



## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, December 19, 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 Chair MacNeil.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Chair MacNeil.

2. Roll Call

Chair MacNeil 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	✓			
<b>Student Trustees</b>				
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 Records Management/Privacy and Freedom of Information

**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 December 19, 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**

**5.1 November 21, 2017**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

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

**CARRIED**

**5.2 December 5, 2017**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik  
Seconded by Trustee Vernal

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of the Board of December 5, 2016, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**6. Consent Agenda Items**

**6.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 5, 2017 and Consideration of Recommendations**

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

**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 to the Ministry of Education's proposed revisions to the Pupil Accommodations Review Guidelines and Community Planning and Partnership Guidelines as presented.

**6.2 Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of November 1, 2017**

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

**6.3 Approved Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee – Building on Today Meeting of November 7, 2017**

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

**6.4 Director of Education Annual Report 2017**

Presented for information.

**6.5 In-Camera Items F1, F2, F4, F5**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

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

**CARRIED**

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

**B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Christmas Cards 2017**

Yolanda Baldasaro, Superintendent of Education, present the report on Christmas Cards 2017. She noted that all schools throughout Niagara Catholic were invited to submit artwork designed by their students in order to create the 2017 Niagara Catholic Christmas Cards.

The students whose artwork was selected for the Board's Christmas cards were introduced by Superintendent Baldasaro. Chair MacNeil, Vice-Chair Vernal, and Director Crocco presented the students with Excellence in the Arts pins as well as a plaqued picture of their artwork.

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. School Excellence Program – Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School**

Superintendent Farrell provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program and introduced Principal, Jim Whittard, and Vice-Principal Tony Della Ventura of Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School.

Principal Whittard, with the assistance of students and staff showcased Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School as part of the School Excellence Program. As a student of Saint Francis Catholic, Student Trustee Nico Tripodi performed with the choir.

Chair MacNeil thanked Principal Whittard, the staff and students for their presentation and performance. Trustees Charbonneau and Burtnik expressed their heartfelt appreciation with the students' speeches and performance.

**2. Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement – Fiscal Year 2016-2017**

Superintendent Vetrone presented the Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement – Fiscal Year 2016-2017 report for Trustee information.

**3. Trustee Honorarium for the Year December 1, 2017 to November 30, 2018**

Director Crocco presented the Trustee Honorarium for the Year from December 1, 2017 to November 30, 2018 report.

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

**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

**CARRIED**

**4. Financial Reports**

**4.1 Revised Estimates 2017-2018**

Director Crocco along with Superintendent Vetrone presented the Revised Estimate for the Year 2017-2018 report.

Superintendent Vetrone answered questions of Trustees.

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Report on the revised budget for the Year 2017-2018, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4.2 Financial Reports as at November 30, 2017**

Superintendent Vetrone presented the Financial Report as at November 30, 2017 for information.

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

### **1. Correspondence**

Director Crocco, highlighted information contained in:

- 1.1** City of St. Catharines – Changes to the Municipal Act for the Election of Municipal and School Board Officials
- 1.2** District School Board of Niagara – Joint Use School Project

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board will engage in initial staff level discussions in the new year on a proposed joint-use school in Wainfleet with the District School Board of Niagara; will notify the community of St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School of the proposal, and that an initial staff report will be brought to a future Board Meeting for the information and consideration of the Board.

**CARRIED**

### **2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended**

Nil Report

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

Scheduled to commence discussions on the System Priorities and Budget 2018-2019 in January.

The System Priorities Mid-year Achievement Report 2017-2018 will be presented at the January Board Meeting.

### **4. Trustee Information**

#### **4.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – December 5, 2017**

Director Crocco highlighted the December 5, 2017 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic.

#### **4.2 Calendar of Events – January 2018**

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

#### **4.3 Ontario Legislative Highlights - December 1, December 8, December 15, 2017**

Director Crocco presented the Ontario Legislative Highlights - December 1, December 8, and December 15, 2017.

### **5. Open Question Period**

A question was submitted regarding FTE teacher absences and the replacement costs associated with it. Chairperson MacNeil indicated that this is a topic that was subject of a grievance and could not comment or be discussed at this time.

A question was submitted regarding the loss of retirement gratuity and the impact it will have on teachers. Superintendent Vetrone responded with an explanation of the impact.

## **E. NOTICES OF MOTION**

## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Vernal  
Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

**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 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Vernal  
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of December 19, 2017.

**CARRIED**

### **SECTION A: STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**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 November 21, 2017, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**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 December 5, 2017, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F2)**

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

Moved by Trustee Sicoli  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**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 November 21, 2017, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4)**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**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 December 5, 2017, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F5)**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli  
Seconded by Trustee Burtnik

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

**CARRIED (Item F8)**

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

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

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Vernal  
Seconded by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the December 19, 2017 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **December 19, 2017**.

Approved on **January 30, 2018**.

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Fr. Paul MacNeil  
Chair of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer