designed by their students in order to create the 2023 Niagara Catholic Christmas Cards. A Selection Committee selected the 2023 Niagara Catholic Christmas Cards.

The parents/guardians of the students whose artwork was chosen to represent the Niagara Catholic District School Board will receive 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 2023 and will be recognized and presented with plaqued cards and Niagara Catholic "*Excellence in the Arts*" pins to proudly wear with their dress code/uniform at the Board Meeting.

| Student Name                                       | Grade  | School   |
|--|--------|--|
| Chloe Song   | 8      | Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School              |
| Elizabeth Reyes-Nunez                              | 7      | Alexander Kuska Catholic Elementary School         |
| Sienna Skinner                                     | 10     | Saint Paul Catholic High School                    |
| Ryan Mullin  | 12     | Lakeshore Catholic High School                     |
| Taya Van Brederode                                 | 9      | Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School          |
| Jade Brennan<br>Harold Babilonia<br>Danielle Nolan | 12     | Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School            |
| Ruby Balon-Perrotto                                | 9      | Notre Dame College School                          |
| Taya Dyer  | K-Yr 2 | St. Philomena Catholic Elementary School           |
| Steffany Atendido                                  | 8      | St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School           |
| Ivan Perez   | 3      | St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Niagara Falls |

Prepared by: Kim Kinney, Superintendent of Education  
Teri Cristelli, Arts and Student Leadership Consultant

Presented by: Kimberly Kinney, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 19, 2023

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2023**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: NIAGARA CATHOLIC e-LEARNING**

---

---

The Niagara Catholic eLearning report is presented for information.

---

---

Prepared by: Joseph Zaroda, Superintendent of Education  
John Belcastro, Principal of Continuing Education and eLearning  
Jeff Maxwell, Technology Enabled Learning and Teaching Consultant

Presented by: Joseph Zaroda, Superintendent of Education  
John Belcastro, Principal of Continuing Education and eLearning  
Jeff Maxwell, Technology Enabled Learning and Teaching Consultant

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

Date: December 19, 2023



## **REPORT TO THE BOARD DECEMBER 19, 2023**

### **NIAGARA CATHOLIC eLEARNING**

---

---

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In alignment with the Ministry of Education directive that all students must earn at least two online learning credits as part of the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), Niagara Catholic continues to develop and maintain high-quality online learning programs that support student achievement and well-being.

The Ministry of Education continues to provide funding to school boards to support the delivery of eLearning courses. Niagara Catholic provides technical support and technology (desktop computers and laptops) to support teachers and students engaged eLearning, as required. On two occasions throughout the school year, Niagara Catholic teachers are offered the opportunity to apply to the eLearning teaching pool through an application process. eLearning teachers are provided with professional development opportunities to support student learning and the delivery of the programs.

Niagara Catholic is pleased to continue the partnerships with our two online platforms: Ontario eLearning Consortium (OeLC) and Catholic Virtual Ontario (CVO) to support Catholic students with access to courses developed by Catholic teachers.

In 2022-2023 Niagara Catholic offered 34 eLearning courses. 97% of Niagara Catholic students that were enrolled in eLearning courses were successful in obtaining credits towards their OSSD.

For the 2023-2024 school year Niagara Catholic is offering 47 eLearning courses in alignment with ministry curriculum and the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations. By expanding access to teacher-led online learning, Niagara Catholic students will continue to have the opportunity to:

- achieve credits towards the OSSD, in subjects they find interesting but that may not be available at their school
- learn in engaging ways, such as through interactive features, simulations and collaboration with others across the province
- gain important transferable skills, including digital literacy, to support lifelong learning and employment opportunities

To encourage student participation and to meet the two online credit requirement, eLearning course options are highlighted on the secondary student course selection sheet. Parents who wish to opt out or exempt their child from the online graduation requirement must complete the opt-out form. Adult learners entering the Ontario secondary school system in 2023-24 or later will also be required to meet this graduation requirement unless they complete the opt-out form. Opt-out forms are available at the school.

Niagara Catholic continues to support staff and student mental health and well-being, and success through the implementation of eLearning options.

The Niagara Catholic eLearning report is presented for information.

---

Prepared by: Joseph Zaroda, Superintendent of Education  
John Belcastro, Principal of Continuing Education and eLearning  
Jeff Maxwell, Technology Enabled Learning and Teaching Consultant

Presented by: Joseph Zaroda, Superintendent of Education  
John Belcastro, Principal of Continuing Education and eLearning  
Jeff Maxwell, Technology Enabled Learning and Teaching Consultant

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

Date: December 19, 2023

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2023**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: NIAGARA CATHOLIC EQUITY ACTION PLAN 2023-2026**

---

---

The Niagara Catholic Equity Action Plan 2023-2026 report is presented for information.

---

---

Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 19, 2023



## REPORT TO THE BOARD

### NIAGARA CATHOLIC EQUITY ACTION PLAN 2023-2026

---

---

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Niagara Catholic District School Board is committed to serving students and their families and staff in its diverse Catholic community by incorporating the principles of equity and inclusive education in its policies and administrative operational procedures, programs and practices that are consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church, the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and the *Ontario Human Rights Code*.

The Niagara Catholic *Equity Action Plan 2023-2026* has its foundation in the Board Mission, Vision and Values, the Board 2021-2026 Strategic Plan, *Listening, Learning and Leading*, and the Strategic Directions:

- Advance Student Achievement for All Students
- Celebrate the Richness of our Catholic Faith and our Holistic, Values-Based, Catholic Education
- Foster Inclusive, Equitable and Safe School Communities Where all are Welcomed and ‘Called by Name’
- Manage our Resources Effectively to Build a Sustainable Catholic School Board in the Niagara Region
- Foster Authentic Relationships with All Staff to Strengthen Our Work with Students

In Niagara Catholic schools, we foster, inclusive, equitable and safe school communities where all are welcomed and ‘called by name’, supporting all students. We continue to implement equitable and inclusive educational practices to confront racism and discrimination that can negatively affect student learning, achievement, and well-being, to improve student outcomes for all students within a culture of respect, acceptance and a sense of belonging.

The Equity Action Plan 2023-2026, has been developed using a guideline from the Education Equity Secretariat of the Ministry of Education in the following areas:

- **School and Classroom Practices**
  - All students will experience Catholic education through culturally relevant and responsive pedagogy, programs, resources, and supports for student success.
  - All students will experience equitable and inclusive school and classroom practices to improve student achievement, engagement, representation and voice.
- **Data Collection, Integration and Reporting**
  - Data collected from EQAO, surveys and parent/student/staff feedback will inform the Strategic Plan, Board and School Student Achievement Plans, Math Action Plans and the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan.



➤ **Leadership, Governance, and Human Resources Services**

- Staff will participate in professional learning about equity, diversity and inclusive practices and programs.
- Staff will be invited to participate in a voluntary workplace demographic census.

Within these areas there are specific actions for implementation in Niagara Catholic schools to meet the needs of all students and staff.

Please find attached the Niagara Catholic Equity Action Plan 2023-2026 for information.

The Niagara Catholic Equity Action Plan 2023-2026 report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 19, 2023



# NIAGARA CATHOLIC Equity Action Plan 2023-2026

*Listening, Learning and Leading*

*Advance student achievement for all students*

*Celebrate the richness of our Catholic faith and our holistic, values-based, Catholic education*

*Foster inclusive, equitable, and safe school communities where all are welcomed and 'called by name'*

*Manage our resources effectively to build a sustainable Catholic school board in the Niagara Region*

*Foster authentic relationships with all staff to strengthen our work with students*

## School and Classroom Practices

*In collaboration with school communities:*

- All students will experience Catholic education through culturally relevant and responsive pedagogy, programs, resources, and supports for student success.
- All students will experience equitable and inclusive school and classroom practices to improve student achievement, engagement, representation and voice.

## Data Collection, Integration and Reporting

*In collaboration with school communities:*

- Data collected from EQAO, surveys and parent/ student/staff feedback will inform the Strategic Plan, Board and School Student Achievement Plans, Math Action Plans and the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan.

## Leadership, Governance and Human Resources Services

*In collaboration with Board and school staff:*

- Staff will participate in professional learning about equity, diversity and inclusive practices and programs.
- Staff will be invited to participate in a voluntary workplace demographic census.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2023**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: CORRESPONDENCE  
LETTER FROM MINISTER LECCE**

---

**Ministry of Education**

Minister

315 Front Street West  
Toronto ON M7A 0B8

**Ministère de l'Éducation**

Ministre

315, rue Front Ouest  
Toronto ON M7A 0B8



December 15, 2023

Charlotte Johnstone, Student Trustee  
Emilio Geremia, Student Trustee  
Mr. Danny Di Lorenzo  
Chair  
Niagara Catholic District School Board  
dannydilorenzo5@gmail.com

Dear Charlotte, Emilio, and Mr. Di Lorenzo,

Thank you for your letter endorsing the Toronto Youth Cabinet's recommendations to support student mental health in schools. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

Please know that the mental health and well-being of Ontario students is a top priority for the Ministry of Education. The public education system plays an important role in mental health promotion and prevention for all students, and the early identification and intervention for students who may be experiencing a mental health issue.

To support student mental health and well-being in 2023-24, Ontario is investing approximately \$114 million, which represents a 555 per cent increase from 2017-18. This includes funding to further students' access to school-based mental health professionals and services year-round, with the aim of providing students with consistent and reliable support. The majority of this funding (\$87.7 million) is secured in the Grants for Student Needs which provides stable funding to support long term planning, staff retention and program continuity for students.

School boards have the flexibility in using their mental health funding provided by the ministry to respond to local needs and priorities. As such, each school board can determine the programs that should be funded and the number and type of mental health professionals (e.g., social workers, psychologists, psychotherapists) to hire/retain for the provision of mental health services to students in schools. School boards often work with their local community-based mental health partners to deliver programs for students.

.../2

As well, in July 2023 the ministry released [Policy/Program Memorandum 169](#) which outlines eleven requirements for school boards, school authorities, and the Consortium Centre Jules-Léger to provide culturally responsive, evidence-informed student mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention services that respect students as complex individuals and provide appropriate supports for their diverse needs. The purpose of PPM 169 is to provide consistency in the delivery of mental health education and services across all school boards and takes effect January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. School boards are required to annually submit a report to the ministry on the implementation status of the PPM requirements.

Some of the requirements under PPM 169 include:

- **Mental Health Absences:** Under PPM 169, students unable to attend school due to a mental health concern must be excused under s. 21(2)(b) (“by reason of sickness or other unavoidable cause”) of the *Education Act*.
- **Mandatory Mental Health Literacy Learning For Students:** While mental health and well-being concepts are found throughout the elementary and secondary Health and Physical Education curricula, in September 2023 the ministry released teacher-led, culturally responsive, mental health learning modules that are aligned with the [2019 Health and Physical Education](#) curriculum to help Grades 7 and 8 students build strategies to support their mental health, including self-care strategies to maintain good mental health and learning about where and when to extra seek help if needed. Additionally, the Ontario government is updating the Grade 10 Career Studies curriculum for Fall 2024 implementation.
- **Joint Local Planning with Community Based Child and Youth Mental Health Providers:** To support a coordinated mental health care system in communities, the ministry expects school board leadership (e.g., Superintendents with Responsibility for Mental Health and Mental Health Leaders) to actively engage with and collaborate in local planning that is related to student mental health and wellness such as establishing clear pathways to/through and from mental health care for students who require intensive services outside of the school setting.
- **Data Collection, Monitoring, and Evaluation:** School boards are required to annually report to the Ministry of Education on their activities through the EDU Annual School Mental Health Survey, which captures information about mental health supports and services provided by school boards, mental health literacy instruction for students, and collaboration with community-based child and youth mental health providers. Data from this survey contributes to evidence-based funding and policy decisions for all 72 school boards across the province.



- **Virtual Care Delivery:** Remote mental health services can be used/offered when it is the most appropriate or accessible delivery vehicle to meet student needs. School boards must ensure that the providers of mental health services are using a virtual care platform that meets provincial standards for I&IT solutions to support the safety and security of students/other board users and is compliant with applicable legislation, such as the Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA) and aligns with the provider's scope of practice and regulatory colleges' obligations for privacy and reporting.

For more information on PPM 169, please visit the ministry's website here:  
[Policy/Program Memorandum 169 | Education in Ontario: policy and program direction | ontario.ca](#)

The government continues to make progress on student mental health and recognizes the importance of the Toronto Youth Cabinet's recommendations. We appreciate your advocacy, as well as the views of students and student trustee associations across Ontario.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Lecce". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

Hon. Stephen Lecce  
Minister of Education

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2023**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS – JANUARY 2024**

---

# JANUARY 2022

| SUN             | MON                 | TUE  | WED                                  | THU                 | FRI                     | SAT |
|-----------------|---------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----|
|                 | 1<br>HAPPY NEW YEAR | 2  | 3                                    | 4                   | 5                       | 6   |
| Christmas Break |                     |  |                                      |                     |                         |     |
| 7               | 8                   | 9  | 10<br>SEAC Meeting                   | 11<br>NCPIC Meeting | 12                      | 13  |
| 14              | 15                  | 16<br>SAL Meeting<br>Committee of the<br>Whole Meeting | 17                                   | 18                  | 19<br>Elementary PA Day | 20  |
| 21              | 22                  | 23   | 24<br>Secondary Exams<br>Jan 24 — 30 | 25                  | 26                      | 27  |
| 28              | 29                  | 30<br>Board Meeting                                    | 31                                   |                     |                         |     |



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2023**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: TRUSTEE INFORMATION  
OCSTA 2024 AGM & CONFERENCE – MAY 2-4, 2024**

---



Ontario Catholic School  
Trustees' Association

# 94<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & CONFERENCE



## CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN ONTARIO: **FULFILLING** — THE — **PROMISE**

**Sheraton Fallsview Hotel**  
5875 Falls Avenue, Niagara Falls, ON L2G 3K7

*Co-Hosted by Region 11:*  
*Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board*  
*Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board*  
*Niagara Catholic District School Board*

## Table of Contents

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Dates to Remember .....                | 1 |
| Delegate Registration Information..... | 2 |
| Hotel and Meals .....                  | 3 |
| Eucharistic Celebration .....          | 3 |
| Business Sessions .....                | 4 |
| Award Nominations .....                | 4 |
| Companion Program .....                | 5 |

## Dates to Remember

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>January 12, 2024</b><br/>12:00 pm (EST)</p> | <p><b>Deadline for OCSTA Awards nominations.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Trustee Award of Merit</i></li> <li>- <i>Student Trustee Alumnus Award</i></li> </ul>                  |
| <p><b>February 9, 2024</b><br/>12:00 pm (EST)</p> | <p><b>Deadline for receipt of Annual General Meeting Resolutions from Boards.</b></p>   |
| <p><b>March 15, 2024</b></p>                      | <p><b>Deadline for Early Bird registration.</b><br/>Full payment must be received in the OCSTA office by this date in order to receive the discounted rate. No exceptions.</p>                          |
| <p><b>March 22, 2024</b></p>                      | <p><b>Cancellation deadline for full refund of registration fees.</b><br/>See “Cancellations” for more information regarding refunds.</p>   |
| <p><b>April 5, 2024</b></p>                       | <p><b>Deadline for booking rooms at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel within the OCSTA block.</b><br/>See “Hotel Reservations and Room Rates” for information regarding fees and cancellation penalties.</p> |
| <p><b>April 13, 2024</b></p>                      | <p><b>Cancellation deadline for full refund of purchased Breakfast Ticket(s), Annual Dinner Ticket(s) and Companion Program Registration.</b></p>   |
| <p><b>April 12, 2024</b><br/>9:00 am (EDT)</p>    | <p><b>Deadline for Nominations:</b><br/>OCSTA President, Vice-President and Representative to the CCSTA Board of Directors</p>  |
| <p><b>May 1, 2024</b><br/>8:40 am (EDT)</p>       | <p><b>Deadline for receipt of Proxy Forms at the OCSTA office.</b></p>  |
| <p><b>May 3, 2024</b><br/>9:00 am (EDT)</p>       | <p><b>All proxy badges must be collected from the OCSTA Registration Desk.</b><br/>Proxies not collected by the deadline will be deemed invalid.</p>  |

# Delegate Registration Information

## Conference Registration Fees

**Early Bird Fee** (until March 15, 2024)

\$785.35 (\$695.00 + \$90.35 HST)

**Full payment must be received in the OCSTA office by this date in order to receive the discounted rate. No exceptions. Please allow sufficient time for your payment to be processed by your accounting department and delivered to OCSTA.**

**Regular Fee** (after March 15, 2024)

\$858.80 (\$760.00 + \$98.80 HST)

**Student Trustee Fee**

Same as above

**Breakfast Package**

\$67.80 (\$60.00 + \$7.80 HST) – includes Friday and Saturday breakfast

**Additional Annual Dinner Ticket**

\$107.35 (\$95.00 + \$12.35 HST) – includes gratuities

**Companion Program**

\$214.70 (\$190.00 + \$24.70 HST) – see Companion Program Flyer (page 5) for details

**Offsite Reception – Thursday, May 2, 2024**

**Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery**

**1366 York Road, St Davids, ON L0S 1P0**

**Sponsored by BLG**

\$20.00 non-refundable donation – 100% of proceeds will support the Toonies for Tuition Endowment Fund

Delegate registration fees include admission to all sessions, receptions and meals, including breakfasts, lunch and the Annual Dinner.

## Registration

**REGISTER NOW**

*A separate registration will have to be completed for each delegate attending.*

**Please make cheques payable to:**

**OCSTA**

1804 – 20 Eglinton Avenue West

Box 2064

Toronto, ON M4R 1K8

**Note:** There is no cost for attending only the business session portion of the AGM. However, meals are not provided and individuals must register before **April 19, 2024**. Requests for a reduction in fees for partial attendance will not be accepted.

**Business Sessions consist of:**

- Nominations report (if required)
- President's address
- Introduction of and address by candidates (if required)
- Presentation of Audited Financial Statements
- Resolutions session
- Report of the returning officer re: election(s) (if required)

## Name Badges

Name badges are required for admission to all AGM & Conference functions. Delegates are asked to wear their name badges at all times.

## Conference Package

The conference kit will be distributed to delegates at the event and will contain:

- Resolutions package
- Copy of auditor's report
- Other material as appropriate

## Cancellations

**Registration Fees:**

**Up to March 22, 2024** – full refund

**March 23 to April 3, 2024** – 75% of the registration fee will be refunded.

**April 4 to April 13, 2024** – 50% of the registration fee will be refunded.

**After April 13, 2024** – no refund, under any circumstances will be issued – substitutions are welcomed.

**Breakfast Ticket, Additional Annual Dinner Ticket and Companion Program Registration:**

A full refund for breakfast tickets, annual dinner tickets and companion program registration will be issued for cancellations received by **April 13, 2024**. After that date, no refunds will be issued, but substitutions are welcomed.

All cancellations must be submitted in writing to Marie Palombi at [mpalombi@ocsta.on.ca](mailto:mpalombi@ocsta.on.ca).

# Hotel & Meals

## Hotel Reservations and Room Rates

The Sheraton Fallsview Hotel has set aside a block of rooms for delegates and guests attending the OCSTA 2024 AGM & Conference, starting at the discounted rate of \$169.00/night + applicable taxes for Cityview and Gardenview Rooms, and \$199.00/night + applicable taxes for Fallsview rooms. If anyone wishes to extend their time in the area, the above nightly rates will also apply to pre- and post-event dates and will be based on availability.

Please note that hotel rooms may be reserved for Seminar registrants ONLY. To secure the OCSTA discounted rate, **rooms must be booked by April 5, 2024 and only after delegates have registered for the event.** After this date, the rate will be provided on the basis of availability.

Once registered, please click the booking icon below



or call 1-905-374-4445  
(refer to the "OCSTA AGM").

### **IMPORTANT HOTEL POLICIES:**

- All individual reservations must be guaranteed with a one-night's room and tax by credit card at the time of booking.
- If guests do not arrive, a penalty will be charged of one-night's room rate plus applicable taxes.
- Guests will be responsible for all charges associated with their room.
- Individual cancellations will be accepted without penalty up to 7 days prior to arrival. Thereafter, one night's room and taxes will be applied.
- Check-in: 4:00 pm / Check out: 11:00 am

### **Parking**

A reduced rate of \$10.00/night will be applied to all overnight guests booked within the group block. A parking rate of \$29.00/night is offered to guests not staying overnight.

Prices are subject to change without notice.

## Meals & Receptions

Our Conference provides wonderful opportunities to meet other trustees and colleagues from across the province.

The registration fee for delegates covers the cost of all meals offered during the OCSTA AGM & Conference.

The following is a summary of the receptions and meals planned for OCSTA's AGM & Conference:

### **May 2**

- **Offsite Reception**  
*Food Stations*

### **May 3**

- **Delegate Breakfast**
- **Delegate Lunch**
- **Annual Dinner Reception**

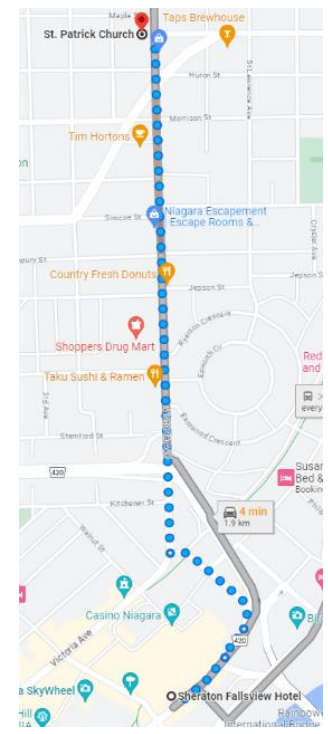
### **May 4**

- **Delegate Breakfast**

If you have any special dietary needs (not preferences), please indicate such on the registration form.

## Eucharistic Celebration

Mass will be celebrated on Friday, May 3, at 5:00 pm, at St. Patrick Church, located at 4673 Victoria Avenue, Niagara Falls, L2E 4B8. Transportation will be available.



## Business Sessions

### Nominations

Nominations are open for the following positions:

- [OCSTA President](#)
- [OCSTA Vice President](#)
- [OCSTA Representative to the CCSTA Board of Directors](#)

Please click the links above for the nomination forms. Additional forms may be reproduced locally as required. The deadline date for nominations is **9:00 a.m. (EDT) on April 12, 2024**.

A list of all nominations received in the OCSTA office by April 12, 2024 will be distributed to all member boards by the deadline date of **April 17, 2024**.

If however no nominations are received by the deadline date at the Corporation Head office, nominations shall remain open until, but not later than, two hours and fifteen minutes prior to the time fixed in the Notice of Meeting for the call to order of the first business session at the Annual Meeting.

### Voters' List

All trustees are deemed to be Trustee Members of the Association and are eligible to vote.

Your AGM & Conference badge must be worn at all times as it identifies your eligibility to vote.

### Resolutions

The resolutions process provides member boards with the opportunity to bring important issues that have provincial implications to the attention of all trustees in the province. Guidelines for preparing resolutions are available [here](#). The deadline date for receipt of resolutions in the OCSTA office is **12:00 pm EST, February 9, 2024**.

Generally, voting at business sessions will be by a show of hands. Delegates carrying proxies must have, and show, a valid proxy badge. In the event that a recorded vote is needed, ballots will be distributed.

### Proxy Votes

Trustee Members who cannot attend the Annual Meeting may appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf. We have outlined below some rules governing the appointment of proxies.

**NOTE:** No appointment as proxy shall entitle any individual to vote at any meeting of the Members, unless the appointment:

- is in writing in the appropriate form set out herein;
- has been completed in all respects;
- has been witnessed by a Roman Catholic who has attained the age of eighteen years and who has completed the Declaration of Witness;
- has been delivered to the Head Office of the Corporation no later than 48 hours, excluding Saturdays and Holidays, before the meeting of the Members is scheduled to commence; and
- the individual has registered as proxy with the Registration Desk no later than 9:00 am on the day the meeting of the Members is to commence.

A proxy form is available [here](#). Additional forms may be reproduced locally as required.

The deadline date for receipt of Proxy Forms in the OCSTA office is **8:40 am (EDT), May 1, 2024**.

Should you have any questions, please contact Connie Araujo-De Melo at [cdemelo@ocsta.on.ca](mailto:cdemelo@ocsta.on.ca) or call the OCSTA office at 416-932-9460.

## Award Nominations

### Trustee Award of Merit

Click [here](#) to link to the memo and nomination form. Deadline: **January 12, 2024, 12:00 pm EST**.

### Student Trustee Alumnus Award

Click [here](#) to link to the memo and nomination form. Deadline: **January 12, 2024, 12:00 pm EST**.



# COMPANION PROGRAM

## FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024

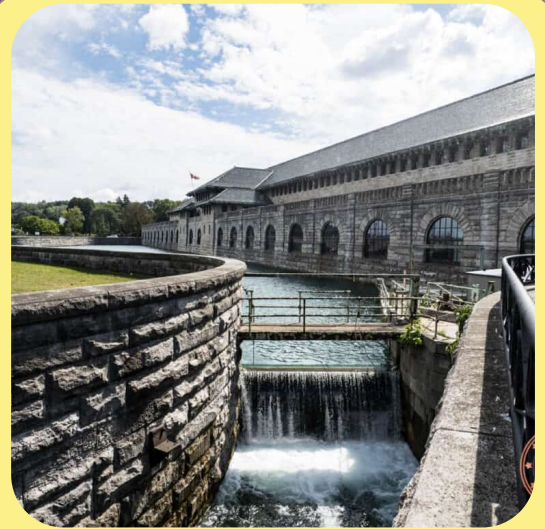
### Welcome to the Niagara Region!

Every year, millions of people from around the world travel to Niagara to experience the region's unique charm, historic sites, world-class wineries and natural beauty.

Come and experience a taste of what the Niagara Region has to offer.

### PROGRAM ITINERARY

- 9:30am Meet in the lobby of the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and board bus
- 10:00am Guided Tour of Niagara Parks Power Station
- 12:00pm Delicious 3-Course Lunch at Casa Mia Ristorante - menu includes oven baked bruschetta, chef's salad, choice entree (salmon, chicken parmigiana or pasta duet), tiramisu dessert
- 1:00pm Board bus
- 1:15pm Colaneri Estate Winery Tour & Tasting - learn about the history of the winery, enjoy a tour of the cellar and wine tasting
- 2:45pm Free time in Niagara-on-the-Lake for exploring/shopping
- 3:30pm Board bus for return to hotel
- 4:00pm Arrive at Sheraton Fallsview Hotel



Cost per person:  
**\$190.00 + \$24.70 HST (\$214.70)**  
Limited spots are available!  
[Register here](#) via the AGM &  
Conference Registration form.

Deadline for confirmation of  
participation and payment:  
April 13, 2024





Ontario Catholic School  
Trustees' Association



CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN ONTARIO:  
**FULLFILLING**  
THE  
**PROMISE**

**94<sup>th</sup> AGM & Conference**  
Sheraton Fallsview Hotel  
5875 Falls Avenue  
Niagara Falls, ON L2G 3K7

## Preliminary Program

| THURSDAY, MAY 2 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 4:30pm          | Registration  |
| 5:30pm          | Opening Liturgy<br><i>Co-Host Boards – Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB, Hamilton-Wentworth CDSB, Niagara CDSB</i>  |
| 5:50pm          | Opening Remarks<br><i>Michael Bellmore, Vice-President &amp; Conference Chair, OCSTA</i><br><i>Patrick J. Daly, President, OCSTA</i>                                    |
| 6:15pm          | Board buses for offsite reception   |
| 7:30pm – 9:30pm | Offsite Reception at Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery<br>(Food stations will be available)   |
| FRIDAY, MAY 3   |   |
| 7:30am          | Registration/Buffer Breakfast   |
| 8:30am          | Morning Praise<br><i>Fr. Jim Mockler, Chaplain, London CDSB</i>   |
| 8:40am          | President's Report<br><i>Patrick J. Daly</i>  |
| 9:10am          | Nominations Report & Introduction of Candidates<br><i>Beverly Eckensweiler, Past President, OCSTA</i>   |
| 9:30am          | Keynote Address: Catholic Education in Ontario:<br><u>Fulfilling the Promise</u><br><i>Most Rev. Gerard Bergie, Bishop of St. Catharines, Diocese of St. Catharines</i> |
| 10:45am         | Break   |
| 11:00am         | Presentation of Financial Report<br><i>Marino Gazzola, Chair, Budget &amp; HR Committee, OCSTA</i>  |
| 11:10am         | Student Trustee Workshop  |
| 11:10am         | Resolutions Session   |
| 12:30pm         | Elections   |
| 12:30pm         | Buffet Lunch  |
| 12:30pm         | Student Trustees' Lunch   |

| FRIDAY, MAY 3 (CONT'D) |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1:45pm                 | Ministry of Education Update<br><i>Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education (invited)</i>   |
| 2:05pm                 | Break  |
| 2:15pm                 | Concurrent Workshops   |
|                        | 1. Director Performance Review – TBC   |
|                        | 2. Engaging Catholic Parents in Ontario – TBC  |
|                        | 3. Code of Conduct (module topic)<br><i>Dolores Barbini, Partner, Hicks Morley Hamilton Stewart Storie LLP</i>   |
|                        | 4. Mental Health<br><i>Andrea Bozza, Registered Psychotherapist, Mental Health Lead, Niagara CDSB</i>  |
| 3:15 – 3:30pm          | Report of the Returning Officer  |
| 5:00pm                 | Mass, Commissioning Ceremony & Special Presentations<br>St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church, Niagara Falls<br><i>Fr. Jim Mockler, Chaplain, London CDSB (Commissioning Ceremony)</i> |
| 6:30pm                 | Silent Auction (6:30pm – 8:30pm)   |
| 6:30pm                 | Reception (Cash Bar)   |
| 7:00pm                 | Annual Dinner & Awards Presentation  |
| SATURDAY, MAY 4        |  |
| 7:45am                 | Buffet Breakfast   |
| 8:30am                 | Morning Praise<br><i>Co-Host Boards – Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB, Hamilton-Wentworth CDSB, Niagara CDSB</i>  |
| 9:00am                 | Plenary – Speaker TBA  |
| 10:30am                | Closing Remarks, Grand Prize Draw & Adjournment  |