



*The Niagara Catholic District School Board through
the charisms of faith, social justice, support and leadership,
nurtures an enriching Catholic learning community for all
to reach their full potential and become living witnesses of Christ.*

AGENDA AND MATERIAL

BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017
7:00 P.M.**



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

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayers – Trustee O’Leary -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Minutes of the Board Meeting
 - 5.1 November 21, 2017 A5.1
 - 5.2 December 5, 2017 A5.2
6. Consent Agenda Items
 - 6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 5, 2017 and Consideration of Recommendations A6.1
 - 6.1.1 Trustee Expenses & Reimbursement Policy (100.13) A6.1.1
 - 6.1.2 Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodations Review Guidelines Submission A6.1.2
 - 6.2 Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of November 1, 2017 A6.2
 - 6.3 Approved Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee – Building on Today Meeting of November 7, 2017 A6.3
 - 6.4 Director of Education Annual Report 2017 A6.4
 - 6.5 In-Camera Agenda Items F1, F2, F4, F5, F6, and F7 -

B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Christmas Cards 2017 B1

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program C1
Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School
2. Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement – Fiscal Year 2016-2017 C2
3. Trustee Honorarium for the Year December 1, 2017 to November 30, 2018 C3
4. Financial Reports -
 - 4.1 Revised Estimates 2017-2018 C4.1
 - 4.2 Financial Reports as at November 30, 2017 C4.2

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

- | | | |
|-----|--|------|
| 1. | Correspondence | - |
| 1.1 | City of St. Catharines – Changes to the Municipal Act for the Election of Municipal and School Board Officials | D1.1 |
| 1.2 | District School Board of Niagara – Joint Use School Project | D1.2 |
| 2. | Report on Trustee Conferences Attended | - |
| 3. | General Discussion to Plan for Future Action | - |
| 4. | Trustee Information | |
| 4.1 | Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – December 5, 2017 | D4.1 |
| 4.2 | Calendar of Events – January 2018 | D4.2 |
| 4.3 | Ontario Legislative Highlights - December 1, 2017, December 8, 2017, December 15, 2017 | D4.3 |
| 5. | Open Question Period
<i>(The purpose of the Open Question Period is to allow members of the Catholic school supporting public to ask about items on that night's public agenda or any previous agendas, and the Board to answer and react.)</i> | |

E. NOTICES OF MOTION**F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA****G. REPORT ON IN CAMERA SESSION****H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS****I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE****J. ADJOURNMENT**

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF
NOVEMBER 21, 2017**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of November 21, 2017, as presented.



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2017

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, November 21, 2017, in the Father Kenneth Burns c.s.c. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-Chair Burtnik for Chair MacNeil.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Student Trustee Nico Tripodi

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chair Burtnik noted that Chair MacNeil was asked to be excused and Vice-Chair Burtnik to chair the Board Meeting.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil				✓
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Pat Vernal	✓			
Student Trustees				
Nico Tripodi	✓			
Hannah Tummillo	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Pat Rocca**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of November 21, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

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

5. Approval of Minutes of the Board Meeting of October 24, 2017

Moved by Trustee Vernal
Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of October 24, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED

6. Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Sicoli requested Items F6 and F7 be held. These items will be discussed In Camera.

6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 7, 2017

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole of November 7, 2017, as presented.

6.2 Approved Minutes of the Staff Wellness Committee Meeting of May 30, 2017

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Staff Wellness Committee Meeting of May 30, 2017, as presented.

6.3 Approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) of September 7, 2017

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of September 7, 2017, as presented for information.

6.4 Approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting of September 27, 2017

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting of September 27, 2017, as presented.

6.5 Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of October 4, 2017

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 4, 2017, as presented for information.

6.6 Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Approval Committee 2017-2018

Presented for information.

6.7 In-Camera Items F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6, F7 and F8.1

Moved by Trustee O'Leary
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

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

CARRIED

B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program – St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School, Grimsby

Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program and introduced Lisa Incaviglia, Principal of St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School.

Principal Incaviglia showcased St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School as part of the School Excellence Program.

Vice-Chair Burtnik thanked Principal Incaviglia for the presentation.

2. Financial Reports

2.1 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements 2016-2017

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services introduced Mark Palumbi, CPA, CA Crawford, Smith and Swallow Chartered Accountants LLP.

Mr. Palumbi presented the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements 2016-2017.

Vice-Chair Burtnik suggested the motion be amended to the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements 2016-2017, as recommended by the Audit Committee.

Moved by Trustee Vernal
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements 2016-2017, as recommended by the Audit Committee.

CARRIED

2.2 Financial Report as at October 31, 2017

Superintendent Vetrone presented the Financial Report as at October 31, 2017 for information.

Superintendent Vetrone and Senior Staff answered questions of Trustees.

3. Consent Agenda Item A6.1

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

Nil

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

Student Trustee Nico Tripodi provided highlights from the OSTA-AECO Fall General Meeting that was held November 2 to November 5, 2017.

3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

Director Crocco noted a report on the continued implementation and expansion of French Immersion as well as Senior Staff recommendations to the Board for the Board response to the Revisions to the Pupil Accommodation Review and Community Planning Partnership Guidelines will be brought to the December Committee of the Whole Meeting. Superintendent Vetrone will bring forth the Revised Budget Estimates 2017-2018 at the December Board Meeting. In January 2018 the consultation process to design the 2018-2019 System Priorities and Budget will begin.

4. Trustee Information

4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – November 7, 2017

Director Crocco highlighted the November 7, 2017 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic.

4.2 Calendar of Events – December 2017

Director Crocco reviewed the Calendar of Events – December, 2017 for Trustees information

4.3 OCSTA Information – November 3, 10 & 17, 2017

Director Crocco highlighted the OCSTA Information of November 3, 10 & 17, 2017.

4.4 Ministry of Education Letter to Chairs – Independent Review of Student Assessment and Reporting

Director Crocco highlighted the letter from the Ministry of Education regarding Independent Review of Student Assessment and Reporting.

Director Crocco answered questions of Trustees.

4.5 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board – December 5, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.

Director Crocco reminded Trustees of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board on December 5, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

4.6 December Committee of the Whole – December 5, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

Director Crocco reminded Trustees that the Committee of the Whole Meeting will follow the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board on December 5, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

4.7 Annual Faith Formation for Priests, Trustees, Administrators & Chaplains – December 13, 2017

Director Crocco asked Trustees to confirm their attendance to the Annual Faith Formation for Priests, Trustees, Administrators and Chaplains of December 13, 2017 beginning 11:00 a.m. with Anna Pisano, Administrative Assistant to Corporate Services & Communications.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

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

CARRIED

The Niagara Catholic District School Board moved into the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting at 8:00 p.m. and reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of November 21, 2017.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Moved by Trustee O'Leary
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of October 24, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

Moved by Trustee O'Leary
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION A: Student Trustees Present of November 7, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F2)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee O'Leary
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of October 24, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F4)

Moved by Trustee O'Leary
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of November 7, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F5)

Moved by Trustee O'Leary
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the motion from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting – SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of F8

CARRIED (Item F8.1)

Moved by Trustee Vernal
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the motion from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting – SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of F8

CARRIED (Item F8.2)

Moved by Trustee Vernal
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the motion from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting – SECTION B: Student Trustees Excluded of F8

CARRIED (Item F8.3)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Fera

THAT the November 21, 2017 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **November 21, 2017**.

Approved on **December 19, 2017**.

Kathy Burtnik
Vice-Chair of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD
DECEMBER 5, 2017**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board of December 5, 2017, as presented.



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017

Minutes of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017, 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 – John Crocco, Director of Education/CEO/Secretary-Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Chief Executive Officer and Director of Education John Crocco, in accordance with section 208-4 of the Education Act.

Director Crocco thanked the Lakeshore Catholic High School Choir, school and system administrators, special guests, family and friends for attending the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board.

2. Opening Prayer – Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader

Ms. Wood opened the 2017 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board with a dedicated Advent reflection and prayer.

3. Roll Call

Director Crocco noted that all Trustees and Student Trustees were in attendance.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau		✓		
Frank Fera		✓		
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O’Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Pat Vernal	✓			

Student Trustees				
Hannah Tummillo	✓			
Nico Tripodi	✓			

Special Guest:

Bill Amadio, Board Solicitor

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Pat Rocca**, Superintendents of Education; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary/
Coordinator of Information Management/Privacy and Freedom of Information

4. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board of December 5, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED

5. 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.

6. Lakeshore Catholic High School Choir

Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education, welcomed the Lakeshore Catholic High School Choir, Andrew Boon, Vice-Principal, Louisa Ibbotson and Kathleen McAllister, Music Teachers, and Christina Le Rose, Itinerant Arts teacher.

The Choir from Lakeshore Catholic High School, which includes Student Trustee Hannah Tummillo, performed two songs for the Board.

Director Crocco, on behalf of Trustees, Senior Staff and everyone present, congratulated and thanked the students of Lakeshore Catholic High School for sharing their angelic voices.

Trustee Sicoli and Student Trustee Hannah Tummillo joined Director Crocco in presenting the students with Niagara Catholic “Excellence in the Arts” pins to wear proudly with their uniform.

7. Election Procedures

Director Crocco reviewed the procedures for the election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson 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 Bill Amadio, Board Solicitor and Superintendent Baldasaro, as scrutineers if required.

8. Election of Chairperson

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

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT Trustee MacNeil be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to hold office from December 5, 2017 until the December 2018 Inaugural Meeting of the Board.

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

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

Moved by Trustee Vernal

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

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

CARRIED

Trustee MacNeil was acclaimed as the Chairperson of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to hold office from December 5, 2017 until the December 2018 Inaugural Meeting of the Board.

Director Crocco turned over the Chairship of the Annual Organization Meeting of the Board to Chairperson MacNeil.

9. Election of Vice-Chairperson

Chair MacNeil called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board.

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT Trustee Vernal be nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to hold office from December 5, 2017 until the December 2018 Inaugural Meeting of the Board.

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

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

THAT Trustee Burtnik be nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to hold office from December 5, 2017 until the December 2018 Inaugural Meeting of the Board.

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

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

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

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

CARRIED

Following the counting of the ballots, a tie was declared. A second vote was taken and was also declared a tie. In compliance with Board By-Laws, the two nominees drew straws for the position of Vice- Chair alphabetically by last name with the person drawing the long straw elected. Trustee Vernal was elected by straw ballot to the position of Vice-Chair of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to hold office from December 5, 2017 until the December 2018 Inaugural Meeting of the Board.

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

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

CARRIED

10. Chairperson's Remarks

Chair MacNeil thanked Trustee Burtnik for her service as Vice-Chairperson during the past year.

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

11. Vice-Chairperson's Remarks

A copy of Vice-Chairperson Vernal's 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 Crocco 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 November 30, 2018.

Director Crocco stated that members to the committees are appointed by the Chairperson of the Board in consultation with the Vice-Chairperson of the Board. He asked that Trustees submit their completed form to the Office of the Director of Education by the December 19, 2017 Board Meeting.

Moved by Trustee Sicoli
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the continuation of the following Ad Hoc Committees for the year 2018:

- Blessed Trinity Catholic Family of Schools Attendance Area Ad Hoc Committee
- Building On Today Ad Hoc Committee
- Denis Morris, Holy Cross, and Saint Francis Catholic Family of Schools Attendance Area 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 Vernal
Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the December 5, 2017 Annual Organizational Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Minutes of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **December 5, 2017.**

Approved on **December 19, 2017.**

Fr. Paul MacNeil
Chairperson of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

CHAIRPERSON FR. PAUL MACNEIL'S REMARKS

**Annual Organizational Meeting
of the Niagara Catholic District School Board
December 5, 2017**

Vice-chair Vernal, fellow trustees, Director Crocco, superintendents, administration and honoured guests. I would like once again to thank the board of trustees for their confidence in me in my continued role as board chair. I also ask for your continued prayers for us as a board of trustees as we continue to lead this board into our final year of our tenure as trustees for the 2014-2018 term.

The Greek philosopher Aristotle once said that the structure of change is the same in every instance: something old passes away, something new comes into existence, but in order for there to be a genuine change, something must remain throughout. So here we stand, together, at the beginning of a new year, as we let go of the past and move confidently toward the future celebrating with renewed faith this moment of promise that is today, it is what remains unchanged that is most important.

So, what is it that is passing away? We are saying goodbye to the previous year, with all its blessings and opportunities, its victories and its successes, with its retirements and its job changes, with the ending of old policies and the creation of new ones. We are also saying goodbye to last year with all its challenges as well, to all the pain that comes from an organization that continues to grow, to learn, and to be alive.

What new comes into existence? We look forward in hope to a new year, a new start. We take the lessons that we have learned from last year and we apply them in new situations this year, hopefully recreating the victories we shared. It's like seeing a blank page in which we, through the freedom of our own thoughts and the courage of expression, create our collective dreams, our hopes, or write a beautiful story, moving symphony or an inspiring prayer.

But the most important aspect of any change is not what dies, and not even what we create, but what remains the same throughout the change. These things that remain the same throughout a change are the things that define us as human beings, and as an organization. Allow me to point out some things that haven't changed: Our core mission to be the best board we can be by focusing on student achievement for all. Our dedication to the value of catholic education here in Niagara. Our Commitment to faith in Jesus Christ and his love and his mercy; and our own ability as a board of trustees, the 8 of us, to work together to learn from the past, to hope for the future, and to celebrate with renewed faith and energy, this moment of promise.

Not only do these values persist from year to year, but they persist across every aspect of our organization. All this is grounded in one thing: The unchanging love of Jesus for each one of us. Let us share that love by becoming, as our mission statement says, living witnesses of Christ. May God bless you tonight and always.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON PAT VERNAL'S REMARKS

**Annual Organizational Meeting
of the Niagara Catholic District School Board
December 5, 2017**

Chair MacNeil, fellow trustees, members of senior administration, guests.

I would like to thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your Vice-Chair. We have travelled a troubled and difficult road over the last year, but we now have the opportunity to begin to heal and build a better system for our students. With God's help and guidance and all of your support we can build a better future and system for our students.

I feel confident that next year will prove to be successful and rewarding for us all.

Thank you and as my friend Trustee Sicoli says, "God's blessings on you all."

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE MEETING OF DECEMBER 5, 2017**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 5, 2017, as presented.

The following recommendations are being presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 5, 2017:

6.1.1 Trustee Expenses & Reimbursement Policy (100.13)

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Trustee Expenses & Reimbursement Policy (100.13), as presented.

6.1.2 Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodations Review Guidelines Submission

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board endorse the report from Senior Staff to the Ministry of Education's proposed revisions to the Pupil Accommodations Review Guidelines and Community Planning and Partnership Guidelines as presented.



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 in the Father Kenneth Burns c.s.c. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Vice-Chair Vernal.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer was led by Trustee Nieuwesteeg.

2. Roll Call

Vice-Chair Vernal noted that Trustees Charbonneau and Fera asked to be excused.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau				✓
Frank Fera				✓
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Pat Vernal	✓			
Student Trustees				
Nico Tripodi	✓			
Hannah Tummillo	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Pat Rocca**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Sherry Morena**, Recording Secretary/ Coordinator of Information Management/Privacy and Freedom of Information

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 5, 2017, 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 November 7, 2017**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 7, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED

6. **Consent Agenda Items**

6.1 **Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of November 21, 2017**

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive the Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of November 21, 2017, as presented.

6.2 **Trustee Expenses & Reimbursement Policy (100.13)**

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole approval of the Trustee Expenses & Reimbursement Policy (100.13), as presented.

6.3 **Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities**

Presented for information.

6.4 **Capital Projects Update**

Presented for information.

6.5 **In Camera Items F1 and F3**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

THAT the Committee of the Whole adopt consent agenda items.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. Culture of Life and Lead Out Loud Conferences

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader, and Teri Cristelli, Arts and Student Leadership Consultant, who highlighted the Culture of Life Conference 2017 report.

Student Trustees Nico Tripodi and Hannah Tumnillo spoke to the Annual Lead Out Loud Conference 2017, and provided a visual presentation. The Student Trustees thanked the Board for their continued support of student leadership.

Vice-Chair Vernal thank the Student Trustees for all that they do for the students of Niagara Catholic.

2. Niagara Catholic French Immersion Program Update 2017-2020

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Mary Vetere, French as a Second Language Consultant, who presented an update on the continued growth of the Niagara Catholic French Immersion Program.

Trustees were provided with a summary of the 2017-2018 French Immersion sites, grades taught and the enrolment in each class.

Trustees asked questions of Superintendent Baldasaro and Ms. Vetere.

3. Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodations Review Guidelines Submission

Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education, welcomed Kathy Levinski, Administrator of Facilities Services, who presented the report on the Ministry of Education Pupil Accommodations Review Guidelines Submission.

The report outlined the Ministry of Education's request for school boards to provide input into potential changes to the Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines, March 2015, and how to support improved co-ordination of community infrastructure planning, which includes revising the Community Planning and Partnerships Guidelines.

Following the presentation of Senior Staff's draft responses to the Ministry's questions, Trustees suggested amendments to the recommendation(s).

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the Committee of the Whole endorse the report to the Ministry of Education's proposed revisions to the Pupil Accommodations Review Guidelines and Community Planning and Partnership Guidelines as amended.

CARRIED

4. Committee of the Whole System Priorities and Budget 2017-2018 Update

Director Crocco and members of Senior Administrative Council presented the December Committee of the Whole System Priorities and Budget 2017-2018 Update for the information.

Director Crocco and members of Senior Staff answered questions of Trustees.

5. Monthly Updates

5.1 Student Trustees' Update

Nico Tripodi and Hannah Tumnillo, 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 Farrell

- To spread some holiday cheer and promote wellness, 50 students from 4 secondary schools (2 schools from Niagara Catholic) painted seasonal pictures in 10 different units of the St. Catharines General Hospital,
- Congratulations were extended to 2 students at Blessed Trinity Catholic who recently signed rowing scholarships with Jacksonville University and Notre Dame University.
- Students from the Niagara Catholic Launch Centre made and installed benches at the Welland Bus Terminal, as well as bicycle racks throughout the City of Welland.

Superintendent Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells

- Congratulations were extended to Maria Brgan, a Grade 6 teacher at Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School, for being the recipient of the First Book Canada Reading Celebration in St. Catharines. A special event will be held at the school in the new year featuring a local Niagara author reading to the students and talking about writing. Photos from the celebration will be shared with First Book Canada with the consent of the children, their parents, and staff. First Book Canada will also buy a copy of the author's book for each student for their home libraries. In addition to this event, a \$2,000 First Book Canada Marketplace gift code will be presented to the school for the purchase of books and educational resources.

6. Consent Agenda Item A6.1

D. INFORMATION

1. Trustee Information

1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – November 21, 2017

Director Crocco highlighted the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – November 21, 2017 issue for Trustees information.

1.2 Calendar of Events – December 2017

Director Crocco presented the December 2017 Calendar of Events for Trustees information.

1.3 OCSTA Information – November 24, 2017

Director Crocco highlighted the OCSTA Information from November 24, 2017

1.4 OCSTA Memorandum – Progressive Conservative Election Platform 2018

Director Crocco highlighted the OCSTA Memorandum regarding Progressive Conservative Election Platform 2018.

1.5 Community Planning and Partnerships Annual Meeting – December 13, 2017

Director Crocco presented information on the Community Planning and Partnerships Annual Meeting taking place on December 13, 2017.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

1. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

1.1 Director Crocco provided the Board with plans for future action.

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Moved by Trustee O’Leary

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 9:05 p.m. and reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Trustee O’Leary

THAT the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 5, 2017.

CARRIED

SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES INCLUDED

Moved by Trustee O’Leary

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 November 7, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee O’Leary

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 November 7, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F3)

H. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

THAT the December 5, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **December 5, 2017.**

Approved on **January 16, 2017.**

Pat Vernal
Vice-Chair of the Board

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: APPROVAL OF POLICIES
TRUSTEE EXPENSES & REIMBURSEMENT POLICY (100.13)**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Trustee Expenses & Reimbursement Policy (100.13), as presented.

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

Presented by: Policy Committee

Recommended by: Committee of the Whole

Date: December 19, 2017



TRUSTEE EXPENSE AND REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

STATEMENT OF POLICY

In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board (the “Board”), the Trustee Expense and Reimbursement Policy is in compliance with the Ontario *Education Act*, Regulations, other relevant legislation and the Board’s Mission Statement. The Board is committed to an organizational culture and structure that operates with integrity, compliance and promotes responsibility, excellence, transparency and accountability. It is the responsibility of individual Trustees to submit reasonably related specific expenses incurred in the role and responsibility of Catholic Trustees. The Board is committed to ensuring that all expenses claimed by Trustees are associated with the responsibilities of a Board member in compliance with the Education Act, Regulations and Board Policy and that all expenses support the objectives, responsibilities, the Mission, Vision and Values and maximizes benefits to the Board.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

It is the policy of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to reimburse Trustees and Student Trustees for out-of-pocket expenses reasonably incurred in connection with carrying out the responsibilities of a Board member in accordance with the operating procedures outlined in this Policy.

APPROPRIATE APPROVALS

Under the Trustee Expense Guideline issued by the Ministry of Education, the approval of Trustee expense will be approved as follows:

- Claims by Trustees for the reimbursement of expenses require the approval of the Chair of the Board and the Director of Education.
- Claims by the Chair of the Board for the reimbursement of expenses require the approval of the Director of Education and the Superintendent of Business & Financial Services.

WHERE AN EXPENSE CLAIM IS DENIED

When a Trustee's expense claim has not been approved, the Trustee will be informed of the reason in writing by the Chair of the Board and/or the Director of Education.

If the Trustee disagrees with the denial, the Trustee may bring the matter to the next regular meeting of the Board. The Board will determine whether or not the denial is consistent with the terms of the Board Policy and the Trustee Code of Conduct.

CLAIMS FOR TRAVEL TO MEETINGS AND BOARD FUNCTIONS

Travel costs by private automobiles will be reimbursed for actual kilometers travelled on Board sanctioned business. If the Trustee travels to various locations during the day, travel shall be calculated from the previous location to the next location.

Expenses related to travel, such as parking and personal meals, will be reimbursed based on actual expense receipts presented for reimbursement.

Automobile travel and related expenses shall be paid to Trustees at a rate per kilometre approved by the Board for all Board employees, using the [Trustee Reimbursement of Travel Expenses Form](#).

CLAIMS FOR ACCOMMODATION, MEALS

When Trustees travel on Board sanctioned business, they may be reimbursed for costs incurred for accommodation and meals, using the [Trustee Conference, Workshop and Overnight Meetings Form](#).

Accommodation costs shall be reimbursed for reasonable costs incurred and shall not include personal charges.

Meal costs shall be reimbursed for breakfast, lunch and dinner for reasonable amounts and shall not include charges for other people.

Alcohol costs shall not be reimbursed, even when served with meals.

CLAIMS FOR CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND OVERNIGHT MEETINGS

The Board encourages all Trustees to attend Conferences, Workshops and Meetings relating to the role and responsibilities of Catholic Trustees. . The Board shall establish an annual budget amount for each Trustee to attend Conferences, Workshops and Overnight Meetings.

Reimbursement of Trustee conference and travel expenses shall require the approval of the Chair of the Board and the Director of Education. All claims for reimbursement of Trustee conference and travel expenses claimed by the Chair of the Board shall require the approval of the Superintendent of Business and Financial Services and the Director of Education.

All claims for Trustee Conference expenses shall be submitted and processed using the [Trustee Conference, Workshop and Overnight Meetings Form](#).

All Trustee Conference expenses shall be claimed during the appropriate budget year and shall not exceed the amount of the Trustee allocation for that budget year.

Unused funds in the individual Trustee allocation for the budget year will not be re-allocated to other Trustees and will not be carried forward to another budget year.

Trustee Conference expenses, which exceed the amount allocated to an individual Trustee, shall be repaid to the Board by the individual Trustee before the end of the following budget year, unless otherwise directed by the Board.

CLAIMS FOR OTHER EXPENSES

Any other extraordinary or unusual expenses that a Trustee feels should be paid by the Board shall be referred to the Chair of the Board and the Director of Education with a written explanation and request for payment. The Chair of the Board and the Director of Education may approve or disapprove of payment.

RECEIPTS AND TIMING OF CLAIMS FOR REIMBURSEMENT

All claims for the reimbursement of Trustee expenses must be accompanied by original receipts and the original bill/invoice providing the details of the expense.

All claims for the reimbursement of Trustee expenses shall generally be submitted on a monthly basis, using the appropriate forms and approvals, within the appropriate budget year.

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

Gifts and donations, by any Trustee, to any groups or individuals will not be reimbursed.

Gifts and donations may only be made on behalf of the Board of Trustees, if approved in advance by the Chair of the Board and the Director of Education.

ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Trustees will not be reimbursed for expenses related to political advocacy.

The cost related to supporting a fundraiser or event for a specific political party is not eligible for reimbursement.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

It is the Policy of the Niagara Catholic District School Board to provide the Trustees with the following office equipment and services to be used from the beginning to the end of the term of office:

- Home based computer
- Home based printer
- Allowance for internet service
- Standard office computer software

All equipment will be provided in accordance with current Board standards and shall be maintained in good repair by the computer technicians of the Board.

At the end of the Trustee's term of office, the equipment is to be returned to the Board, unless the Trustee decides to purchase the equipment from the Board.

The purchase of the equipment shall be processed through the office of the Director of Education and shall be processed at the fair market value of the equipment at the end of the term of office of the Trustee.

REPORTING OF APPROVED TRUSTEE EXPENSES

All Trustee expenses for the previous school year will be posted annually on the Board website and reported publicly to the Board before December 31 of the current school year, under the following categories:

- Office equipment
- Office supplies
- Conference and workshops
- Travel for Board business

MISCELLANEOUS

Any overpayment of Trustee expenses will be reimbursed to the Board by the individual Trustee.

All expense reports for each Trustee will remain on the Board website for one year after the expiry of the term of office.

Information pertaining to individual Trustee expenses will be forwarded to the Ministry of Education, as required by the Ministry.

References

- [*Education Act*](#)
- [*Income Tax Act*](#)
- [*Ministry of Finance Broader Public Sector Expenses Directive, April 1, 2011*](#)
- [*Report of the Auditor, December 2005*](#)
- [*Trustee Code of Conduct*](#)

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION PUPIL ACCOMMODATIONS
REVIEW GUIDELINES SUBMISSION**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board endorse the report from Senior Staff to the Ministry of Education's proposed revisions to the Pupil Accommodations Review Guidelines and Community Planning and Partnership Guidelines as presented.

Prepared by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education
Kathy Levinski, Administrator of Facilities Services

Presented by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education
Kathy Levinski, Administrator of Facilities Services

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

Date: December 19, 2017



REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE DECEMBER 5, 2017

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW GUIDELINES SUBMISSION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As part of the province's *Plan to Strengthen Rural and Northern Education* the Ministry of Education has requested school boards provide input into potential changes to the Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines, March 2015. As part of the process, the Ministry is also seeking input into how to support improved co-ordination of community infrastructure planning, which includes revising the Community Planning and Partnerships Guidelines.

The government engaged rural communities in spring 2017 in response to feedback it received on rural school closures and the impact on the quality of education these students receive. In June 2017, the Ministry requested a moratorium on new accommodation reviews.

The Ministry of Education has proposed revisions to the Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines that are intended to provide a more collaborative process that better promotes student achievement and well-being and better recognizes the impact of school closures on rural communities.

An October 10, 2017, letter from Andrew Davis, Assistant Deputy Minister, Education Labour and Finance division indicates that the Ministry proposes to achieve this by considering the elements below.

Revising pupil accommodation review timeframes:

- Extending the current minimum pupil accommodation review timeframe beyond five months;
- Eliminating the minimum modified pupil accommodation review timeframe of three months; and/or
- Further extending time-frames under specific circumstances, such as if a new closure recommendations are added mid-way through the accommodation review process.

Introducing minimum requirements for the Initial Staff Report by requiring school boards to include:

- At least three accommodation options (a recommended option, an alternative option and a status quo option).
- Information on how accommodation options will impact:
 - School board budget;
 - Student programming/achievement;
 - Student well-being; and
 - Community and/or economic impact.

Promoting community input in the pupil accommodation review processes by requiring:

- School boards to invite elected municipal representatives and municipal staff to a meeting to discuss the initial staff report;
- School boards to disclose the municipal participation/non-participation in Pupil Accommodation Review and Community Planning and Partnership processes;
- A broader role for Trustees throughout the Pupil Accommodation Review process, beyond ad hoc membership of Accommodation Review Committees, hearing public delegations and making the final decision; and
- A participatory role for secondary student representatives in Pupil Accommodation Reviews involving secondary schools.

Reforming the pupil accommodation review administrative review process by:

- Extending the timeframe to submit an administrative review petition from 30 to 60 calendar days; and
- Reviewing the signature thresholds and requirements for launching an administrative review request.

Developing Ministry supports, such as:

- A pupil accommodation review toolkit to standardize type and format of initial staff report information;
- A template for use by community partners to engage boards with proposed alternatives to school closures or other proposals for community use of schools; and
- New support for the review and validation of initial staff report information and community proposals by independent third parties.

The Ministry of Education is also supporting improved co-ordination of community infrastructure planning by working with partner ministries and key stakeholders on the following three initiatives:

1. Building upon the Ministry of Municipal Affairs' ongoing integrated local planning work to better facilitate local relationships and partnerships, including between school board and municipal governments, particularly in rural and northern communities.
2. Revising the Community Planning and Partnerships Guideline to:
 - Better align with integrated local planning processes;
 - Encourage joint responsibility for integrated community planning, with a focus on communication between school boards, municipal governments and community partners about boards' capital plans;
 - Require that boards disclose municipal participation and non-participation in community planning and partnerships meetings.
3. Continuing its ongoing work with the Ministry of Infrastructure to support delivery of recommendations in *Community Hubs in Ontario: A Strategic Framework and Action Plan*, for example, by providing information to support:
 - The Community Hubs Mapper (<http://gis.communityhubsontario.ca>)
 - The Community Hubs Surplus Property Transition Initiative (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/community-hubs-0#section-0>)

Feedback from school boards on the following questions is requested by the Ministry of Education by December 6, 2017.

1. Do you think the Ministry's proposed revisions to the Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines will create a stronger, more collaborative process?
 - a) If not, why? Are there other elements the Ministry should consider?
 - b) If yes, do you have suggested improvements or comments on the elements being proposed?

2. Do you think the above measures to support improved coordination of community infrastructure planning will work to promote sustainable use of school space in communities?
 - a) If not, why? Are there other elements the ministry should consider?
 - b) b) If yes, do you have suggested improvements or comments on the elements being proposed?
3. When making decisions about school infrastructure within communities, what measures could be helpful to fostering collaboration and cooperation between municipalities and school boards?

As discussed at the November Committee of the Whole Meeting, Senior Staff with responsibilities for planning and capital would draft responses to the questions to review with Trustees at the December 5, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting for consideration and input prior to submission to the Ministry of Education on December 6, 2017. The draft submission is provided as Appendix A to this report.

Attached: Appendix A – Response to the Ministry of Education on the Pupil Accommodations Review Guidelines and Community Planning and Partnership Guidelines

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee of the Whole endorse the report from Senior Staff to the Ministry of Education’s proposed revisions to the Pupil Accommodations Review Guidelines and Community Planning and Partnership Guidelines as presented.

Prepared by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education
Kathy Levinski, Administrator of Facilities Services

Presented by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education
Kathy Levinski, Administrator of Facilities Services

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

Date: December 5, 2017

**Niagara Catholic District School Board
Response to the Ministry of Education on the Pupil Accommodations Review
Guidelines and Community Planning and Partnership Guidelines**

The responses below in italics are to the Ministry of Education questions on revising the Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines and Community planning and Partnerships Guidelines.

Any suggested revisions will be made at the December 5, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting. The responses will be provided, on behalf of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, to information.met@ontario.ca, with the subject line “Revising the Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline and Community Planning and Partnerships Guideline,” on Wednesday, December 6, 2017.

1. Do you think the Ministry’s proposed revisions to the Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines will create a stronger, more collaborative process?

Current process works well. Staff take lead in accessing data, collecting public input, presenting to public and Trustees, and providing a recommended option at the start of the process.

- a) If not, why? Are there other elements the Ministry should consider?

- *School closures should continue to be school board decisions based on consultation, not municipal decisions.*
- *Caution to extending process beyond one school year. The current process takes approximately 150 days. A longer process will cause additional angst to students and communities awaiting the decision.*
- *The longer process may conflict with Capital Priorities Business Case Submission timelines.*
- *Extending timeframes under specific circumstances, if new closure recommendations are added mid-way through process, could prolong the process indefinitely.*
- *The Ministry should provide a template with specific measurement criteria for boards to determine community and/or economic impact assessment of a potential closure. Sources of this information should be suggested to inoculate Board’s from the accusation that they are over/understating the impact.*
- *The Ministry should provide guidelines for how municipal input is submitted, so the local accommodation review process does not get bogged down waiting for council motions and/or municipal committee work. There is the potential that school closures under the proposed changes could become more political at the municipal level.*
- *While school boards are responsible for ensuring the consultation requirements of the Ministry of Education have been satisfied, municipalities must be held accountable for coming to the table in timely manner.*
- *Require that municipalities are not able to support administrative reviews if they do not participate in the Pupil Accommodation Review process nor provide input/feedback. Municipalities should not be able to stall the process. They should be expected to respect the accommodation review process timelines.*
- *Define what is meant by increased Trustee involvement on Accommodation Review Committee.*

b) If yes, do you have suggested improvements or comments on the elements being proposed?

- *Provide financial support to school boards that, under the proposed changes, may need to keep underutilized schools open for a longer period of time and are already required to hold on to the property for a longer period of time due to Ontario Regulation 444/98 - Disposition of Surplus Real Property.*
- *Providing a Pupil Accommodation Review Toolkit is a great idea. Exemplars and suggested sources of data would be helpful which would help provide consistency from the public's perspective across school boards.*
- *Provide a template that was publicly available for use by community partners to engage school boards. Again, exemplars would be useful.*
- *New support for review and validation of the information contained in the Initial Staff Report and community proposals by independent 3rd parties is a good idea and should help instil confidence in the information shared by school boards.*

2. Do you think the above measures to support improved coordination of community infrastructure planning will work to promote sustainable use of school space in communities?

The expertise of school boards is in education. The Ministry is asking school boards to operate outside of their core mandate, and expertise, without adequately providing the financial resources to support the implementation and sustainability phases of community hubs.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to manage construction, renovation and cleaning around community groups who are paying fees that in most cases are not covering operating costs.

Improved information sharing will help with the coordination of community infrastructure.

a) If not, why? Are there other elements the ministry should consider?

- *The Ministry of Education should require data from municipalities, and across other Ministries, to create more localized information for community partners and school boards that can be used on the Community Hubs Mapper tool.*
- *The Ministry should publicly provide feedback on the Community Outreach Reports that Board's have historically provided and identify suggested practices.*
- *Review subsidy model for community use of schools.*
- *The Ministry of Education must subsidize school boards to provide appropriate human resources needed to administer hubs.*
- *Provide financial support to school boards to support community use of schools program and communicate cost recovery message. School boards currently absorb the costs associated with community use and child care groups.*

b) If yes, do you have suggested improvements or comments on the elements being proposed?

- *Provide training for school board staff related to the use of the Community Hubs Mapper. The tool is a good starting point to providing information to agencies on schools with space for community use/hubs.*
- *Add registered not-for-profit and childcare centres as a layer to the Community Hubs Mapper tool.*

- *Establish a mentoring model, based on the Knowledge Exchange, to link existing hub leaders and organizations with school board staff.*
 - *Continue with Community Planning and Partnership Annual Meetings as a forum for community partners to meet school board staff and investigate available space.*
 - *Continue to provide subsidies to school boards for hub conversion/creation and to meet accessibility requirements and usability standards by community partners.*
3. When making decisions about school infrastructure within communities, what measures could be helpful to fostering collaboration and cooperation between municipalities and school boards?
- *Collaboration with municipalities is welcome. An open flow of information will potentially result in potentially better planning and coordination.*
 - *School boards, governed by Trustees are responsible for decisions on school closures. The Ministry must define the intended role of municipalities and provide dispute resolution suggestions if municipal input does not align with what the school board believes is in the best interests of students/board.*
 - *Provide financial supports to prospective community partners as an incentive to enter into arrangements with school boards.*
 - *Provide financial support to boards for staff to manage the leasing aspect of community partnerships.*
 - *Link educators/leaders with community organizations to identify needs, supports, and services available.*

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEETING OF
NOVEMBER 1, 2017**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of November 1, 2017 as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2017

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held on Wednesday, November 1, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Racine.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Chair Racine.

2. Roll Call

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

The following staff were in attendance:

Pat Rocca, Superintendent of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, Superintendent of Education; **Danny Giancola**, Coordinator – Special Education; **David O’Rourke**, Coordinator – Special Education, **Jim Di Gioia**, Coordinator – Special Education **Denice Robertson**, Principal, Secondary; **Lisa Selman**, Principal, Elementary; **Tina DiFrancesco**, Recording Secretary

Superintendent Baldasaro announced that she will now oversee the Program and Innovation department and thanked the SEAC members, Trustees, Student Senate Representative and staff for their contributions on the Special Education Advisory Committee. Superintendent Baldasaro introduced Pat Rocca, newly appointed Superintendent overseeing the Student Support portfolio.

Chair Racine thanked Superintendent Baldasaro, wished her well and welcomed Superintendent Rocca.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Bill Helmeczi

Seconded by Andrew Howcroft

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of November 1, 2017.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Interest

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

5. Approval of Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 4, 2017

Moved by Dorothy Harvey

Seconded by Bill Helmeczi

THAT the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 4, 2017 as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Problem Solving Model – Jim Di Gioia, Danny Giancola, David O’Rourke – Special Education Coordinators

Special Education Coordinators presented the Niagara Catholic Problem Solving Model and explained the process that is followed to support the needs of the student. Questions were asked and answered during the presentation.

C. VISIONING

1. Goals and Vision for 2017-2018

1.1 Goals for the 2017-2018 School Year

Chair Racine reviewed the proposed goals for the 2017-2018 school year. The SEAC members made a decision to work on the following goals for this school year.

- Have a SEAC meeting at a school to promote parent engagement.
- SEAC members to visit a school – look at best practices regarding inclusion.
- Review of the new Special Education Ministry document, *Draft Special Education In Ontario – Kindergarten to Grade 12 Policy and Resource Guide 2017*; to aid with the review of the Special Education Plan. Special Education staff to provide presentations on related topics.

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 4, 2017

1. Learner Advocacy

2. Parent Outreach

3. Program and Service Recommendations

4. Special Education Budget

5. Annual Review, Special Education Plan

6. Other Related Items

7. Policy Review

7.1 *Trustee Code of Conduct Policy (100.12)*

Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement Policy (100.13)

Feedback is to be submitted to Jennifer Pellegrini by November 8, 2017.

Assignment of Principals and Vice-Principals Policy (202.1)

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

Niagara Catholic Education Award of Distinction Policy (100.7)

Nutrition Policy (302.7)

Records and Information Management Policy (600.2)

Feedback is to be submitted to Jennifer Pellegrini by January 12, 2018.

E. SEAC REPORT

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

- A decision was made to send the 2017-2018 SEAC goals to Principals to include in their Catholic School Agenda.

2. Review and Approval of SEAC Insert for School Newsletters

- Same as noted above for the Catholic School Council Agenda.

F. AGENCY REPORTS

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

- October 28 – DSCP Halloween party held in Niagara Falls was a great success.
- Planning is underway for the Christmas party
- Go21 event was a great success.

2. The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario – Anna Racine

- Nil Report

3. Pathstone Mental Health – Bill Helmeczi

- Nil Report

4. Community Living Welland Pelham – Andrew Howcroft

- Community Living's **Together We're Better** Contest is open to Elementary school aged children between the ages of 4 to 14 in Ontario. Send a video, story or poem that shows how together we're better because students of all abilities are included. Deadline for submission is Wednesday, January 24, 2018. Winners will be announced on Friday, February 9, 2018 and will be showcased on Community Living Ontario's website.

5. Autism Ontario Niagara Region – Karen Murphy

- Our fall programs are up and running until December.
- November 22 - Adult Social Club is going to the movies to see Justice League.
- Tickets are still on sale for the Mad Hatter's Charity Ball on Saturday, November 25, Dinner, Dancing, Silent Auction and Candy Bar. If interested contact the chapter.

6. Niagara Children's Centre – Dorothy Harvey

- April 1 – Current or existing contracts will be transitioned from the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) to the Children's Treatment Centre for students requiring speech services, occupational and physiotherapy services.
- Niagara Children's Centre is looking at how to develop the Individual Education Plan.

7. Community Living Port Colborne/Wainfleet – Rita Smith

- October 20-22, 2017 - Attended the *Re:Action4Inclusion* conference held in Orillia.

8. Learning Disabilities Association Niagara Region – Brittani Ali

- Nil Report

G. STAFF REPORTS

1. Lisa Selman – Principal, Elementary

Happening in Elementary Schools

- Down Syndrome Awareness Month
- Treaties Recognition Week
- November 2 - All Soul's Day
- Bullying Awareness Week and Prevention Week
- Leading Mentally Healthy schools
- Zones of Regulation
- Christian Meditation
- Roots of Empathy – Child and Youth Workers
- Assist Training for Educational Resource Teachers in November
- Data Collection - School Based Team Meetings
- Agency Involvement - Transitions, services provided in schools
- Student Supports - Special Education - Program Resource Teacher, Special Needs Facilitator, Behaviour Resource Teacher, Coordinators -Special Education etc.
- Niagara College's Autism Behaviour Sciences Program - Student Placement
- Gifted Module - Financial Literacy – held in October
- Grade 8 Day - Transition activity for all Grade 8 students at the area High School
- IEPs are in progress and continue to be revised as needed
- Elementary Progress Reports and Alternative Reports home - November 20
- Homework Clubs - Before and After school
- Kindergarten Open House & Registrations - On-Line Registration available November 22
- Parent Teacher Conferences being held the week of November 27
- Year 1 Kindergarten Observations
- SNAP
- Special Olympics - Niagara College
- Transitions - Time Change, Winter Weather, Indoor recesses, Winter clothing/boots, etc.

- Remembrance Day Poster Contest, Christmas Cards NCDSB, NCDSB Celebrating Junior Artists, Video Contests.

2. Denise Robertson – Principal, Secondary

Happening in Secondary Schools

- Several students from various schools have actively contributed to green projects related to the Horticulture course. Students continue to enjoy the Horticulture program held at Niagara Catholic's classroom (Niagara Parks).
- Friday, October 27th Denis Morris hosted Special Education Halloween Dance. It was an outstanding day for the kids who enjoyed pizza, snacks, crafts, costumes and of course dancing. Our Peer helpers and Best Buddies greeted students from other schools, helped to carve pumpkins, set up and decorate the gym, danced with students as well as encouraging our students.

Saint Michael

- Our Special Education class sent a team to Special Olympics Soccer held in Welland on October 12. They had a great time. Special thanks to our Girls Soccer Coach Cristina Matesa and two of her Brock University soccer players who helped coach our players.
- We will soon be assisting our students in their post-secondary applications and helping our students/parents know about supports at the next level.
- Markbook printouts were handed out last week. We are following up with at-risk students to ensure they know of available supports. Progress and next steps will be discussed at Parent-Teacher interviews being held this Thursday.

Lakeshore Catholic

- Two students have been very successful at Coop Placements so far this semester at Northland Point & Sobeys and six students are engaging (weekly) at Community Living work placements and other activities.
- Received a phone call from a parent of a former student saying that he just made the honor role at Niagara College (CICE Program). This is quite an accomplishment seeing as he left last year not having earned any credits.
- Purchased a number of "High Interest, Low Vocab" novels for my class and they've been a hit!

Denis Morris

- IEPs have been completed and sent home for parents to peruse and offer their feedback. Parents have been notified that they are more than welcome to meet with Educational Resource teachers to discuss the IEP and make any changes. Teachers have been updated on any changes.
- Special Education has met with all incoming Grade 9 students to ensure that they have had a smooth transition to Denis Morris and that they are getting into a proper study routine. A review of study tips has been prepared for teachers to go over with their students as part of the Denis Morris Capacity Building series.

Holy Cross

- Several students attended Pilgrimage this past Sunday by doing modified and supported walks while others raised pledge money. Other highlights include our trip to S.N.A.P. at Brock University, pumpkin carving and classroom decorating days. Our Horticulture students have been helping to build an outdoor classroom/garden at our feeder school, Canadian Martyrs, as other students prepare our Remembrance Day reflective prayer service.

Blessed Trinity

- Educational Resource Teachers will meet with each Grade 9 student who is taking Religion during Semester 1 to ensure that they have a community service placement and to assist in finding one if they do not.
- Work continues in the area of Person-Centered Planning and the TAY initiative. We are in discussions with Contact Niagara, Bethesda and the Association for Community Living about available Support Services as youth transition out of secondary school. With several new students, we are pleased to help connect parents.

Saint Francis

- Special Education students participated in the first of several Music Therapy sessions planned for this year at Saint Francis, led by Mendelt Hoekstra, who works with Bethesda, and is also the director of the Momentum Choir.
- Special Education students attended the S.N.A.P. (Special Needs Activity Program) at Brock on October 26.

Notre Dame College

- On Friday, October 20, four students from Notre Dame, two from the Special Education Class and two peer allies travelled to Orillia, Ontario for the *Re:action4Inclusion* youth conference. The weekend focused on leadership and creating a culture of inclusivity for individuals with intellectual delays. Two staff from Association for Community Living, as well as our Special Education Class teacher accompanied our students. While there, students engaged in activities, listened to speakers, shared educational experiences, compared school cultures and attitudes towards inclusivity. For our students with special education needs, this was the first time away from home, the first time attending a conference, and the first time for them to share their school experiences with others. In addition, our peer allies demonstrated the true genuine bond that is created when all individuals are treated with dignity and respect.
- On Thursday, October 12, 2017 Notre Dame's Unified Indoor School team participated in the regional qualifiers for Special Olympics. Our team consisted of five Special Education students, along with our two peer allies. Our team won our qualifying division. The provincial meet for Special Olympics will be in Peterborough this year.
- Swim team continues to practise. We are looking forward to our first meet on Thursday, November 16. Notre Dame has an impressive number of swimmers competing in the para division.

Saint Paul

- On October 12, the students of the Saint Paul Special Education Class participated in the Special Olympic Ontario Soccer Qualifiers tournament at the Youngs Sportplex in Welland. Our team went 2-1 at the tournament while showing great skill and sportsmanship. The Special Olympics organization will call me to let me know if we qualified for the provincial round.
- On November 24, Saint Paul will host a Special Education Social Event. Our students will help plan and prepare for this event. We will be running a Zumba-style fitness class followed by a dance. As well, there will be some Christmas crafts and activities to complete for those students who need a rest and/or break from the hectic physical activity!

3. Pat Rocca – Superintendent of Education

- Nil Report

4. Danny Giancola – Coordinator Special Education

- A Gifted Education Module was held in October about Financial Literacy. A former Niagara Catholic student helped to facilitate the workshop.
- Planning is underway for the upcoming Professional Activity Day on November 17.

5. David O'Rourke – Coordinator Special Education

- Nil Report

6. Jim DiGioia – Coordinator Special Education

- Nil Report

H. TRUSTEE REPORTS

1. Pat Vernal – Trustee

- Nil Report

2. Maurice Charbonneau – Trustee

- Nil Report

I. STUDENT REPORT

1. Justine Bourak– Student Senate Representative

- A Student Senate retreat was held at Journey's. Students bonded and planned for the upcoming Lead out Loud conference.
- The Ontario Student Leadership Conference is being held this Sunday, November 5 – Tuesday, November 7 in Niagara Falls.

J. NCPIC REPORT

- The next NCPIC meeting is being held on November 2.

K. ALLIANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. Learner Advocacy

2. Parent Outreach

3. Program and Service Recommendation

4. Special Education Budget

5. Annual Review, Special Education Plan

6. Other Related Items

7. Policy Review

M. CORRESPONDENCE

N. QUESTION PERIOD

O. NOTICES OF MOTION

P. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Q. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Chair Racine reminded the SEAC members about the upcoming SEAC Christmas dinner being held at 6:00p.m. prior to the December meeting.

R. NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at 7:00p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre

S. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Dorothy Harvey

Seconded by Andrew Howcroft

THAT the November 1, 2017 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 8:50p.m.

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE –
BUILDING ON TODAY MEETING OF NOVEMBER 7, 2017**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee – Building on Today Meeting of November 7, 2017, as presented.



MINUTES OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE – BUILDING ON TODAY MEETING TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2017

Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee – Building on Today Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 4:30 p.m. in the Holy Cross Community Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chair MacNeil.

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayer were led by Trustee Burtnik.

2. Roll Call

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O’Leary				✓
Dino Sicoli	✓			
Pat Vernal	✓			
Student Trustees				
Nico Tripodi				✓
Hannah Tummillo				✓

The following staff were in attendance:

John Crocco, Director of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services, **Mark Ferri**, Administrator of Purchasing Services and **Anna Pisano**, Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services & Communications

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Vernal

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Ad Hoc Committee – Building on Today Meeting of November 7, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED

4. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

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

5. **Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee – Building on Today of October 17, 2017**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

THAT the Ad Hoc Committee approve the Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee – Building on Today of October 17, 2017, as presented.

CARRIED

5.1 **Board Approved Terms of Reference**

Chair MacNeil reviewed the Board approved Terms of Reference.

6. **Determination of the Statement of Work**

Discussion took place on the Determination of the Statement of Work on precisely what Niagara Catholic District School Board hopes to achieve as a result of this Request for Proposal.

Trustees had a thorough discussion on Question # 1 to determine the outcomes, deliverables and overall objective of the Request for Proposal.

In listening to all of the feedback staff was requested to draft a response to Question #1 for the consideration of the Ad Hoc Committee at the December 4, 2017 meeting.

The remaining questions in the Determination of the Statement of Work were deferred to the December 4, 2017 meeting.

7. **Draft Request for Proposal**

Deferred to the December 4, 2017 Ad Hoc Committee meeting.

8. **Next Meeting of Ad Hoc Committee**

The next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee is December 4, 2017 at 3:30 p.m.

9. **Adjournment**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

THAT the November 7, 2017 Ad Hoc Committee – Building on Today Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee – Building on Today Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **November 7, 2017**.

Approved on **December 4, 2017**.

Fr. Paul MacNeil
Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee

John Crocco
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION'S ANNUAL REPORT 2017

The Director of Education's Annual Report 2017
is presented for information.

A copy of the Director's Annual Report 2017 will be distributed at the Board Meeting.

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

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

Date: December 19, 2017



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE BOARD DECEMBER 19, 2017

DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2017

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

For the 2017 Annual Director's Report, the Minister of Education provided Director's of Education with an outline of specific information to be included, at a minimum, in the Annual Report. The Niagara Catholic Director's Annual Report 2017 is once again presented in a new layout and contains all of the information as required by the Minister of Education.

It is expected that the Annual Report is posted on a Board's website with a link to the Ministry's website for access to the Director's Annual Report. Once the Board receives the Director's Annual Report 2017, it will be placed on the Niagara Catholic website at *niagaracatholic.ca*, *My Niagara Catholic*, *My Niagara Catholic Alumni* and linked to the Ministry's website.

In addition to these requirements, copies of the Niagara Catholic Director's Annual Report 2017 are provided to the Trustees of the Niagara Catholic District School Board along with the following individuals and organizations;

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

Electronic copies of the Director's Annual Report 2017 will be sent to;

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

A copy of the Director's Annual Report 2017 will be distributed at the Board Meeting.

The report on the Director's Annual Report 2017 is presented for information.

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

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

Date: December 19, 2017

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: CHRISTMAS CARDS 2017

Prepared by: Teri Cristelli, Arts and Student Leadership Consultant

Presented by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 19, 2017



PRESENTATION BACKGROUND

**Board Meeting
December 19, 2017**

CHRISTMAS CARDS 2017

Schools throughout Niagara Catholic were invited to submit one (1) piece of artwork designed by their students in order to create the 2017 Niagara Catholic Christmas Cards. A Selection Committee selected the 2017 Niagara Catholic Christmas Cards.

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

The following students had their artwork selected to be shared with the Niagara Catholic community for the Christmas Season of 2017 and will be recognized and presented with plaqued cards at the Board Meeting.

First Name	Last Name	Grade	School
Alyssa	Avolio	Gr. 8	St. Alexander Catholic Elementary School
Dana	Borowitz	Gr. 12	Saint Paul Catholic High School
Devin	Brzozowski-Greenwood	Gr. 11	Saint Michael Catholic High School
Cassie	Corbett	Gr.7	St. Mark Catholic Elementary School
Alessandria	DiMaria	Gr. 8	Loretto Catholic Elementary School
Gabrielle	Gaitan-Caballero	Gr. 4	Holy Name Catholic Elementary School
Julia	Kozlowski	Gr. 9	Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School
Lucky Lou	Dellota	Gr.8	St. Nicholas Catholic Elementary School
Elli	Rigby	Gr. 7	St. Peter Catholic Elementary School
Nicholas	Woodruff	Gr. 9	Notre Dame College School

Prepared by: Teri Cristelli, Arts and Student Leadership Consultant

Presented by: Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 19, 2017

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TITLE: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM
SAINT FRANCIS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL**

The School Excellence Program report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 19, 2017



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM SAINT FRANCIS CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

Contact Information

541 Lake Street
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2N 4H7

Ph: 905 646-2002

Fx: 905 646-1452

www.stfrancisphoenix.com

Grades

9 – 12

Enrolment

581

Principal

James Whittard

Vice Principal

Antonio Della Ventura

Superintendent of Education

Ted Farrell

Catholic School Council Chair

Sandra McQuade

Parish(s)

Star of the Sea

St. Denis



*Lord Make Me
An Instrument Of
Your Peace*

School Motto

Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School is located in North St. Catharines in close proximity to Port Dalhousie. The school draws students from Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary School, St. Ann Catholic Elementary School, St. Denis Catholic Elementary School and St. James Catholic Elementary School. Established in 1995 on the former Holy Cross Catholic High School site, Saint Francis has become known for its excellent academic, athletic, community and social justice initiatives.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School to empower its community of believers to joyfully celebrate the fullness of God's creation.

Prepared by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education

Presented by: Ted Farrell, Superintendent of Education

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

Date: December 19, 2017

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE EXPENSES AND REIMBURSEMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 BOARD**

The Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement
Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Board is presented for information.

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

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

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

Date: December 19, 2017



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 19, 2017

TRUSTEE EXPENSES AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

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

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

Attached to the report is **Appendix A**, which provides the Trustee expenses for the previous fiscal year 2016-2017.

The Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement Fiscal Year 2016-2017 report is presented for Information.

The Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement
Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Board is presented for information.

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

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

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

Date: December 19, 2017

APPENDIX A

2016-2017 Trustee Expenditures & Reimbursement								
Trustees	Position	Acct #	Office Equipment	Office Supplies	Conferences & Workshops	Travel	Internet	Total Expenses
Burtnik, Kathy	Vice-Chair	702			2,180.82	176.18	360.00	2,717.00
Charbonneau, Maurice	Trustee	703			914.02	331.54	360.00	1,605.56
Fera, Frank	Trustee	705			1,474.08	359.32	360.00	2,193.40
MacNeil, Fr. Paul	Chair	708			1,914.56	94.60	360.00	2,369.16
Nieuwesteeg, Ed	Trustee	706			2,311.95	140.58	360.00	2,812.53
O'Leary Ted	Trustee	701			2,838.75	216.98	360.00	3,415.73
Sicoli, Dino	Trustee	704			3,006.75	260.28	360.00	3,627.03
Vernal, Pat	Trustee	707			3,226.92	485.16	360.00	4,072.08
Total - Trustees					\$17,867.85	\$2,064.64	\$2,880.00	\$22,812.49

2016-2017 Student Trustee Expenditures & Reimbursement								
Trustees	Position	Acct#	Office Equipment	Office Supplies	Conferences & Workshops	Travel	Internet	Total Expenses
Student Trustee (A)	Student Trustee	709	1,102.30		3,318.28	284.05		4,704.63
Student Trustee (B)	Student Trustee	710	1,102.30		3,288.69	147.67		4,538.66
Total - Trustees			\$2,204.60		\$6,606.97	\$431.72		\$9,243.29

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE HONORARIUM FOR THE YEAR
DECEMBER 1, 2017 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2018**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Trustee Honorarium for the year period from December 1, 2017 to November 30, 2018, as noted in Appendix A, as follows:

\$16,707 for the Chairperson of the Board
\$13,666 for the Vice-Chairperson of the Board
\$10,626 for the Other Trustees

Prepared by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business and Financial Services
Presented by: John Crocco, Director of Education, Secretary/Treasurer
Recommended by: John Crocco, Director of Education, Secretary/Treasurer
Date: December 19, 2017



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REPORT TO THE BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 19, 2017

TRUSTEE HONORARIUM FOR THE YEAR FROM DECEMBER 1, 2017 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2018

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Ontario Regulation 357 sets out the method for calculating the limits on honoraria paid to Trustees under Section 191 of the Education Act. The regulation states that the honorarium shall consist of the following 4 components:

- 1) The base amount for the year
- 2) The enrolment amount for the year
- 3) The attendance amount for the year
- 4) The distance amount for the year

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

In accordance with Board Policy #100.11, we have now calculated the Trustee Honorarium for the year period from December 1, 2017 to November 30, 2018, as noted in Appendix A.

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

- \$16,707 for the Chairperson of the Board
- \$13,666 for the Vice-Chairperson of the Board
- \$10,626 for the Other Trustees

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Trustee Honorarium for the year period from December 1, 2017 to November 30, 2018, as noted in Appendix A, as follows:

- \$16,707 for the Chairperson of the Board
 - \$13,666 for the Vice-Chairperson of the Board
 - \$10,626 for the Other Trustees
-
-

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

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

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

Date: December 19, 2017

APPENDIX A

HONORARIUM PAYABLE TO BOARD TRUSTEES		DECEMBER 1, 2017 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2018		
		Annual Base Amount	Annual Enrolment Amount	Annual Total Honorarium
*Regulation 190/14 allows for Ontario Consumer Price Index beginning on or after December 1, 2018.				
MAXIMUM BASE AMOUNT		\$5,900		
Increase in CPI*		0.0%		
Maximum Base Amount for the year		\$5,900		
Enrolment ADE - Last Fiscal			21,606	
Enrolment Factor			1.75	
Enrolment Amount			\$37,811	
Number of Members			8	
MAXIMUM ENROLMENT AMOUNT			\$4,726	
MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR MEMEBERS		\$5,900	\$4,726	\$10,626

HONORARIUM PAYABLE TO BOARD CHAIR		DECEMBER 1, 2017 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2018		
		Annual Base Amount	Annual Enrolment Amount	Annual Total Honorarium
MAXIMUM BASE AMOUNT		\$5,900		
Increase in Core Consumer Price Index		0.0%		
Maximum Base Amount for the year		\$5,900	\$4,726	
ADDITIONAL BASE AMOUNT FOR CHAIR		\$5,000		
Enrolment ADE			21,606	
Enrolment Factor			0.05	
Enrolment Amount (A)			\$1,080	
Minimum Amount (A < \$500)			\$500	
Maximum Amount (A > \$5000)			\$5,000	
ADDITIONAL ENROLMENT AMOUNT			\$1,080	
MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR MEMEBERS		\$10,900	\$5,807	\$16,707

HONORARIUM PAYABLE TO BOARD VICE CHAIR		DECEMBER 1, 2017 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2018		
		Annual Base Amount	Annual Enrolment Amount	Annual Total Honorarium
MAXIMUM BASE AMOUNT		\$5,900		
Increase in CPI		0.0%		
Maximum Base Amount for the year		\$5,900	\$4,726	
MAXIMUM BASE FOR VICE-CHAIR		\$2,500		
Enrolment ADE			21,606	
Enrolment Factor			0.025	
Enrolment Amount (A)			\$540	
Minimum Amount (A < \$250)			\$250	
Maximum Amount (A > \$2,500)			\$2,500	
ADDITIONAL ENROLMENT AMOUNT			\$540	
MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR MEMEBERS		\$8,400	\$5,266	\$13,666

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: REVISED ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 2017-2018

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approves the Report on the Revised Budget for the year 2017-2018, as presented.

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

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

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

Date: December 19, 2017



REPORT TO THE BOARD DECEMBER 19, 2017

REVISED ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 2017-2018

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On an annual basis, school boards are required to submit a revised estimate for the current year to the Ministry of Education. The purpose of the revised estimates is to give all school boards the opportunity to revise their budgets, taking into account up-to-date information on new enrolment projections and other data available at the current time.

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

APPENDIX A	Revised Estimates Average Daily Enrolment (A.D.E.)
APPENDIX B	Revised Estimates Full Time Equivalent (FTE)
APPENDIX C	Revised Grants for Student Needs (GSN) Funding
APPENDIX D	Revised Estimates Expenditures
APPENDIX E	Revised Estimates Special Education
APPENDIX F	Revised Expenditures by Type
APPENDIX G	Revised Schedule 5 – Detailed Accumulated Surplus / (Deficit)
APPENDIX H	Revised Fringe Benefits 2017-2018

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approves the Report on the Revised Budget for the year 2017-2018, as presented.

Prepared by: Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business

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

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

Date: December 19, 2017

APPENDIX A

DAY SCHOOL ENROLMENT

2017-2018 REVISED ESTIMATES

ELEMENTARY PANEL

	2015-2016	A	B	C	D=(C - B)	E=(B - A)
	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2017-2018	REV vs ORG	(B - A)
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ORIGINAL EST	REVISED EST	DIFF	DIFF
Early Learning Kindergarten	2,644	2,667	2,536	2,575	39	(92)
Grade 1 - Grade 3	4,462	4,358	4,238	4,241	3	(117)
Grade 4 - Grade 8	7,689	7,673	7,637	7,621	(16)	(52)
TOTAL ELEMENTARY PANEL	14,795	14,698	14,411	14,437	26	(261)

SECONDARY PANEL

Grade 9 - Grade 12	7,154	6,901	6,688	6,672	(16)	(229)
TOTAL ENROLMENT	21,949	21,599	21,099	21,109	10	(490)

PREVIOUS YEAR

Increase (Decrease)		(350)	(500)		10	(490)
% Increase (Decrease)		-1.59%	-2.31%			-2.27%

CLASS SIZE AGGREGATE

	MINISTRY	OCTOBER 2017	
Early Learning Kindegarten	25.75	24.83	✓
Grade 1 - Grade 3	19.80	18.80	✓
Grade 4 - Grade 8	24.17	24.11	✓
Grade 9 - Grade 12	22.00	21.30	✓
Early Childhood Educators	26:1	24.83	✓

All class size aggregates for each panel are below Ministry of Education compliance targets for 2017-2018.

FTE REVISED ESTIMATES

APPENDIX B

FULL TIME EQUIVALENT BUDGET	ORIGINAL		REVISED EST		VARIANCE
	2017-2018	%	2017-2018	%	
CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION FTE					
Classroom Teachers	1,252.7	48.6%	1,266.7	48.8%	14.0
Coordinators and Consultants	22.0	0.9%	22.0	0.8%	0.0
Teacher Assistants	295.0	11.4%	298.0	11.5%	3.0
Early Childhood Educators	98.0	3.8%	103.0	4.0%	5.0
Professionals, Paraprofessionals and Technicians	93.2	3.6%	94.2	3.6%	1.0
Library & Guidance	58.4	2.3%	58.4	2.2%	0.0
Department Heads	88.0	3.4%	88.0	3.4%	0.0
Total Classroom Instruction FTE	1,907.3	74.0%	1,930.3	74.3%	23.0
NON CLASSROOM FTE					
Board Administration	47.0	1.8%	47.0	1.8%	0.0
Director and Supervisory Officers	7.0	0.3%	7.0	0.3%	0.0
Trustees	10.0	0.4%	10.0	0.4%	0.0
Principals & VPs	83.0	3.2%	83.0	3.2%	0.0
School Office	93.1	3.6%	93.1	3.6%	0.0
School Operations and Maintenance	216.0	8.4%	213.0	8.2%	(3.0)
Continuing Education	213.4	8.3%	213.4	8.2%	0.0
Total Non Classroom FTE	669.5	26.0%	666.5	25.7%	(3.0)
Total Full Time Equivalent	2,576.8	100%	2,596.8	100%	20.0

GRANTS FOR STUDENT NEEDS

APPENDIX C

OPERATING REVENUE ALLOCATION

	ORIGINAL EST	REVISED EST	
	2017-2018	2017-2018	VARIANCE
Pupil Foundation	\$115,627,091	\$115,693,632	\$66,541
School Foundation	\$16,214,471	\$16,207,362	(\$7,109)
Special Education	\$28,660,049	\$28,790,957	\$130,908
Language Allocation	\$4,093,681	\$4,142,660	\$48,979
Learning Opportunities	\$5,785,581	\$5,814,784	\$29,203
Rural and Northern Education	\$0	\$118,715	\$118,715
Continuing Education Allocation	\$1,696,850	\$1,499,106	(\$197,744)
Teacher Qualification	\$26,256,150	\$24,959,169	(\$1,296,981)
Restraint Savings	(\$64,921)	(\$64,921)	\$0
New Teacher Induction	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
ECE Q&E	\$1,367,385	\$1,194,612	(\$172,773)
Transportation	\$10,360,001	\$10,360,001	\$0
Administration and Governance	\$6,443,319	\$6,444,345	\$1,026
School Operations & Maintenance	\$20,609,583	\$20,546,959	(\$62,624)
Community Use of Schools	\$295,332	\$295,332	\$0
Declining Enrolment	\$1,409,838	\$1,442,627	\$32,789
Indigenous Funding	\$552,738	\$537,111	(\$15,627)
Safe and Accepting Schools	\$392,820	\$392,718	(\$102)
Permanent Financing of NFP	\$117,487	\$117,487	\$0
General Operating Allocation	\$239,892,455	\$238,567,656	(\$1,324,799)
Minor Tangible Capital Assets	\$5,997,511	\$5,964,191	(\$33,320)
Trustee Association Fee	\$43,017	\$43,017	\$0
Total School Renewal Allocation	\$3,837,630	\$3,829,648	(\$7,982)
Capital Grants - Temporary Accommodations	\$596,500	\$596,500	\$0
Capital Debts Payments - Interest Payments	\$3,104,606	\$3,104,606	\$0
Total Capital Allocation	\$13,579,264	\$13,537,962	(\$41,302)
Total Allocation	\$253,471,719	\$252,105,618	(\$1,366,101)

EXPENDITURE BUDGET

APPENDIX D

BUDGET

	ORIGINAL EST		REVISED EST		VARIANCE
	2017-2018	%	2017-2018	%	
CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION EXPENDITURES					
Classroom Teachers	\$133,189,870	49.7%	\$134,206,581	49.8%	\$1,016,711
LumpSum Payment	\$953,000	1.9%	\$953,000	0.4%	\$0
Supply Staff	\$5,164,918	1.0%	\$6,020,296	2.2%	\$855,378
Coordinators and Consultants	\$2,675,730	6.3%	\$2,444,275	0.9%	(\$231,455)
Teacher Assistants	\$16,796,242	1.8%	\$16,371,554	6.1%	(\$424,688)
Early Childhood Educators	\$4,856,418	2.6%	\$5,424,357	2.0%	\$567,939
Textbooks and Supplies	\$6,854,743	0.2%	\$7,107,743	2.6%	\$253,000
Computers	\$547,556	2.7%	\$547,556	0.2%	\$0
Professionals, Paraprofessionals and Technicians	\$7,255,889	1.4%	\$7,357,378	2.7%	\$101,489
Library & Guidance	\$3,835,109	0.2%	\$4,067,835	1.5%	\$232,726
Staff Development	\$487,000	0.1%	\$487,000	0.2%	\$0
Department Heads	\$321,040	0.0%	\$341,255	0.1%	\$20,215
Total Classroom Instruction	\$182,937,515	68.3%	\$185,328,830	68.8%	\$2,391,315
NON CLASSROOM EXPEDITURES					
Principals & VPs	\$11,167,086	4.2%	\$11,022,393	4.1%	(\$144,693)
Board Administration	\$5,863,761	2.2%	\$5,845,691	2.2%	(\$18,070)
Director and Supervisory Officers	\$1,736,082	0.6%	\$1,736,082	0.6%	\$0
Trustees	\$288,833	0.1%	\$289,216	0.1%	\$383
School Operations and Maintenance	\$22,657,226	8.5%	\$22,746,144	8.4%	\$88,918
School Office	\$5,273,784	2.0%	\$4,479,768	1.7%	(\$794,017)
Pupil Transportation	\$9,828,728	3.7%	\$9,828,728	3.6%	\$0
Continuing Education	\$4,657,494	1.7%	\$4,657,494	1.7%	\$0
Total Non Classroom Expenditures	\$61,472,994	23.0%	\$60,605,516	22.5%	(\$867,479)
OTHER					
School Generated Funds	\$8,180,000	3.1%	\$6,995,000	2.6%	(\$1,185,000)
Pupil Accommodation	\$15,163,114	5.7%	\$16,568,929	6.1%	\$1,405,815
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$267,753,624	100%	\$269,498,275	100%	\$1,744,651

* Estimates include \$1.5M in Education Program Other Revenues.

SPECIAL EDUCATION BUDGET

APPENDIX E

BUDGET

	ORIGINAL EST		REVISED EST		VARIANCE
	2017-2018	%	2017-2018	%	
SPECIAL EDUCATION ALLOCATION					
Special Education Per Pupil Allocation	\$15,645,558	54.6%	\$15,666,426	54.6%	\$20,868
SEA Allocation	\$1,271,908	4.4%	\$1,272,118	4.4%	\$210
Differential Special Education Needs	\$11,474,982	40.0%	\$11,474,982	40.0%	\$0
Approved SIP	\$120,000		\$120,000		\$0
Behavioural Expertise amount	\$147,601	0.5%	\$147,618	0.5%	\$17
Special Education Allocation	\$28,660,049	100%	\$28,681,144	100%	\$21,095
EXPENDITURES					
Classroom Teachers	\$7,206,245	25.0%	\$7,150,499	24.3%	(\$55,746)
Supply Staff	\$538,859	1.9%	\$479,242	1.6%	(\$59,617)
Coordinators and Consultants	\$1,185,079	4.1%	\$1,168,085	4.0%	(\$16,994)
Teacher Assistants	\$13,755,820	47.8%	\$14,337,669	48.7%	\$581,849
Child Youth Workers	\$1,715,899	6.0%	\$1,732,455	5.9%	\$16,556
Professionals, Paraprofessionals and Technicians	\$3,245,404	11.3%	\$3,460,619	11.8%	\$215,215
Textbooks and Supplies	\$807,000	2.8%	\$782,000	2.7%	(\$25,000)
Computers	\$60,000	0.2%	\$50,000	0.2%	(\$10,000)
Staff Development	\$15,000	0.1%	\$20,000	0.1%	\$5,000
Pupil Accommodation	\$250,000	0.9%	\$250,000	0.8%	\$0
Special Education Expenditures	\$28,779,306	100%	\$29,430,569	100%	\$651,263
Special Education Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$119,257)		(\$749,425)		

* Niagara Catholic continues to allocate resources that exceed Special Education Funding for 2017-2018.

REVISED EXPENDITURE BUDGET BY TYPE

APPENDIX F

OPERATING BUDGET

	ORIGINAL EST 2017-2018	%	REVISED EST 2017-2018	%	VARIANCE	
REVENUE SCHEDULE 9	\$258,896,097		\$260,445,536		\$1,549,439	
Salaries	\$181,092,808	69.9%	\$183,005,502	69.7%	\$1,912,695	Investment in Elementary Teachers, Sick Replac
Benefits	\$28,535,515	11.0%	\$28,878,660	11.0%	\$343,145	
Lump Sum 0.50%	\$953,000	0.4%	\$953,000	0.4%	\$0	
Maternity Top-Up	\$600,000	0.2%	\$600,000	0.2%	\$0	
Total Salaries, Wages & Benefits	\$211,181,323	81.6%	\$213,437,162	81.3%	\$2,255,840	
Staff Development	\$325,100	0.1%	\$325,100	0.1%	\$0	
Supplies and Services	\$20,352,363	7.9%	\$20,349,260	7.8%	(\$3,104)	
Interest Charges	\$3,732,487	1.4%	\$3,729,220	1.4%	(\$3,267)	
Rental Expenses	\$723,500	0.3%	\$723,500	0.3%	\$0	
Fees and Contract Services	\$11,226,824	4.3%	\$11,226,824	4.3%	\$0	
Other Expenses	\$354,500	0.1%	\$354,500	0.1%	\$0	
Amortization	\$11,000,000	4.2%	\$12,357,709	4.7%	\$1,357,709	Updated Amortization Schedule
Supplies and Other Expenses	\$47,714,774	18.4%	\$49,066,113	18.7%	\$1,351,338	
Total Expenses by Type	\$258,896,097	100.0%	\$262,503,275	100.0%	\$3,607,178	
OPERATING BALANCED POSITION	\$0		(\$2,057,739)		\$2,057,739	

* Estimates include \$1.5M in Education Program Other Revenues.

APPENDIX G

SCHEDULE 5 - DETAIL OF ACCUMULATED SURPLUS (DEFICIT)

	September 2017	In-Year Increase (Decrease)	Proceeds of Disposition	Estimate August 31, 2018
AVAILABLE FOR COMPLIANCE - UNAPPROPRIATED				
Operating Accumulated Surplus	\$475,602	(\$1,732,232)	\$1,256,630	\$0
Available for Compliance Internally Appropriated	\$7,287,847	(\$326,108)	(\$1,256,630)	\$5,705,109
Total Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) Available for Compliance	\$7,763,449	(\$2,058,340)	\$0	\$5,705,109
UNAVAILABLE FOR COMPLIANCE				
Employee Future Benefits - retirement gratuity liability	(\$3,220,783)	\$975,995		(\$2,244,788)
Employee Future Benefits - Retirement Health Dental Life Insurance Plans	(\$143,852)	\$28,770		(\$115,082)
Employee Future Benefits - other than retirement gratuity	(\$3,406,255)			(\$3,406,255)
Interest to be Accrued	(\$1,176,749)	\$0		(\$1,176,749)
School Generated Funds	\$2,188,102	\$0		\$2,188,102
Revenues recognized for land	\$8,889,726	\$0		\$8,889,726
Total Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) Unavailable for Compliance	\$3,130,189	\$1,004,765		\$4,134,954
Total Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)	\$10,893,638	(\$1,053,575)	\$0	\$9,840,063

FRINGE BENEFITS - EMPLOYEE LIFE & HEALTH TRUST

APPENDIX H

Original Estimate 2017 2018		Revised Estimate 2017- 2018	%	Elementary Panel	Secondary Panel	Central Panel Continuing Education	
\$9,917,758	Employee Health & Life Trust	\$9,994,553	33.9%	\$6,585,347	\$3,132,017	\$150,573	\$126,617
\$4,341,861	C.P.P	\$4,397,175	14.9%	\$2,666,617	\$1,405,503	\$146,190	\$178,867
\$2,637,756	Employee Insurance	\$2,663,757	9.0%	\$1,731,964	\$784,922	\$66,927	\$79,944
\$3,541,350	Employee Health Tax	\$3,557,014	12.1%	\$2,294,824	\$1,102,390	\$85,943	\$73,856
\$300,000	WSIB	\$300,000	1.0%	\$180,000	\$90,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
\$4,148,135	OMERS	\$4,149,420	14.1%	\$2,504,417	\$989,487	\$463,519	\$191,997
\$2,358,222	Ben Plan, Extended Health	\$2,405,505	8.2%	\$1,620,809	\$573,544	\$149,556	\$61,597
\$696,242	Ben Plan, Dental	\$712,279	2.4%	\$483,409	\$170,659	\$41,859	\$16,353
\$900,000	Ben Plan, Future Benefits, Amortization	\$1,004,765	3.4%	\$1,004,765			
(\$305,809)	Ben Plan, Other (Future Ben)	-\$305,809	-1.0%	-\$180,000	-\$100,000	-\$20,000	-\$5,809
\$28,535,515		\$28,878,660	98.0%	\$18,892,152	\$8,148,521	\$1,114,566	\$753,421
\$600,000	Maternity Top-Up	\$600,000	2.0%				
<u>\$29,135,515</u>	<u>Total Fringe Benefit & Maternity Top Up</u>	<u>\$29,478,660</u>	<u>100.0%</u>				

FRINGE BENEFIT INCREASES

October 1, 2017

Drug	16.97%
Extended Health	4.84%
Dental	0.08%
Vision	5.15%
Semi-Pvt	1.49%
Overall Average	7.00%

EMPLOYEE HEALTH & LIFE TRUST

OECTA	September 1, 2017	\$5,635.14
CUPE	March 1, 2018	\$5,278.00
NON UNION	March 1, 2018	\$5,176.39
PRINCIPALS	March 1, 2018	\$5,823.39

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

TOPIC: FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT NOVEMBER 30, 2017

The Financial Report as at November 30, 2017 report is presented for information.

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

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

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

Date: December 19, 2017



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

YEAR TO DATE NOVEMBER 30, 2017

The year-to-date November 2017-2018 financial projections are reflective of our Ministry Revised Estimates for October 31, 2017.

The 2017-2018 October 31st ONSIS enrolment data has been audited and reconciled for Niagara Catholic. The results are an estimated decline in students by approximately 490, which has resulted in a substantial decline in our revised estimates for 2017-2018. Niagara Catholic has experienced a number of years of declining enrolment and with each school year it continues to put additional pressures on our ability to stabilize our revenue base.

In addition to the declining enrolment and reduction in funding Niagara Catholic continues to experience similar pressures in the first three months of 2017-2018 as it did in all 2016-2017. However, the magnitude of these cost pressures have put additional strain on our financial outcome and some of these pressures are as follows:

Niagara Catholic has had to earmark an additional \$1.2M in replacement costs for all staff in 2017-2018. The number of occurrences related to illnesses are trending substantially higher in the first three months of the calendar school year. The number of annual occurrences for all staff are projecting to approximate 25,000 for the 2017-2018 calendar year. This could potentially result in an increase of almost 20% more occurrences than the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Senior Staff will continue to monitor the trending of occurrences and will provide new information to the Board of Trustees each month. Strategies to reduce the cost pressures associated with replacement costs continue to be explored.

The investment in classroom teachers to achieve new Ministry of Education class size aggregates in JK and Grade 4 to Grade 8 has been achieved for 2017-2018. However, the ability to stay within the funding target has presented some challenges for the Board. The class size aggregates are below Ministry of Education targets which have resulted in additional elementary hires for 2017-2018 without the funding to support these needs.

The final phase of the Provincial Employee Life and Health Trust solution for CUPE and Non Union staff is expected to commence for March 1, 2018. This group includes CUPE, Non Union, Principals and Senior Administration. Our current benefit provider will continue to provide coverage until that time. The original estimates had an increase of approximately 7.0% in benefit costs that was effective for October 1, 2017 and will continue until all staff is removed from our current provider.

Niagara Catholic continues to monitor the impact of the January 1, 2018 provincial minimum wage increase to our current service providers. Initial cost pressures in transportation and cafeteria services have been identified. Mid-year strategies to cope with these rising expenditures will need to be addressed through potential service changes or reduction in revenue expectations for 2017-2018.

**Niagara Catholic DSB
2016-17 Interim Financial Report**

For the Month Ending October 31, 2017

Summary of Financial Results

(\$Thousands)	Estimates	Revised Estimates	Forecast	In-Year Change	
				\$	%
Revenue					
Operating Grants	228,732	232,646	232,646	-	0.0%
Capital Grants	25,234	22,337	22,337	-	0.0%
Other	14,800	12,457	12,457	-	0.0%
Total Revenue	268,766	267,440	267,440	-	0.0%
Expenditures					
Classroom	204,036	204,585	204,558	(27)	(0.0%)
Other Operating	7,889	7,871	7,820	(51)	(0.6%)
Transportation	9,829	9,829	9,831	2	0.0%
Pupil Accomodation	37,820	39,097	39,138	41	0.1%
Other	8,180	7,112	7,112	-	0.0%
PSAB Adjustments	1,005	1,005	1,005	-	0.0%
Total Expenditures	268,759	269,499	269,464	(35)	(0.0%)
In-Year Surplus (Deficit)	7	(2,059)	(2,024)	35	n/a
Prior Year Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)	10,894	10,894	10,894	-	0.0%
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) for Compliance	10,901	8,835	8,870	35	0.4%

Changes in Revenue

-

Change in Expenditures

-

Change in Reserve

- N/A

Change in Surplus/Deficit

-

Risks & Recommendations

- N/A

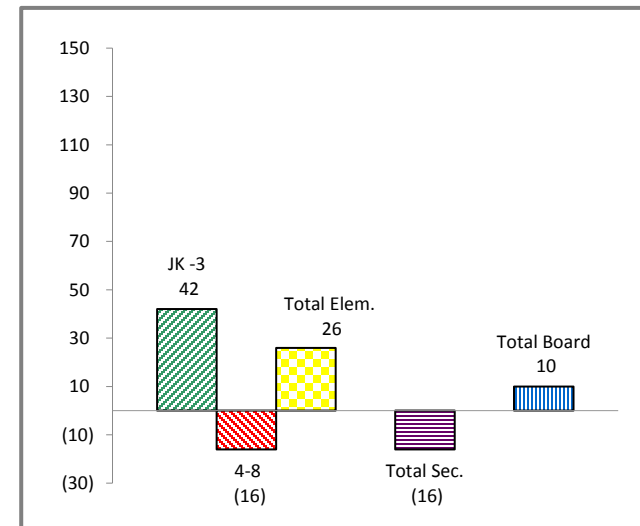
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Summary of Enrolment

ADE	Original Estimates	Revised Estimates	In-Year Change	
			#	%
Elementary				
JK -3	6,774	6,816	42	0.6%
4-8	7,637	7,621	(16)	-0.2%
Total Elementary	14,411	14,437	26	0.2%
Secondary <21				
Pupils of the Board	6,688	6,672	(16)	-0.2%
Other Pupils	96	96	-	0.0%
Total Secondary	6,784	6,768	(16)	-0.2%
Total	21,195	21,205	10	0.0%

Note: Forecast will be based on October 31st count date

Changes in Enrolment: Original v. Estimates



Highlights of Changes in Enrolment:

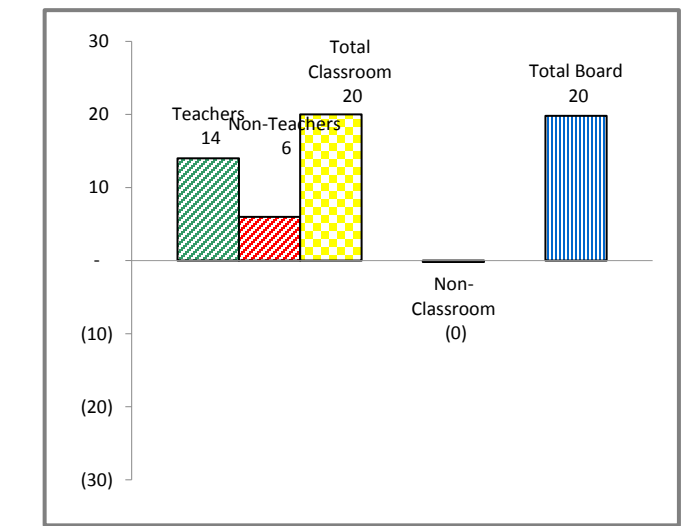
- Forecast is projected to be the same as revised estimates at this stage

*

Summary of Staffing

FTE	Original Estimates	Revised Estimate	In-Year Change	
			#	%
Classroom				
Teachers	1,278	1,292	14	1.1%
Non-Teachers	705	711	6	0.9%
Total Classroom	1,983	2,003	20	1.0%
Non-Classroom	261	261	(0)	-0.1%
Total	2,244	2,264	20	0.9%

Changes in Staffing: Original v. Estimates



Highlights of Changes in Staffing:

- Forecast is projected to be the same as revised estimates at this stage

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE
CITY OF ST. CATHARINES – CHANGES TO THE MUNICIPAL
ACT FOR THE ELECTION OF MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL
BOARD OFFICIALS**



November 20, 2017

Niagara Catholic District School Board
Attn: Anna Pisano
427 Rice Road
Welland, ON
L3C 7C1

sent via email: anna.pisano@ncdsb.com

Attn: School Board Chair and Trustees

Re: Changes to the Municipal Act for the Election of Municipal and School Board Officials

Following the last municipal election, the Municipal Elections Act was reviewed by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs which resulted in amendments to the Municipal Elections Act. These amendments will fully come into effect for the 2018 election.

You can find or details about the changes to the Municipal Act, and how it will impact the 2018 election, by visiting the Ministry of Municipal Affairs website at www.mah.gov.on.ca.

As a result of recommendations from the public, municipal Councils and municipal staff, the election campaign period has been shortened. The first day that candidates can register in the election is **May 1, 2018** as opposed to early in the New Year as in past elections. The deadline to file a nomination for a regular election will be **July 27, 2018**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the City Clerk's Office.

Regards,

Rebecca Alfieri
Elections Coordinator
905-688-5601 ext 1502

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: CORRESPONDENCE
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA – JOINT USE
SCHOOL PROJECT**



**I Matter
At DSBN**

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA

191 Carlton St. ■ St. Catharines, ON ■ L2R 7P4 ■ 905-641-1550 ■ dsbn.org

November 29, 2017

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

Attention: Fr. Paul MacNeil, Chair of the Board

Dear Father MacNeil,

On behalf of the Trustees of the District School Board of Niagara, I am writing to request the Niagara Catholic District School Board to support a joint-use school project for the three elementary schools in the Township of Wainfleet (Winger Public School, William E. Brown Public School and St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School).

At the Regular meeting of the Board held on November 28, 2017, the Board approved the following motions:

“That the Board request the Niagara Catholic District School Board to support a joint-use school project for the three elementary schools (Winger, William E. Brown and St. Elizabeth) in the Township of Wainfleet.

and

If Niagara Catholic District School Board supports a joint-use school project for the three elementary schools (Winger, William E. Brown and St. Elizabeth) in the Township of Wainfleet, then and only then Senior Administration are directed to prepare an Initial Staff Report and School Information Profile Reports for William E. Brown PS and Winger PS for presentation to the Board of Trustees; otherwise, the Wainfleet elementary accommodation review process will not move forward.”

Attached you will find the report to DSBN’s Program and Planning Committee regarding a Proposed Wainfleet Elementary Accommodation Review.

We would appreciate a response by December 20, 2017.

Yours sincerely,



Dale Robinson
Chair of the Board

- c. Trustees, District School Board of Niagara
Warren Hoshizaki, Director of Education, District School Board of Niagara
John Crocco, Director of Education, Niagara Catholic District School Board





DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA REPORT TO PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

PROPOSED WAINFLEET ELEMENTARY ACCOMMODATION REVIEW

Purpose and Background

The purpose of this report is to seek Trustees' approval to request the Niagara Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) to support a joint-use school initiative for the three elementary schools (Winger, W.E. Brown and St. Elizabeth) in the Township of Wainfleet.

On September 22, 2015, Trustees approved the Annual Facility & Planning Report, 2015, and the Long Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP). The LTAP details the current and future state of the DSBN elementary and secondary panels and presents possible accommodation solutions for schools that are experiencing challenges due to programming, enrolment, facility utilization, etc. Five groupings of schools were identified for potential accommodation reviews over the next 2 to 3 years.

Since that time, the West Pelham Elementary, South Central St. Catharines Elementary, and West Niagara Secondary Accommodation Reviews have been completed. The elementary reviews consolidated four schools to create two schools with K – 8 structures. The secondary review, once fully implemented, will consolidate three schools into one new school to be built. These consolidations created schools with larger populations to provide students with more opportunities in programming and extracurricular activities. School communities were brought together, elementary transitions were eliminated, enrolment and facility utilization rates in the Planning Areas were improved, and surplus pupil spaces reduced.

Future Accommodation Reviews

The Board has made progress in addressing the accommodation and programming challenges faced by a number of schools. Future accommodation reviews will be needed to continue this work in a number of schools.

The Ministry has committed to revise its Pupil Accommodation Review Guideline (PARG) and have advised that School Boards will not start any accommodation reviews unless one is required to support a joint-use school initiative between two School Boards. Collaborative capital project arrangements between School Boards, especially in rural and northern communities, will be considered first for funding by the Ministry.

Staff have done a review of the accommodation situation across the Board's jurisdiction, and met with the three coterminous Boards to discuss their needs in an attempt to identify possible joint-use school projects. This meeting has resulted in a potential for a DSBN-NCDSB joint-use elementary school project in the Township of Wainfleet.

Joint-Use Wainfleet School Project

William E. Brown PS and Winger PS and one NCDSB elementary school, St. Elizabeth, serve the Township of Wainfleet. A map has been included as Appendix A showing the location of the schools. As of September 18, 2017, William E. Brown PS had an enrolment of 179 students and projections indicate enrolment remains stable over the long term. Winger PS enrolment as of September 18th was 195 students and projections indicate an increase in enrolment into the low 200 range over the long term. Currently, St. Elizabeth has 98 students, which is below their 2015-2016 LTAP projection of 120 students. The Niagara Catholic District School Board projected St. Elizabeth's enrolment to be in the low 120s for the long term.

Long-term enrolment at both DSBN schools in Wainfleet is at a level that is concerning and presents challenges.

Detailed enrolment and facility utilization rates for each school are attached as Appendix B. The OTG capacity of St. Elizabeth School is 187. This puts the facility utilization of the school at 52 percent.

Funding

The Ministry is incentivizing Boards to share space (joint-use schools), and the DSBN and NCDSB have a successful joint-use school in Niagara Falls. The Ministry has advised that they will continue to provide funding using the Joint-Use School Seed Funding Program to support costs of planning for joint-use schools; they will provide funding for project management once a joint-use school project is approved; and have allowed a greater portion of Ministry capital funding to be allocated to joint-use school projects.

Process

An accommodation review would be required for the two Wainfleet DSBN elementary schools. It would be necessary for the Board to request the Niagara Catholic District School Board's support of this joint-use school project. The Planning and Facility staff of the DSBN would coordinate the planning and funding requests for this joint-use school project.

Appended Data

Appendix A: Elementary Schools in Wainfleet

Appendix B: Historic, Current, and Projected Enrolment for W.E. Brown PS & Winger PS.

Recommended Motion

“That the Board request the Niagara Catholic District School Board to support a joint-use school project for the three elementary schools (Winger, William E. Brown and St. Elizabeth) in the Township of Wainfleet.

and

If Niagara Catholic District School Board supports a joint-use school project for the three elementary schools (Winger, William E. Brown and St. Elizabeth) in the Township of Wainfleet, then and only then Senior Administration are directed to prepare an Initial Staff Report and School Information Profile Reports for William E. Brown PS and Winger PS for presentation to the Board of Trustees; otherwise, the Wainfleet elementary accommodation review process will not move forward.”

Respectfully submitted,

John Dickson
Superintendent of Education

Stacy Veld
Superintendent of Business Services

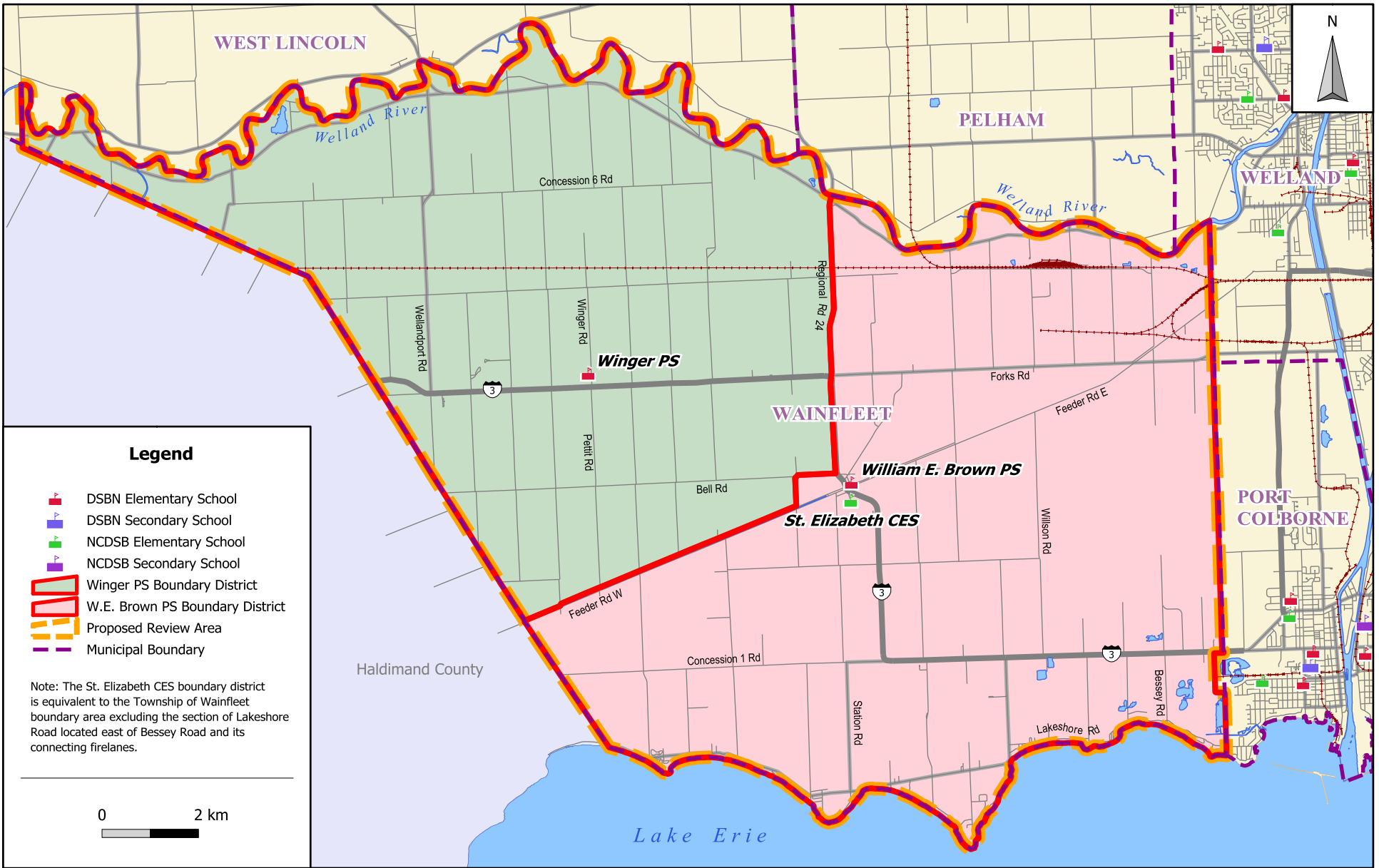
Warren Hoshizaki
Director of Education

November 7, 2017

For further information, please contact John Dickson, Superintendent of Education, Stacy Veld, Superintendent of Business Services, or Warren Hoshizaki, Director of Education.



Public and Catholic Elementary Schools in the Township of Wainfleet



Legend

- DSBN Elementary School
- DSBN Secondary School
- NCDSB Elementary School
- NCDSB Secondary School
- Winger PS Boundary District
- W.E. Brown PS Boundary District
- Proposed Review Area
- Municipal Boundary

Note: The St. Elizabeth CES boundary district is equivalent to the Township of Wainfleet boundary area excluding the section of Lakeshore Road located east of Bessey Road and its connecting firelanes.



OTG Capacity: 233.0

Municipality: Wainfleet

Status: Active

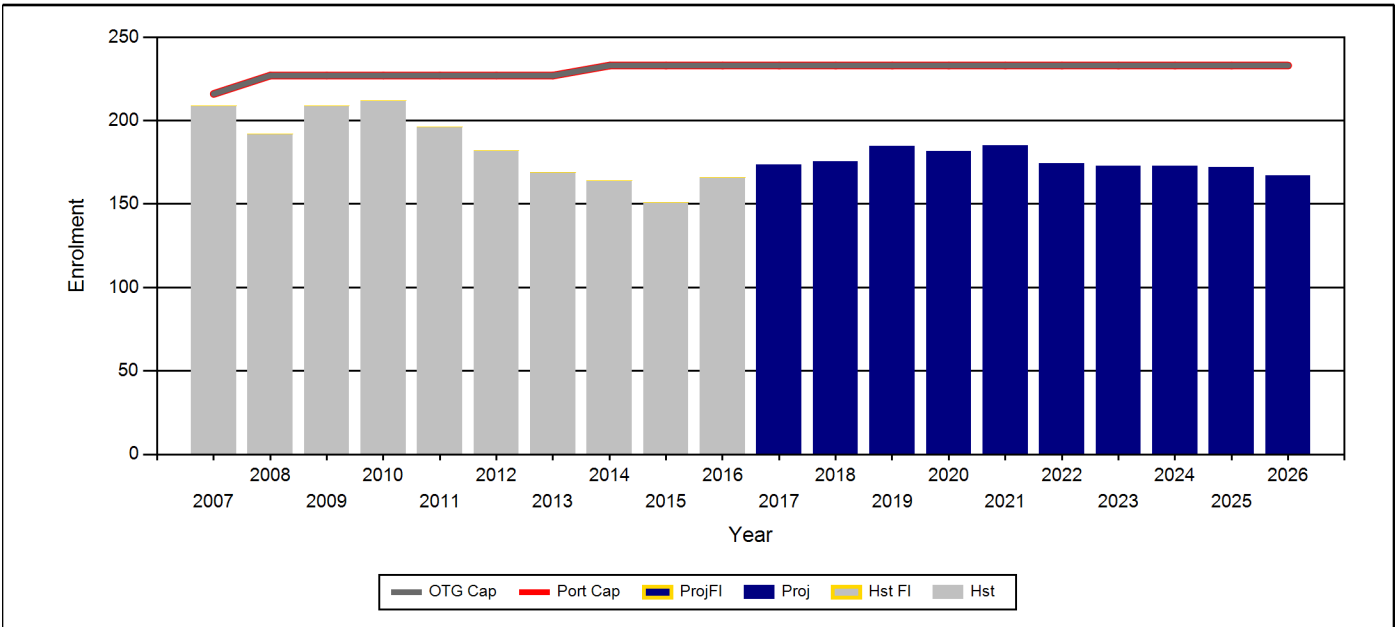
Portable Capacity:

Planning Area: Wainfleet

School Type: Elementary

Portables:

Admin Area: Area 2



Total Historic Enrolment

Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total	Util %
2007	20.0	21.0	26.0	25.0	21.0	13.0	21.0	17.0	18.0	27.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	209.0	96.8%
2008	10.0	18.0	23.0	25.0	24.0	22.0	12.0	22.0	19.0	17.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	192.0	84.6%
2009	16.0	12.0	20.0	24.0	27.0	25.0	25.0	17.0	23.0	20.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	209.0	92.1%
2010	17.0	16.0	13.0	22.0	27.0	28.0	21.0	26.0	17.0	25.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	212.0	93.4%
2011	9.0	18.0	14.0	13.0	19.0	28.0	28.0	21.0	25.0	21.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	196.0	86.3%
2012	24.0	10.0	17.0	15.0	13.0	9.0	25.0	26.0	19.0	24.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	182.0	80.2%
2013	11.0	26.0	13.0	17.0	14.0	10.0	10.0	21.0	26.0	21.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	169.0	74.5%
2014	12.0	13.0	26.0	13.0	19.0	12.0	13.0	10.0	20.0	26.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	164.0	70.4%
2015	15.0	13.0	15.0	24.0	12.0	15.0	10.0	14.0	9.0	24.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	151.0	64.8%
2016	18.0	16.0	16.0	18.0	27.0	14.0	20.0	11.0	15.0	11.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	166.0	71.2%

Total Projected Enrolment

Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total	Util %
2017	15.0	19.3	17.4	16.0	18.4	26.7	14.4	19.8	10.8	15.8					173.5	74.5%
2018	14.0	16.1	21.0	17.4	16.3	18.2	27.5	14.3	19.4	11.3					175.5	75.3%
2019	17.0	15.0	17.5	21.0	17.8	16.2	18.7	27.3	14.0	20.4					184.7	79.3%
2020	14.0	18.2	16.3	17.5	21.4	17.6	16.6	18.5	26.7	14.7					181.5	77.9%
2021	14.0	15.0	19.8	16.3	17.8	21.2	18.1	16.5	18.2	28.0					184.9	79.4%
2022	14.0	15.0	16.3	19.8	16.6	17.6	21.8	17.9	16.1	19.1					174.4	74.8%
2023	14.0	15.0	16.3	16.3	20.2	16.5	18.2	21.6	17.6	17.0					172.6	74.1%
2024	14.0	15.0	16.3	16.3	16.6	20.0	17.0	18.0	21.2	18.5					172.8	74.2%
2025	14.0	15.0	16.3	16.3	16.6	16.5	20.6	16.8	17.6	22.2					172.0	73.8%
2026	14.0	15.0	16.3	16.3	16.6	16.5	17.0	20.4	16.5	18.5					167.1	71.7%

Winger PS

Scenario: 234

OTG Capacity: 265.0

Municipality: Wainfleet

Status: Active

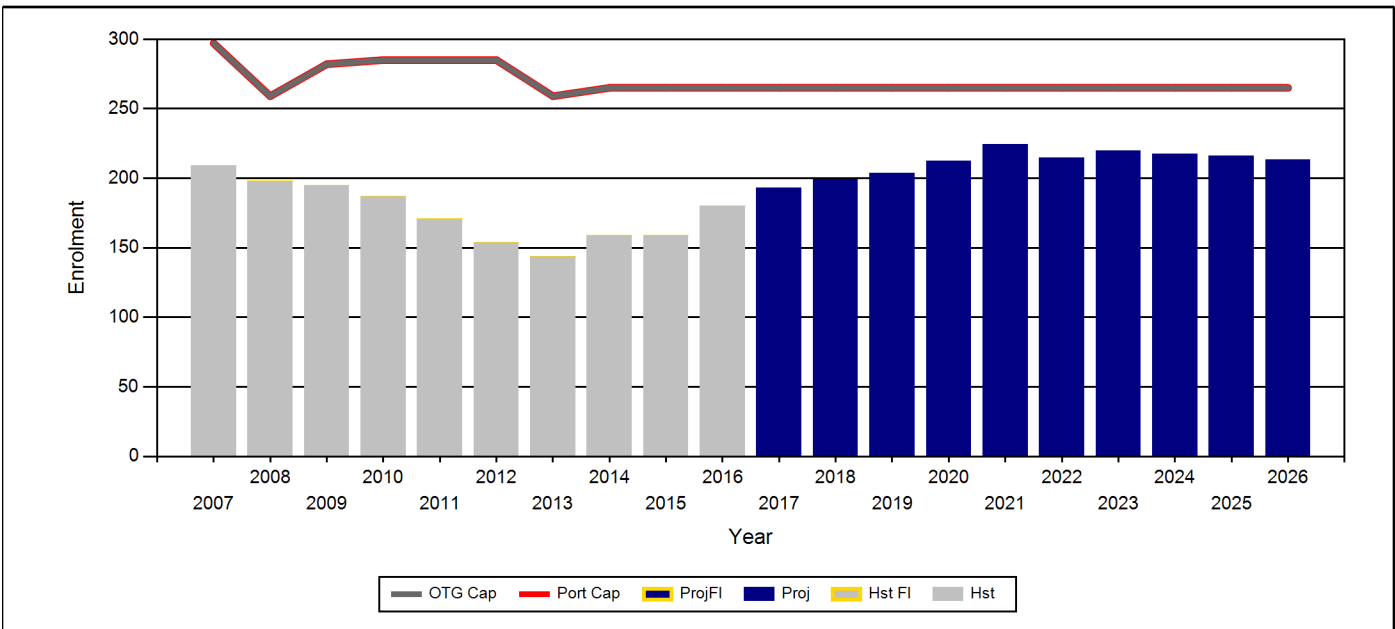
Portable Capacity:

Planning Area: Wainfleet

School Type: Elementary

Portables:

Admin Area: Area 2



Total Historic Enrolment

Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total	Util %
2007	8.0	16.0	20.0	21.0	25.0	23.0	18.0	22.0	28.0	28.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	209.0	70.4%
2008	13.0	9.0	15.0	21.0	18.0	25.0	25.0	21.0	24.0	27.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	198.0	76.5%
2009	23.0	12.0	11.0	14.0	21.0	18.0	24.0	25.0	22.0	25.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	195.0	69.2%
2010	15.0	27.0	11.0	11.0	17.0	20.0	17.0	23.0	25.0	21.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	187.0	65.6%
2011	13.0	14.0	26.0	11.0	13.0	15.0	17.0	16.0	22.0	24.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	171.0	60.0%
2012	22.0	6.0	13.0	20.0	13.0	9.0	15.0	19.0	15.0	22.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	154.0	54.0%
2013	13.0	22.0	7.0	12.0	20.0	13.0	9.0	15.0	18.0	15.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	144.0	55.6%
2014	23.0	12.0	24.0	8.0	12.0	18.0	14.0	11.0	17.0	20.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	159.0	60.0%
2015	21.0	24.0	16.0	23.0	7.0	11.0	17.0	15.0	11.0	14.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	159.0	60.0%
2016	23.0	21.0	23.0	15.0	28.0	9.0	12.0	22.0	16.0	11.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	180.0	67.9%

Total Projected Enrolment

Year	JK	SK	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total	Util %
2017	23.0	22.8	21.6	21.9	15.0	29.1	9.2	12.7	22.0	15.8					193.1	72.9%
2018	21.0	22.8	23.4	20.5	21.9	15.6	29.7	9.7	12.7	21.8					199.1	75.1%
2019	24.0	20.8	23.4	22.3	20.5	22.7	15.9	31.5	9.7	12.6					203.5	76.8%
2020	20.0	23.8	21.4	22.3	22.3	21.3	23.2	16.9	31.5	9.6					212.2	80.1%
2021	20.0	19.8	24.4	20.3	22.3	23.1	21.8	24.6	16.9	31.2					224.4	84.7%
2022	20.0	19.8	20.4	23.2	20.3	23.1	23.6	23.1	24.6	16.7					214.8	81.1%
2023	20.0	19.8	20.4	19.4	23.2	21.1	23.6	25.0	23.1	24.3					219.9	83.0%
2024	20.0	19.8	20.4	19.4	19.4	24.2	21.6	25.0	25.0	22.9					217.5	82.1%
2025	20.0	19.8	20.4	19.4	19.4	20.1	24.6	22.9	25.0	24.8					216.3	81.6%
2026	20.0	19.8	20.4	19.4	19.4	20.1	20.5	26.1	22.9	24.8					213.3	80.5%

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
SPOTLIGHT ON NIAGARA CATHOLIC – DECEMBER 5, 2017**



December 5, 2017

Trustees Select 2018 Board Chair and Vice-Chair

The Niagara Catholic District School Board held its Annual Organizational Meeting at the Catholic Education Centre on December 5, 2017, before the December Meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

During the meeting, Father Paul MacNeil was acclaimed Chair of the Board for 2018, and Pat Vernal was selected as Vice-Chair.

During his remarks at the closing of the Annual Organizational Meeting, Chair MacNeil shared Aristotle's thoughts on the structure of change. He remarked that the most important aspect of change is not what is past or what we create, but what remains the same, and spoke of the constants within Niagara Catholic.

"These things that remain the same throughout a change are the things that define us as human beings, and as an organization," said Chair MacNeil. "Allow me to point out some things that haven't changed: Our core mission to be the best board we can be by focusing on student achievement for all. Our dedication to the value of Catholic education here in Niagara. Our commitment to faith in Jesus Christ and His love and His mercy; and our own ability as a Board of Trustees, the eight of us, to work together to learn from the past, to hope for the future, and to celebrate with renewed faith and energy, this moment of promise."

Vice-Chair Vernal's comments acknowledged the challenges of early 2017, while looking to the future.

"With God's help and guidance and all of your support we can build a better future and system for our students," she said. "I feel confident that the next year will prove to be successful and rewarding for us all. "

Director of Education John Crocco congratulated both Chair MacNeil and Vice-Chair Vernal. *“I am confident that Chair MacNeil and Vice-Chair Vernal will continue to be strong and vocal advocates for Niagara Catholic, and for Catholic education in Ontario, throughout the coming year, and I offer each congratulations,”* said Director Crocco. *“I extend my gratitude to Trustee Kathy Burtnik, who has worked tirelessly as a member of Executive Council for many years, focused on fulfilling the Board’s Mission, Vision and Values for the students we serve in Catholic education. On behalf of the Board and Senior Staff, I would also like to thank the Lakeshore Catholic High School Choir, which includes our Student Trustee Hannah Tummillo, for their beautiful Advent songs at the opening of our Annual Organizational Meeting.”*

Trustees Recommend Policy

During the December 5 Committee of the Whole Meeting, Trustees recommended sending the policy that governs their spending to the Board for final approval.

The ***Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement Policy (100.13)*** will be considered by the Board at the December 19 Board Meeting.

Culture of Life and Lead Out Loud Conferences

Two signature student events took place at Niagara Catholic in November.

On November 22, the 5th Annual Culture of Life Conference took place at Heartland Forest in Niagara Falls. The notion of a Culture of Life is often used in reference to life issues such as abortion, euthanasia and stem cell research, but this philosophy can also extend to the broader elements of Catholic Social Teachings to build a Culture of Life that weaves through our entire day.

Approximately 100 students from our eight Catholic secondary schools participated in the event, which was created in partnership with L’Arche Hamilton. Students were challenged to reflect on what it means to build up and support a culture of life which protects the dignity of all, especially the most vulnerable.



On November 24, approximately 115 students participated in the Board's Annual Student Voice Conference, Lead out Loud! at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School. This conference included a keynote address by Spoken Word Artist Britta B., who uses her voice and her poetry to convey a message of believing in yourself, overcoming obstacles and using your

individual talents to lead and serve.

Students then participated in a series of four breakout sessions which focused on service – service to self, serving a team, serving a community and serving the environment.

The day concluded with a prayer service led by Elementary Senate Co-chairs, and Student Trustee Nico Tripodi sang a reflection song, *Go Make a Difference*. The day came to a very moving conclusion as Secondary Students Senators sang *Where is the Love?*, They were joined by Elementary Student Senators as they sang and danced around the room.

French Immersion Update

French Immersion is an optional program designed specifically for students whose first language is not French. The enter point is currently either Kindergarten Year 1, or Grade 1, depending on the school site offering the program.

Students in French Immersion acquire a working knowledge of both of Canada's official languages, learn to appreciate French culture, strengthen all other areas of learning and develop skills for educational and career advancement.

There are currently 490 students enrolled in French Immersion from Kindergarten to Grade 5 at five schools: St. John Catholic Elementary School in Grimsby, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Elementary School in St. Catharines, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls, Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls, and Holy Name Catholic Elementary School in Welland.

Learn more in the report, found in section C3 of the [December 5 Committee of the Whole Agenda](#).

Good News!

We've had an incredible first three months of the school year! If you haven't done it yet, be sure to check our [Good News](#) section of this website to see great stories on the programs and events taking place in our schools. Then check out the In the News section for media coverage of many of these stories, which is accessed through the main page.

Follow us!

To ensure you stay connected with Niagara Catholic news and events, please be sure to like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), and check our website often for updates and breaking news. It's the best way to stay in the know, especially now that winter is here!

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
CALENDAR OF EVENTS – JANUARY 2018**



JANUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Christmas Break December 25, 2017—January 8, 2018	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 SEAC Meeting	12 NCPIC Meeting	13
14	15	16 SAL Meeting CW Meeting	17 Niagara Catholic Annual Baby Celebration	18	19 Elementary PA Day	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Secondary Exams Through February 1	27
28	29	30 Policy Committee Board Meeting	31			

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2017**

PUBLIC SESSION

**TOPIC: TRUSTEE INFORMATION
ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS
DECEMBER 1, 2017
DECEMBER 8, 2017
DECEMBER 15, 2017**

ENTERPRISE

ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

 enterprisecanada.com/ontario-legislative-highlights-december-1/

December 1, 2017

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

BLUE SKIES – Ontario’s Tories are feeling pretty good right now, basking in the positive energy from last weekend’s policy conference. Up until then their optimism stemmed mostly from the continuing unpopularity of **Kathleen Wynne**’s Liberals; now the PCs have a platform of their own they believe will resonate with voters regardless of what the Liberals do. There’s still plenty of time for things to go wrong, of course, and the spectre of having blown several elections they thought were winnable still looms over the party. But by almost all accounts delegates left the convention feeling triumphant. Some observations:

- “Buzz” was a word on many lips over the weekend and since, as delegates reported a sense of genuine enthusiasm many Ontario Tories haven’t felt in this millennium. Adding to the upbeat vibe was a crowd younger and more diverse than a stereotypical conservative gathering – again fuelling hope that the party’s reach is extending beyond its traditional core.
- Party Leader **Patrick Brown** delivered a relaxed, confident performance during his keynote speech – a bit stiff at first, but more assured as he got comfortable – assuaging doubts about his ability to connect with an audience. A friendly audience, that is – the big question now is whether he can be similarly engaging with the neutral and sometimes hostile audiences he will face on the campaign trail. (In the near future, Brown will be in front of mostly supportive faces. Right after the convention he hit the road for a province-wide tour, reportedly on the same customized bus his ex-boss, former Prime Minister **Stephen Harper**, used in the 2011 federal election but now emblazoned with Brown’s picture and platform logo.)

- Central to Brown’s speech was the unveiling of the PC platform which, if nothing else, certainly *looks* different from any platform document that’s come before. Dubbed *People’s Guarantee*, it’s designed to resemble a consumer lifestyle magazine – with catchy, multiple-font headlines and heavy visual content for about 30 pages. The other 40-odd pages are called “the fine print” and go into more detail.



- All in, the platform outlines some 147 promises, including pledges to cut middle-class income taxes, trim another 12% off hydro bills, upload Toronto’s subways to the province, invest \$1.9 million in mental health care and impose a moratorium on school closures. Wrapping it up with a flourish is the “guarantee” itself, that if Brown doesn’t keep his key promises in his first term he will not seek a second – a declaration he signed on the stage as part of his convention speech, in what observers said was a cheesy but effective bit of drama.

- What the platform *isn’t* is a conservative manifesto. Brown and his strategists have obviously calculated that the voter mood is a desire for fresh blood, not radical change, and none of the *People’s Guarantee* promises would sound odd coming from the Liberals – or the NDP for that matter. Chatter over the weekend was peppered with references to former Premier **Bill Davis**, whose moderate approach has become the stuff of Tory legend. Right-leaning pundits duly expressed their dismay, but Brown has served notice that he’s prepared to forego the support of the hard right to cultivate the vastly larger political middle – a space that appears open for the taking with Wynne’s Liberals seemingly bent on outflanking the NDP on the left.

- Time will tell whether Brown’s vision will truly resonate with the electorate, but for now he has indisputably succeeded in driving Ontario’s political agenda. His platform launch generated an avalanche of media coverage and commentary. Postmedia columnist **Chris Selley** captured the general sentiment, writing, “It might not be especially conservative vision, but it is a vision – a different vision, a mostly defensible vision, a positive and upbeat vision despite its swipes at the Liberals, and a vision the Liberals will have some trouble trying to attack without looking foolish.”

RED FLAGS – Foolish or not, the Liberals quickly set about trying to rain on Brown’s parade. Transportation Minister **Steven Del Duca** was first up, attending the PC policy conference in person and heaping scorn on Brown’s effort to take the moral high ground. Pointing to a police investigation around a Hamilton-area PC nomination, Del Duca sniped that it’s “sadly ironic and, frankly, disrespectful of the people of Ontario [for Brown] to claim to be some kind of paragon of virtue ... Patrick Brown, by his behaviour, is making it abundantly clear where he truly stands on accountability and it’s not on the right side of the ledger.” Del Duca also predictably drew comparisons to Conservative icons, Harper and former Premier **Mike Harris**, offering, “Ontario has seen this movie before ... and everyone knows the sequel is always worse than the original.” (Given Brown’s push to the political centre, that association fell pretty flat.) By Monday, the LIBs had shifted to criticism of Brown’s plan for funding his promised goodies – primarily carbon taxes and the savings to be found in a value-for-money audit aimed at reducing 2% of costs across government. Finance Minister **Charles Sousa** opined, “Page 76 of their plan made it very clear: over \$12 billion is what’s being cut across the board to the people of Ontario. So the question becomes, what are you going to cut?” Later in the week Wynne herself chimed in: “Efficiencies’ – that’s the language that they use, and in my experience, ‘efficiencies’ has always been code for ‘cuts’ for Conservatives.” NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath** took a similar tack, although she cited a “\$6 billion hole” in the costing, and drew a comparison to former PC Leader **Tim Hudak**. “[Brown] is not telling people what he’s going to cut. That’s very concerning. In that plan, there’s an allusion to what Tim Hudak said he was going to do in terms of cutting ... [100,000] staff from the public service,” Horwath said. She also lumped the Tories in with the Liberals on the electricity file – aiming to differentiate her party by sniping that the Tories will “continue the disastrous Liberal hydro plan if they win next year.”

STRANGER THINGS – Despite riding a wave of good news following the release of the PC platform, Brown just

can't shake problems and controversies with the party's nominations process. While a court trial is pending in the Hamilton area, what had seemed like a fairly simple nomination process in Niagara Falls has taken a U-turn. With a nomination meeting set for Dec. 12, local party members had been seemingly set to decide between former Olympic boxer **Mike Strange** – currently a Niagara Falls City Councillor — and the former head of the local home builders' association **Chuck McShane**. But mere hours before the set deadline for nominations was to expire, the PC Party kicked Strange out of the race following an investigation into his social media activity. That investigation was triggered when an anonymous source dropped off unmarked envelopes to Strange and the party containing a stack of reputation-damaging photos (of Strange partying at the bar he used to own, posing with controversial late Toronto Mayor **Rob Ford** and fraternizing with local Liberals and New Democrats) and the script of a CBC story regarding a 2001 DUI charge for which Strange was ultimately acquitted. Dubbed a "smear campaign" by Strange, the effort achieved its apparent objective by getting him out of the running. Party brass had encouraged Strange to step down on his own, but when said he wasn't quitting, the decision was taken out of his hands. "I guess I didn't realize party politics is this dirty," Strange told the *St. Catharines Standard*, adding that he is tearing up his party membership.

COMM TOGETHER – Much has been made of the loss of talent in the Liberal staffing ranks – partly through regular turnover, to Ottawa after the Liberals took power federally and some bailing out ahead of what looks to be a daunting re-election slog. But Wynne has succeeded in luring some strong communications professionals to Queen's Park. Recent hires include **Ashley Csanady**, a former *National Post* reporter, web producer and Sirius XM radio host, who joins Wynne's office as a senior writer. Also (back) on board is **Lloyd Rang**, a former senior communications staffer for then-Premier **Dalton McGuinty** (who is reportedly responsible for all the dad jokes in McGuinty's speeches). Rang is coming back as Director of Communications on the Economic Development and Growth file for minister **Brad Duguid**.

IN THE HOUSE

- No new government legislation was introduced this week.
- Of the eight government bills still on the Order Paper, half are now at Third Reading. They, and likely two to three others, are expected to pass before the House rises for its winter break in two weeks.

FOR THE RECORD

"It's a huge concern for Ontarians. It's a big loss for communities. Those community papers, those dailies in lots of cases, were the glue that held communities together."

- NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath**, lamenting the shut-down of dozens of local newspapers and exhorting the provincial and federal governments to find a way to save the industry.

"You don't need an image consultant when you have very active sisters and a mother in your life."

- PC Leader **Patrick Brown** on his new hairstyle, abandoning the slicked-back style for a more conventional look.

"They don't make politicians like Ann Sloat anymore. Tough, but kind hearted. Crafty, but fair. Unstudied, but a demon for homework."

- *Hamilton Spectator* columnist **Andrew Dreschel**, eulogizing former Ancaster Mayor **Ann Sloat**, who passed away last week at age 89. While Sloat was best known as a municipal politician, she had the distinction of having won a provincial seat but never taking it in the Legislature. She won a by-election in December 1984 and was sworn in as MPP for Wentworth North, but the Legislature didn't convene before she was defeated in the general election six months later.

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ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

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December 8, 2017

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

VALUE SIGNALLING – Auditor General **Bonnie Lysyk** might have as well have been wearing a Santa suit (from an Opposition and media perspective; more like a Grinch outfit for the Liberals) with the bag of critical goodies she doled out this week. A-G reports are always nightmares for those in power, but given the bad blood between Lysyk and **Kathleen Wynne**'s Liberals – they have openly clashed multiple times over Lysyk's accounting methods and calculations – the LIBS were especially not looking forward to this one. With good reason, it turns out, as Lysyk's 1,100-page value-for-money report chronicled a litany of mismanagement that will provide plenty of Opposition fodder heading into next year's election campaign. Never mind that almost all of the bungling was the work of non-partisan bureaucrats – the maladministration happened on the Liberals' watch and the Tories and NDP will point blame solely and squarely at the political masters. (PC MPP **Lisa MacLeod** summed up the sentiment concisely, calling Lysyk's findings "a disgusting display of Liberal entitlement and waste.") Among the nits critics will rigorously pick: some \$300 million in higher hydro bills thanks to power plant staff expensing things like car washes and racoon traps; \$19 million annually for maintenance of vacant government-owned buildings; the province paying disproportionately high prices for prescription drugs and reimbursing medication costs for dead people; and \$58 million spent on government advertising – a particular sore spot for Lysyk, whose ad censorship authority was watered down by Wynne's Liberals. And, oh yes, reiteration of Lysyk's contention that the budget isn't really balanced, citing a \$4.5-billion shortfall based on *her* calculations.

INTENTS AND PURPOSES – Time, and pollsters, will tell how the A-G's report impacts on public opinion – or if it has any impact at all. Lately nothing seems to budge the numbers, which have held steady for many months, including the most recent survey results posted by Forum Research. Forum found the PCs under leader **Patrick Brown** down five points from a

month ago, but still well ahead with 40% of respondents intending to vote for the Tories. **Andrea Horwath's** NDP picked up four of those points for a second-place 26%, while Wynne's Liberals stayed at 24% but dropped to third. None of the leaders fared very well in terms of approval, leading to a sub-head in the Forum report that pretty well summed up the status quo: "Wynne unpopular, Brown unknown, Horwath liked, but also unknown."

THEY HAVE WORK TO DO – Much to the Liberals' chagrin, solid economic numbers don't seem to be inspiring voters either. Monthly employment statistics showed Ontario gaining 43,000 jobs in November, continuing a five-month streak of increases and dropping the provincial unemployment rate to 5.5% – its lowest level since 2000. Recognizing that good economic performance doesn't necessarily translate to support for the government, Wynne played the feel-your-pain card, offering, "Ontario's economy is doing well, but we know that those numbers don't tell the whole story." This assessment came as she announced another open-mic town hall, in Brampton next Wednesday. Like her previous bear-pit session in Toronto, this will be a non-partisan event (read: paid for by taxpayers and devoid of overt Liberal cheerleading) as Wynne continues her populist thrust.

RUMOURS & RUMBLINGS

LAST HURRAH?

As the current legislative session wends toward the winter break scheduled for next Thursday, rumours are starting to percolate that this could be the final time this assembly gathers in earnest. According to the parliamentary schedule, MPPs are due to reconvene on February 20, 2018. But whispers from Queen's Park suggest Premier Wynne may opt to prorogue. Technically, such a move could keep the House dark right through the spring, but a more likely scenario could see the Liberals starting a new session with a Throne-Speech-cum-election platform, followed by a provincial Budget-cum-election platform, leading into the writ drop in early May. While it's all hearsay at this point, the notion does have some credence given that there are only six outstanding government bills on the Order Paper, and at least three of them will be on the books when MPPs rise next week.

IN THE HOUSE

- No new government legislation was introduced this week.
- Bill 142, the *Construction Lien Amendment Act* improving construction payment rules, unanimously passed Third Reading.

FOR THE RECORD

"The chances of meeting it aren't low, they're zero. In the auto sector all roads lead to electric, it just happens to be that the road to serious acceptance of them is probably at least 2030 and more likely 2040, 2050."

- Auto industry expert **Dennis DesRosiers**, observing that the provincial government is not going to meet its target to have five per cent of cars on the road be electric by 2020.
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“There’s a huge, complex system out there operating in the world that has been delivering excellent product to people at reasonable prices for 40 years now. It’s really the degree to which the regulated system can, over a period of years, encroach on as much of that pre-existing market as possible – that is the key question.”

- **Donald MacPherson**, Executive Director of the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, forecasting that the black market in marijuana will persist after its sale is legalized next summer.
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“This has given me even more resolve to call a spade a spade ... I haven’t ‘harassed’ anybody. It belittles the term harassment. It becomes meaningless when an unwelcome comment is equated with harassment.”

- PC MPP **Randy Hillier**, scoffing at an independent investigator’s finding that his criticism of Tay Valley Township staff amounted to workplace harassment. Hillier, who doesn’t face any penalties, stands by his view that staff deserved to be disparaged for their handling of housing and planning matters.

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ONTARIO LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

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December 15, 2017

WEEKLY ROUNDUP

WINTER WONDER – Ontario’s Legislature has gone into its winter hibernation, rising for the two-month recess on schedule yesterday. Before saying their good-byes, the Liberal majority passed five government bills into law (see In The House, below), leaving only two on the Order Paper – including one introduced just before the break. That dearth of outstanding legislation is fuelling speculation Premier **Kathleen Wynne** could prorogue the House. But regardless of whether there’s a Throne Speech in the spring or a continuation of the current session (which is slated to resume on February 20, right after Family Day), no one is under the delusion it will have much to do with lawmaking. With a provincial election on tap for June 7, and the writ period starting a month before that, any assembly in the spring will be purely about prepping for the campaign.

RESEARCH HIGH AND LOW – As the political parties gear up for the election, so too will polling firms, with pre-election periods traditionally creating big demand for prognostications. What they will be looking for is shifts in voter opinion, which lately have been virtually non-existent. There is some discrepancy between the findings of different pollsters (attributed largely to variances in their respective methodology) but near uniformity from survey to survey within each firm. Forum Research, for instance, keeps pegging the Tories with a substantial lead in popular support, while Campaign Research habitually finds a closer race. In the latter’s latest results, Wynne’s Liberals and **Patrick Brown**’s PCs are in a dead heat, with the LIBs at 35% support (up three points from a month ago) and the Tories at 34% (down by one). According to Campaign Research, **Andrea Horwath**’s New Democrats are also down a point to 23%, while the Green Party stays on the margins with single-digit support (7%, down from 9%). This poll was conducted just after Brown launched his *People’s Guarantee* platform which, like everything else, evidently didn’t move the needle.

SORRY NOT SORRY – Wynne and Brown are now fully embroiled in a game of legal/political chicken, escalating the feud over Brown’s comments around Wynne testifying at the Sudbury bribery trial earlier this year. This week her lawyers filed a statement of claim seeking \$100,000 in damages, peppered with imputations of “deliberate, malicious conduct,” “an ongoing campaign engineered by the defendant and others to harm the plaintiff’s reputation,” “egregious misconduct in publishing statements that he knew to be false” and “high-handed and oppressive conduct in stating to media and directly to the world at large that the plaintiff’s complaints were baseless and would be ignored.” All of this stems from Brown characterizing Wynne as herself being on trial, and his refusal to retract it – a defiance that continues in the face of the lawsuit. Wynne made it clear this is more political than legal – “This whole situation could be resolved with a simple apology if Patrick Brown just apologized for what everyone has acknowledged was an untrue statement,” she dangled – but Brown batted that away, calling the lawsuit “diversion tactics” and offering a terse, “The only person who should be apologizing is Kathleen Wynne for these stunts, these theatrics.” As they dig in, both sides are painting themselves into corners, which could be perilous in the campaign ahead. Wynne risks being seen as thin-skinned and heavy-handed (especially in light of a similar lawsuit against Brown’s predecessor **Tim Hudak** that was quietly settled after Wynne trounced him in the 2014 election), while Brown could come across as stubborn and lacking political sense for inflaming a situation that could have been easily resolved.

SHORT SIGHTED – Another grudge match, between the Liberals and Auditor General **Bonnie Lysyk**, also took a new turn this week, when the Financial Accountability Officer appeared to side with Lysyk. **J. David Wake** projected a \$4-billion deficit in 2017-18, contrary to Liberal claims of a balanced budget, citing the difference between Lysyk’s accounting methods and the government’s as creating “a significant and growing gap between the fiscal outcomes projected by the FAO and the province.” Ironically, the FAO was created by the Liberals in the wake of the alleged “hidden deficit” left by the Tories when the LIBs took power in 2003, ostensibly to provide an objective assessment of the province’s finances – which the LIBs now seem content to ignore. With Lysyk no longer willing to count public sector pension holdings as government assets (which was acceptable until last year), next spring’s Budget figures are somewhat cloudy. Whether voters much care about deficits is questionable – it rarely seems to make much difference in elections – and Wynne is sticking to her guns. “[The FAO] confirmed that under the accounting presentation that we’ve been using for the last 16 years, the budget is balanced, and in fact, there’s a small surplus for 2017-18,” Wynne told the Legislature. “So the report actually shows that our plan is working.”

IN THE HOUSE

- Tourism, Culture and Sport Minister **Eleanor McMahon** introduced Bill 193, **Rowan’s Law (Concussion Safety)**, to improve concussion safety for amateur and school

athletes. Named in honour of **Rowan Stringer**, the 17-year-old rugby player whose death resulted from multiple concussions, the legislation would also establish the last Wednesday in September as “Rowan’s Law Day.”

- As the fall session wrapped up, five government bills passed Third Reading and received Royal Assent: Bill 139, replacing the Ontario Municipal Board; Bill 160, increasing transparency in health care business dealings; Bill 166, revamping rules around major purchases and event ticket scalping; Bill 174, regulating recreational marijuana; and Bill 177, implementing Budget measures.
- A handful of private member’s bills also passed before the House rose. Nothing earth-shaking – mostly symbolic proclamations like Lebanese Heritage Month and Ontario Craft Beer Week.

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

FOR THE RECORD

“Abuses by the insiders at these electricity companies, including at the publicly owned Ontario Power Generation, appear to be flagrant, systemic and repeated ... [They are] abuses so egregious that a second look by law enforcement is only prudent.”

- PC Energy Critic **Todd Smith**, in a letter to the OPP calling for a police investigation into the ineligible expenses paid by power companies, which were flagged by the Auditor General.

“If you are going to go out of business on the backs of your employees because you can’t afford to pay them this, then perhaps you should reassess your business plan, and reassess whether you should be an employer at all.”

- Barrie Liberal MPP **Ann Hoggarth**, defending the Liberals’ increase to the minimum wage with a quote that has the Tories demanding an apology, calling it insensitive to struggling businesses.

“People are starting to be very afraid to drive on the Trans-Canada. To the towns and the people, the road is starting to be seen as a death trap, and I don’t say that lightly ... We don’t have subways. We don’t have passenger trains. We don’t have LRTs. We have one road, and it needs to be safe.”

- NDP MPP **John Vanthof**, calling for better highway maintenance after the latest fatal truck accident on Highway 11 near Temagami. He cited an Ontario Road Safety Report that concluded the occupants of a vehicle registered in Timiskaming are four times more likely to die on a provincial highway than anywhere else in Ontario.