



*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, NOVEMBER 25, 2014  
7:00 P.M.**



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

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayers – Trustee Sicoli -
2. Roll Call -
3. Approval of the Agenda -
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest -
5. Minutes of the Board Meetings
  - 5.1 October 28, 2014 A5.1
  - 5.2 November 11, 2014 A5.2

### B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

### C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. School Excellence Program Holy Name Catholic Elementary School C1
2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 11, 2014 C2
3. Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of October 1, 2014 C3
4. Approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) Meeting of September 11, 2014 C4
5. Student Voice Conference 2014 – Leading Out Loud! C6
6. 2nd Annual Niagara Catholic Culture of Life Conference 2014 C7

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

1. Correspondence
  - 1.1 OCSTA - Changes in Selection Process for Regional Directors D1.1
  - 1.2 Rhianon Burkholder, Vice-Chair – Correspondence Serving as a Trustee D1.2

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended -
3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action -
4. Trustee Information
  - 4.1 Calendar of Events – December 2014 D4.1
  - 4.2 Blessing of Renovation & Addition to St. James Catholic Elementary School – December 4, 2014 -
  - 4.3 OCSTA Catholic Trustees’ Professional Development Seminar – January 16 & 17, 2015 -
5. Open Question Period  
*(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.)*

#### **E. NOTICES OF MOTION**

#### **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

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

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

1. Inaugural Board Mass – December 2, 2014 – 6:00 p.m. – St. Julia Roman Catholic Parish -
2. Inaugural Board Meeting – December 2, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. – Denis Morris Catholic High School -
3. December 2014 Committee of the Whole Meeting – December 2, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. -  
 – December 2, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. – Denis Morris Catholic High School

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

#### **J. ADJOURNMENT**

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF  
OCTOBER 28, 2014**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of October 28, 2014, as presented.



## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2014**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, October 28, 2014, 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 7:03 p.m. by Chair Burtnik.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee MacNeil

2. Roll Call

Chair Burtnik noted that all Trustees and Student Trustees were in attendance.

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Rhianon Burkholder	✓			
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
<b>Student Trustees</b>				
Demizio, Chloe	✓			
Di Pasquale, Jessica	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Linda Marconi**, Recording Secretary/Executive Assistant, Director of Education

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

It was noted that a new cover sheet was distributed for item C.2.1 Bullying Prevention Intervention Policy.

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of October 28, 2014 as presented.  
amended:

**ADDITION TO THE PUBLIC AGENDA  
ITEM**

**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**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil  
Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting of September 23, 2014 as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. School Excellence Program – Notre Dame College School**

Director Crocco provided background information on the monthly School Excellence Program. Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education introduced Ralph DeFazio, Principal of Notre Dame College School.

Principal DeFazio, with the assistance of staff and students showcased Notre Dame College School as part of the School Excellence Program.

Trustee O'Leary and Chair Burtnik thanked Principal DeFazio and the staff and students for their presentation and performance.

**2. Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 14, 2014 and Consideration of Recommendations**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 14, 2014 as presented.

**CARRIED**

The following recommendations were presented for the Board's consideration from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 14, 2014

**2.1 Bullying Prevention Intervention Policy (302.6.8)**

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Burkholder

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revised Bullying Prevention Intervention Policy (302.6.8) as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2.2 Reimbursement of Travel Expenses Policy (201.4)**

Moved by Trustee Fera

Seconded by Trustee Burkholder

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the revised Reimbursement of Travel Expenses Policy (201.4) as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3. Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of September 3, 2014**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil

Seconded by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of September 3, 2014 as presented for information.

**CARRIED**

**4. Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) 2014-2015**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells presented the report on the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA) 2014-2015 for information.

**5. Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange**

Superintendent Lefebvre presented the report on Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange for information.

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

**1. Correspondence**

**1.1 Catherine McCullough, CMC Leadership – Strong Districts and Their Leadership**

Director Crocco, highlighted information contained in the letter to Chair Burtnik from Catherine McCullough. Niagara Catholic will be part of a provincial report on "Strong Districts and Their Leadership" which will be shared with OCSTA and the Board.

**2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended**

Nil

**3.**

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

Director Crocco updated the Board on the progress of the report addressing various property, program and services. An update report will be presented at either the November Committee of the Whole or Board Meeting.

#### **4. Trustee Information**

##### **4.1 Calendar of Events – November 2014**

Director Crocco highlighted the Calendar of Events - November 2014 for Trustees information.

##### **4.2 Spotlight Summary – September 2014**

Director Crocco reported on the Communications Department's launching of its first digital edition of *Spotlight on Niagara Catholic*. It will continue to be produced at the end of each month and highlight special events throughout Niagara Catholic.

##### **4.3 Facilities Services**

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services provided an update regarding the developer's approval to place a gas bar adjacent to St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Elementary School in Niagara Falls. Concerns expressed by the Board at a previous meeting have been addressed for the safety of students at the school.

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

None submitted

### **E. NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 8:05 p.m. and reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

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

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

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**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 September 23, 2014, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee MacNeil

**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 September 23, 2014, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F2)**

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

Moved by Trustee MacNeil  
Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

**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 September 23, 2014, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4)**

Moved by Trustee MacNeil  
Seconded by Trustee Sicoli

**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 October 14, 2014, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F5)**

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

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

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau  
Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the October 28, 2014 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **October 28, 2014**.

Approved on **October 28, 2014**.

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Kathy Burtnik  
Chair of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF  
NOVEMBER 11, 2014**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of November 11, 2014, as presented.



## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2014  
7:00 P.M.**

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

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on November 11, 2014 in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 pm by Chairperson Burtnik.

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Chairperson Burtnik.

2. Roll Call

Trustee	Present	Present Electronically	Absent	Excused
Rhianon Burkholder	✓			
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Linda Marconi**, Recording Secretary/Executive Assistant – Director of Education.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg  
Seconded by Trustee MacNeil

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Special Board Meeting of November 11, 2014, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Disclosure of Interest**

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

**B. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Niagara Catholic District School Board Consolidated Financial Statements – August 31, 2014**

Trustee MacNeil, Chair of the Audit Committee presented the report and recommendation from the Audit Committee. Director Crocco provided additional information regarding the financial statements and introduced Mark Palumbi, External Auditor, who presented highlights from the Niagara Catholic District School Board Consolidated Financial Statements – August 31, 2014.

Mr. Palumbi and Superintendent Vetrone answered questions from the Trustees.

Moved by Trustee MacNeil  
Seconded by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve Niagara Catholic District School Board Consolidated Financial Statements – August 31, 2014, as presented.

**CARRIED**

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

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli  
Seconded by Trustee Fera

**THAT** the November 11, 2014 Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **November 11, 2014.**

Approved on the **25<sup>th</sup>** day of **November, 2014.**

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Kathy Burtnik  
Chairperson of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM  
HOLY NAME CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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The School Excellence Program report is presented for information.

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

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

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

Date: November 25, 2014



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM HOLY NAME CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### Contact Information

290 Fitch St.  
Welland, Ontario  
L3C 4W5

Phone: 905.732.4992

Fax: 905.732.9345

Email: [holy.name@ncdsb.com](mailto:holy.name@ncdsb.com)

### Grades

ELKP-8

### Enrolment

370 as of September 2014

### Principal

Terry Antoniou

### Superintendent of Education

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells

### Catholic School Council

Chair

Allison Hilbing

### Parish

St. Kevin

Holy Name  
Catholic Elementary School  
is a member of the Notre Dame  
College Family of Schools.



Holy Name Catholic Elementary School was built in 1963 to meet the needs of the north-west area of Welland. For the past 51 years the school has expanded to fully meet the spiritual, academic, and social needs of our community. The current population of Holy Name Catholic Elementary School is 370 students and our school continues to grow to meet the needs of our community.

Holy Name Catholic Elementary School provides learning opportunities for students from Early Learning Kindergarten classes to Grade 8. In addition, French Immersion is offered in Grades 1 and 2. The religious education and family life programs culminate in a Journey Retreat for our Grade 8 students.

Holy Name Catholic Elementary School has many community partnerships which include the usage of the gymnasium five nights a week, an International Languages programs on Saturday mornings, and before and after school child care, in partnership with the YMCA. Holy Name Catholic Elementary School continues to grow in Wisdom to Worship and Witness to meet the needs of all students and families.

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

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

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

Date: November 25, 2014

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE  
WHOLE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 11, 2014**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Minutes of November 11, 2014, as presented.



**MINUTES OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2014  
7:00 P.M.**

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

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 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 Burkholder.

**A. ROUTINE MATTERS**

**1. Opening Prayer**

Opening Prayer was led by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**2. Roll Call**

<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Present Electronically</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Excused</b>
Rhianon Burkholder	✓			
Kathy Burtnik	✓			
Maurice Charbonneau	✓			
Frank Fera	✓			
Fr. Paul MacNeil	✓			
Ed Nieuwesteeg	✓			
Ted O'Leary	✓			
Dino Sicoli	✓			
<b>Student Trustees</b>				
Jessica Di Pasquale	✓			
Chloe Demizio	✓			

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, **Ted Farrell**, **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Frank Iannantuono**, **Mark Lefebvre**, Superintendents of Education; **Giancarlo Vetrone**, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services; **Scott Whitwell**, Controller of Facilities Services; **Jennifer Brailey**, Manager of Corporate Services & Communications; **Linda Marconi**, Recording Secretary/Executive Assistant – Director of Education.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee O’Leary

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 11, 2014 as presented.

**CARRIED**

4. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

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

5. **Approval of Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 14, 2014**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 14, 2014, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

**C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

1. **Policy Committee**

1.1 **Unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of October 28, 2014**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole receive the unapproved Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of October 28, 2014 as presented.

**CARRIED**

1.2 **Policy and Guideline Review 2014-2015 Schedule**

Director Crocco presented the Policy and Guideline Review 2014-2015 Schedule for the information of Trustees.

2. **Pilgrimage 2014**

Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education introduced Terri Paucio, Religion & Family Life Consultant, who presented information on Pilgrimage Sunday, held on October 26, 2014 in which approximately 4000 Niagara Catholic students, staff, Trustees, Senior Administration, Priests, Catholic School Council members, and alumni from Niagara Catholic’s eight (8) Secondary Schools participated. This year’s annual Pilgrimage raised over \$168,000.00 to



support the many projects that the Secondary schools partner with in developing countries throughout the world. Student representatives from all the secondary schools provided summaries of the events that took place at their schools for Pilgrimage 2014.

3. **The Pope Francis Centre**

Mark Lefebvre, Superintendent of Education introduced Marco Magazzeni, Coordinator of Student Success, who presented highlights on The Pope Francis Centre along with a video presentation. The mandate is to provide an opportunity for select elementary and secondary students with an alternative learning environment which includes individually designed programs, experiences and support within the new Pathway to Care Program.

4. **Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities - 2014**

Frank Iannantuono, Superintendent of Education/Human Resources, presented the report on the Staff Development Department Professional Development Opportunities for information.

5. **Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange Committee Approvals – 2014**

Superintendent Lefebvre presented the report on Extended Overnight Field Trip/Excursion/Exchange for information.

6. **Monthly Updates**

6.1 **Capital Projects Update**

Scott Whitwell, Controller of Facilities Services, presented the Capital Projects Update.

6.2 **Student Trustees' Update**

Chloe Demizio and Jessica Di Pasquale, Student Trustees, presented a brief verbal update on the current activities of the Student Senate.

6.3 **Senior Staff Good News Update**

Senior Staff highlights included:

**Superintendent Baldasaro**

- Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week will be held from November 16-22, 2014. Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School has been awarded the Premier's Award for Accepting Schools. The announcement will be made after the official announcement from the Premier of Ontario on November 17, 2014.

**Director Crocco**

- Niagara Catholic was invited to participate in an hour long documentary interview from the Korean Broadcasting System regarding our Safe and Accepting Schools program.

## **D. INFORMATION**

### **1. Trustee Information**

#### **1.1 Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – October 28, 2014**

Director Crocco highlighted the Spotlight on Niagara Catholic – October 28, 2014 issue for Trustees information.

#### **1.2 Calendar of Events – November 2014**

Director Crocco presented the November 2014 Calendar of Events for Trustees information.

#### **1.3 Trustee Orientation 2014-2018 – November 24, 2014**

Director Crocco reminded the Trustee of the Trustee Orientation night on November 24, 2014.

#### **1.4 Inaugural Mass & Board Meeting – December 2, 2014**

Information will be provided at the Orientation.

#### **1.5 Blessing of Renovation & Addition to St. James Catholic Elementary School – December 4, 2014**

Trustees are invited to attend the Blessing of the Renovation & Addition to St. James Catholic Elementary School. Trustees are asked to confirm their attendance with Linda Marconi.

## **E. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

**1.1** *Director Crocco informed the Board and an updated report will be provided in the In Camera Meeting by Scott Whitwell.*

## **F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

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

**CARRIED**

The Committee of the Whole moved into the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 8:55 p.m. and reconvened at 10:20 p.m.

At 8:20 pm the Committee of the Whole was recessed for thirty minutes.

Moved by Chair Burtnik

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 14, 2014.

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole approve the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting - In Camera Session (Section A: Student Trustees Included) held on October 14, 2014 as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

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

Moved by Trustee Charbonneau

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F3.1 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F3.1)**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F3.2 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F3.2)**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F3.3 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F3.3)**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F3.4 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F3.4)**

Moved by Trustee Sicoli

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F3.5 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F3.5)**

Moved by Trustee Burtnik

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F3.6 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F3.6)**

Moved by Trustee O'Leary

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Item F3.7 of the In Camera Agenda.

**CARRIED (Item F3.7)**

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 October 14, 2014 as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F4)**

## **G. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Nieuwesteeg

**THAT** the November 11, 2014 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

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Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **November 11, 2014.**

Approved on **December 2, 2014.**

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Rhianon Burkholder  
Vice-Chair of the Board

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John Crocco  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC) MEETING OF  
OCTOBER 1, 2014**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 1, 2014 as presented for information.



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2014

Minutes of the Meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee, held on Wednesday, October 1, 2014, 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	✓		
Rob Lavorato	Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara)	✓		
Connie Parry	Association for Bright Children		✓	
Kerry Thomas	Community Living-Welland/Pelham	✓		
Sarina Labonte	Community Living-Grimsby, Lincoln & West Lincoln			✓
Carol Baldinelli	VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children	✓		
Colleen Sword	Autism Ontario – Niagara Region Chapter	✓		
Jay Gemmell	John Howard Society of Niagara	✓		
Katie Muirhead	Ontario Brain Injury Association	✓		
Sarah Farrell	Learning Disabilities Association – Niagara	✓		
Bill Helmeczi	Pathstone Mental Health		✓	
<b>Trustees</b>				
Father Paul MacNeil		✓		
Maurice Charbonneau			✓	
<b>Student Senate Representative</b>				
Thomas Dedinsky		✓		

The following staff were in attendance:

**John Crocco**, Director of Education; **Yolanda Baldasaro**, Superintendent of Education; **Jim Whittard**, Principal, Secondary; **Lisa Selman**, Principal, Elementary; **Amy Dowd**, Coordinator Special Education; **Tina DiFrancesco**, Recording Secretary

### **Introductions**

John Crocco welcomed and thanked everyone for being a part of the Special Education Advisory Committee. Chair Racine welcomed Lisa Selman, new Elementary Principal Representative and Thomas Dedinsky, new Student Senate Representative to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

### **3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Katie Muirhead  
Seconded by Rob Lavorato

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Agenda of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 1, 2014.

**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 September 3, 2014**

Moved by Katie Muirhead  
Seconded by Colleen Sword

**THAT** the Special Education Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of September 3, 2014 as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **B. PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. Concussion Protocol – Mike Sheahan, Physical Education Consultant Jim Whittard, Secondary Principal**

Mike Sheahan, Physical Education Consultant and Jim Whittard, Secondary Principal presented information relating to the Niagara Catholic Concussion Protocol. In March 2014, the Ministry of Education issued policy (PPM 158) requesting that school boards have guidelines and a policy in place by January 2015. Background information was provided including the definition of a concussion, signs and symptoms of possible concussion, information about minimizing the risks of concussion and Concussion Management Procedures. Questions were asked and answered during the presentation.

## **C. VISIONING**

### **1. Goals and Vision for 2013/2014 and 2014-2015**

Chair Racine reviewed the completed goals for the 2013-2014 school year and a discussion was held regarding ideas for new/proposed goals for the 2014-2015 school year.

## **D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2014**

### **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**

#### **6.1 Update on Niagara Catholic District School Board Protocol for Students Not Writing Exams**

Chair Racine suggested that this item be removed from the agenda until further information becomes available.

### **7. Policy Review**

## **E. SEAC REPORT**

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

- Nil Report

### **2. Review and Approval of SEAC Insert for School Newsletters**

- Nil Report



## F. AGENCY REPORTS

1. **VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children – Carol Baldinelli**

- The publication entitled , *A Parent’s Guide to School Partnership* can be accessed at [www.voicefordeafkids.com](http://www.voicefordeafkids.com)

2. **Down Syndrome Caring Parents (Niagara) – Rob Lavorato**

- The Annual Buddy Walk was held on September 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Trivia Night will be held on November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- National Down Syndrome Awareness Week is the 1<sup>st</sup> week of November.
- October 24<sup>th</sup> is the DSCP Halloween Party.

3. **Community Living – Welland/Pelham – Kerry Thomas**

- The *ReAction4Inclusion* conference will be held on November 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> at YMCA Cedar Glen, Concession II, Schomberg, ON.

4. **Association for Bright Children – Connie Parry**

- Nil Report

5. **Community Living – Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln – Sarina Labonte**

- Nil Report

6. **Autism Ontario – Colleen Sword**

- Autism Ontario-Niagara Region Chapter has had restructuring.
- The *Aviva Community Fund* - money is awarded to organizations based on levels of community support. More votes equal a greater chance of receiving funds to support programs/services to children and adults with ASD and their families.
- There was a tremendous turnout for summer camps.
- The *Inspirational Luncheon* was held today to kickoff Autism Awareness Month.
- Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup> is the Annual *Moonlight Magic Soiree*, tickets are \$55.00 each or tables of ten are available for \$500.00.
- Draw tickets are being sold.

7. **The Tourette Syndrome Association of Ontario – Anna Racine**

- Nil Report

**8. John Howard Society of Niagara – Jay Gemmell**

- Employment Ontario has notified us that we will be participating in some training regarding the provision of the **Canada Ontario Jobs Grant**. We expect that there may some opportunity to support some of our initiatives with youth by using this grant. We will keep you posted, as we learn more.
- Possible partnership amongst the John Howard Society with Wendy's Niagara to support youth in a skills training program. Niagara Catholic District School Board sent a letter of endorsement to support the John Howard Society's proposal of this program.

**9. Ontario Brain Injury Association – Katie Muirhead**

- Nil Report

**10. Learning Disabilities Association (Niagara) – Sarah Farrell**

- We have been gearing up for our upcoming after-school literacy and social skills programs (Reading Rocks, Reading Rocks Jr. Let's READ and BEST) this Fall starting next week for 8 weeks. We are still accepting applications for our Reading Rocks Jr. program (early intervention program for ages 4-6) in Welland. Applications can be completed at [www.Ldaniagara.org](http://www.Ldaniagara.org).
- October is LD Awareness Month! Posters have been circulated and all are encouraged to continue spreading the word and helping to increase awareness on learning disabilities in the Niagara community.

**11. Pathstone Mental Health – Bill Helmeczi**

- Nil Report

## **G. STAFF REPORTS**

**1. Lisa Selman – Principal, Elementary**

- Nil Report

**2. Jim Whittard – Principal, Secondary**

Blessed Trinity

- Resource teachers are in the process of developing Individual Education Plans in consultation with classroom teachers for the 2014-2015 school year. These will be mailed home on October 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Teachers are asked to review and know the IEP's for their students in preparation for discussions during Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences.
- We are pursuing professional development opportunities in relation to transitioning students to post-secondary opportunities.

- The grade 9 students in our Special Education Class have transitioned beautifully. All of our students have been embraced by the Blessed Trinity School Community. Our students are not only active in classes, but are also participating in the Sky Pilots program, Choir, FUEL and Pilgrimage.
- Two students are enjoying their Co-Op placements at the Association for Community Living. They are learning so much and return to share with the peer tutors in the class.
- Our Special Education Class and their peers continue to attend 9 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph's Church each Wednesday. The parishioners are so welcoming and genuinely embrace our students at the mass.
- Our swim athletes are practicing for the upcoming meet.
- On October 9<sup>th</sup>, students in the Special Education Class along with the Peer Tutors will travel to Puddicomb Farm to experience the wonderful things Autumn has to offer.
- Association for Community Living has once again sponsored several of our students for the *Reaction4Inclusion* Conference in November. We are hoping to see students from the other secondary schools there as well!

#### Denis Morris

- The Special Education Department at Denis Morris is honoured to announce that one of our students will be presenting the Board wide message for Autism Awareness Month taking place in October. Our student is an inspirational young man with Autism who has transformed the quality of his life and his experience at Denis Morris through targeted supports, love, empathy and self-awareness.
- He is now able to transition to and from class independently. He has joined three co-curricular activities (Art Club, Anime and Best Buddies). He has completed a Co-operative Education placement at Sobeys and is now working with Jobs Niagara to find a part-time job. He responds to his sensory needs through on-going communication with his support network at school and at home and he self-regulates using his 5-point frustration scale. He advocates for his needs and the needs of others and was instrumental in transitioning a group of Grade 8 students with sensory needs to Denis Morris. He discussed with them the need to have a "safe-zone", a "go-to person" and to communicate their needs to others to find strategies and supports. He has volunteered to lead an awareness initiative at Denis Morris during the month of October to raise awareness and inspire others with exceptionalities with his message of hope.

#### Holy Cross

- Busy and buzzing is how we can describe the Special Education class at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School. We are still getting to know our new students and they are starting to know the routines better than we do. Our active listening "chatting chair" has allowed us to learn more about each other and we enjoy having guests come and sit in the chair to help us learn more about each other. Holy Cross has two students at Walmart working in the cosmetic department and one student working in our cafeteria with Chartwells as he prepares for a future co-op job placement out of the school. Our senior students have taken a leadership role with our new grade 9 students and the lunchroom is full of fun. After lunch a giant game of UNO erupts and it is intense. Come join us for a game or two, but I must caution you we play to win!

#### Saint Paul

- Things are in full swing in the Special Education class at Saint Paul Catholic High School. Students are integrated in many different classes including Math, English, Science, and Food & Nutrition.

- Six of our senior students have Cooperative Education placements at Sobeys, Project Share and Goodwill. They are gaining valuable life and work experience at their respective placements.
- The students are gearing up for the upcoming S.N.A.P. sessions at Brock University; these are always great social and physical outings for the students. As well, students will soon begin sharpening up their bocce skills in order to defend our Championship from last year! It's been a great start to a new year!!!

### Saint Michael

- Grade 9 Parent Night was held on September 18th. Parents had an opportunity to meet classroom teachers, Special Education teachers and to view the SEAC PowerPoint.
- Semester one is off to a great start with students transitioning nicely to Saint Michael. We have expanded the Grade 9 GLS (Learning Strategies with Numeracy Focus) class to two sections this year as last year's results were outstanding.
- Our Special Education Community Awareness Display Case is so full with pertinent information; we are adding two additional display cases that the Special Education department will maintain. One of these will focus on post-secondary transitions for Special Education students and one will focus on Mental Health support for all students.
- Draft IEPs are in the process of being completed and will be mailed to parents just after Thanksgiving.
- On the technology front, we will be trialing an IPAD for a non-verbal student with Autism in our Special Education class. This is a technology tool that may be an alternative to the SEA laptops and IPODs currently in use.
- Our weekly Special Education Class outings into the community have started. So far, our Special Education class has gone bowling and swimming.

### 3. Yolanda Baldasaro – Superintendent of Education

- Superintendent Baldasaro reminded members of the upcoming election on Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup> and to keep in mind the Municipal, Provincial and Federal election procedures 2014.
- October 10<sup>th</sup> is a Board wide Professional Activity Day. The focus for the day will be School Improvement Planning.
- Niagara Catholic received a congratulatory letter from the Ministry of Education for the work they did to create local partnerships for the tri-ministry transition planning protocols for young people with a developmental disability.
- Niagara Catholic received an invitation to the Ontario Special Needs Strategy Consultation session being held on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

### 4. Amy Dowd – Coordinator Special Education

- Special Education staff have been busy with transitions; however it's been a smooth start to the new school year.

## H. TRUSTEE REPORTS

### 1. Father Paul MacNeil – Trustee

- Trustee candidates are gearing up for elections on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Municipal elections are extremely important; please take the time to make an informed decision about all positions, from Mayor to Trustee. For our Board, all eight (8) trustees are running again, in addition to several new candidates.
- At the last Board meeting we witnessed a live partnership agreement signing between Niagara Catholic and Country Garden School in Guangzhou, China. Our teachers will be providing the Ontario Secondary School Diploma credits, teacher training and professional development on the Ontario school system to the administration and staff of the Country Garden School. Currently, we have four Niagara Catholic teachers at Country Garden School.
- A report on EQAO primary and junior assessment results for reading, writing and mathematics was presented for information.
- The Board approved the change in representation for VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children and welcomes Carol Baldinelli to the SEAC table.
- A report on the Niagara Catholic District School Board Mathematics K-12 was presented for information. This report detailed some excellent research being done in the delivery of our mathematics program.
- Two other items of interest came up in public session; first a letter from the Mayor of Thorold about the state of the tennis courts next to Monsignor Clancy Catholic Elementary school, which the Board will look into, and secondly an expression of interest by a ratepayer about the possibility of a 7-12 high school in Niagara on the Lake. All suggestions are being taken seriously by the Board and we can expect follow up reports from senior staff.

### 2. Maurice Charbonneau – Trustee

- Nil Report

## I. STUDENT REPORT

- At the last Student Senate meeting there was a review of the rules and the *Anti-Bullying Policy*.
- Student Senate helped with the floats at the Grape and Wine Festival Parade.
- October 9<sup>th</sup> is the *Inspiration Award* Mass and Presentation being held at St. Kevin's Church in Welland.
- October 14<sup>th</sup> is the next Student Senate meeting.
- October 26<sup>th</sup> is the Annual Pilgrimage for all eight secondary schools.

## J. NCPIC REPORT

- The Annual Catholic School Council Parent and Guardian meeting will be held on November 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee is completing the ProGrant Parent kit.

- Colleen Sword is the new SEAC representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee.

## **K. NEW BUSINESS**

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

## **L. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. **Review New Correspondence**  
Deferred to a future meeting.

## **M. QUESTION PERIOD**

## **N. NOTICES OF MOTION**

## **O. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

1. Possible CCAC Presentation
2. PAAC on SEAC Survey Results - Katie Muirhead – December
3. Integrated Transition Planning Protocol

## **P. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Q. NEXT MEETING:**

**Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at 7:00p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre**

**R. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Rob Lavorato  
Seconded by Jay Gemmell

**THAT** the October 1, 2014 meeting of the Special Education Advisory Committee be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

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

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**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: APPROVED MINUTES OF THE NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (NCPIC) MEETING  
OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2014**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of September 11, 2014 as presented for information.





NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE  
NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2014**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, held on Thursday, September 11, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland, ON.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chair Daly.

**A. ROUTINE MATTERS**

**1. Opening Prayer**

The opening prayer was led by Terri Pauco.

**2. Roll Call**

Guests in attendance: Mary-Jo Au, Lorna Costantini, Fr. Paul MacNeil and Heather McCluckie

<b>Parent Members</b>	<b>Affiliations</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Antoinette Bortolon	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Mary Mannella-Byers	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Shawn O'Brien	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√	Electronically 6:59 p.m.	
Alexandria Attree	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Marion Battersby	St. Catharines	√		
Rocco Di Matteo	St. Catharines	√		
Lisa Finley	St. Catharines	√		
Kim Hedden	St. Catharines	√		
Sharon Goossen	Welland	√		
Diane O'Donnell	Welland			√
Heather Pyke	Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	√		
Shonna Daly	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	√		
Linda Marie O'Hagan	Community Representative		√	
Jen Beauregard	Community Representative			√
Rebecca Kamin	Community Representative			√
Anna Racine	SEAC Representative	√		

Fr. Peter Rowe	Bishop/Diocesan Representative		√	
Aidan Harold	Student Senate	√		
<b>Trustees</b>				
Kathy Burtnik	Chair of the Board		√	
Rhianon Burkholder	Vice Chair of the Board	√		

The following staff was in attendance:

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells; Theo Dagenais, Elementary Principal Representative; Jeff Smith, Secondary Principal Representative; Terri Pauco, Religion and Family Life Consultant and Teacher Representative; Josie Rocca, Support Staff Representative and Yvonne Anderson, Recording Secretary.

Regrets sent: Trustee Burtnik, Fr. Peter Rowe, Linda Marie O'Hagan

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: Mary Mannella-Byers

Seconded by: Anna Racine

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the agenda of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of September 11, 2014 as amended.

**CARRIED**

**4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

No Disclosure of Conflict of Interest was declared with any items on the agenda.

**5. Notification of Resignation-Parent Member**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells informed the NCPIC members that a Letter of Resignation had been received on May 14, 2014 from a parent member and a letter to rescind the Letter of Resignation was received on September 8, 2014.

Chair Daly announced the resignation of Terri Pauco, Teacher Representative on the NCPIC and thanked Terri for her dedication, commitment and support of the NCPIC over the years.

**6. Approval of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2014**

Moved by: Kim Hedden

Seconded by: Lisa Finley

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of May 8, 2014 as amended.

**CARRIED**

## **B. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **1. FAITH FORMATION-*Josie Rocca***

- Nil Report

### **2. POLICY- *Shonna Daly***

- Nil Report

### **3. PRO GRANT- *Heather Pyke***

- Nil Report

## **C. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE NCPIC MEETING OF MAY 8, 2014**

Terri Pauco requested the contact information for the parent member that will represent the NCPIC on the planning committee of the Niagara Catholic Symposium-Supporting Student Learning, Equity and Well-Being.

## **D. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION**

### **1. 2014-2015 School Year Calendar**

- The 2014-2015 School Year Calendar was distributed to all NCPIC members.

### **2. 2014-2015 NCPIC Membership-Nomination Package**

- Nomination and Self-Nomination Forms were provided to all elementary and secondary schools and have been posted on the Board website under Parents/Parent Involvement.
- A newsletter insert promoting the 2014-2015 NCPIC Election was provided to all elementary and secondary schools.
- All Nomination and Self-Nomination Forms are due to Yvonne by 4:00 p.m. EST on Friday, October 24, 2014.
- NCPIC parent members that received a one (1) year term in 2013-2014 must complete and submit a nomination form to Yvonne no later than 4:00 p.m. EST on Friday, October 24, 2014 if they wish to continue on the NCPIC.

### **3. October Annual Meeting-Catholic School Councils and Parents/Guardians**

A subcommittee will meet and discuss options for this meeting.

### **4. NCPIC Policy and By-Laws**

The NCPIC Policy and By-Laws will be reviewed at the NCPIC Meeting of January 8, 2015.

5. Ministry of Education: Building Healthy Relationships (CODE)  
Superintendent Forsyth-Sells provided the newly published –“Relationships-What Parents Can Do To Help Their Children Develop Healthy Relationship” documents for use in Ontario Schools received from the Ministry of Education. Copies of the package were also distributed to all elementary and secondary school Principals to share with Catholic School Councils.
6. PRO Grants 2014-2015  
Superintendent Forsyth-Sells announced that twenty-five Niagara Catholic, Catholic School Council PRO Grant applications were approved for the 2014-2015 school year totaling approximately \$25,000. The NCPIC 2014-2015 PRO Grant application to host a “Family Night Out” to help enhance parent communication and engagement featuring workshops and the provisions of a family resource kit was also approved for \$21,600.
7. Financial Report
  - A financial statement was provided for information.

**E. COMMUNITY REPORT-*Linda Marie O’Hagan***

- Nil Report

**F. SEAC REPORT-*Anna Racine***

- The 2014-2015 NCPIC SEAC Representative is Colleen Sword from Autism Ontario.
- SEAC successfully completed their 2013-2014 Goals.

**G. OAPCE REPORT-*Heather Pyke***

- On September 24, 2014 OAPCE will be meeting with the Ministry of Education to discuss the challenges in Catholic Education.
- The only agenda of OAPCE is to preserve Catholic Education.

**H. BISHOP/DIOCESAN REPORT-*Fr. Peter Rowe***

- Nil Report

**I. STUDENT SENATE REPORT-*Aiden Harold***

- Student Senate will be participating in the Grape and Wine Parade on September 27, 2014 on the Niagara Catholic float.
- Student Senate will participate in the Inspirational Awards on October, 9, 2014 at St. Kevin Church.
- The Student Senate will be leading a Student Voice Conference on November 12, 2014 for elementary student leaders.

## **J. STAFF REPORTS**

An update was provided regard the exciting events and educational initiatives that have taken place throughout Niagara Catholic elementary and secondary schools to begin the school year on a positive note for students and staff.

## **K. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

1. **Kathy Burtnik, Chair of the Board**

- Nil Report

2. **Rhianon Burkholder, Vice-Chair of the Board**

- Trustee Burkholder presented the 2013-2014 Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Members with Certificates of Appreciation and thanked them for their ongoing support and commitment to Catholic education and parent engagement throughout the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

## **L. PRESENTATIONS AND GOOD NEWS**

## **M. NEW BUSINESS**

## **N. AGENDA ITEMS – DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Opportunities to invite guest speakers/presenters to discuss topics of interest:

- Threats to Catholic Education
- Mental Health Initiatives
- Public Health Presentation-Type 1 Diabetes
- Research Projects

## **O. NEXT MEETING:**

Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre

## **P. CLOSING PRAYER:** Closing Prayer was led by Fr. Paul MacNeil.

## **Q. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by: Rocco DiMatteo

Seconded by: Kim Hedden

**THAT** the September 11, 2014 meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: STUDENT VOICE CONFERENCE 2014 – LEADING OUT  
LOUD !**

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The Student Voice Conference 2014 – Lead Out Loud report is presented for information.

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Prepared by: Janice Barretto Mendonca, Equity & Student Leadership  
Terri Pauco, Religion and Family Life Consultant

Presented by: Janice Barretto Mendonca, Equity & Student Leadership

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

Date: November 25, 2014



## **BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

### **STUDENT VOICE CONFERENCE 2014 – LEADING OUT LOUD !**

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#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

On Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 approximately 150 Niagara Catholic students gathered at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls to participate in the Board's annual Student Conference entitled - Lead Out Loud! This annual conference is in alignment with the 2014-2015 System Priority to "*Engage Student Voice*".

The Niagara Catholic Student Voice Conference 2014 brought together student leaders from all elementary and secondary schools in our Board. Through the student leadership of our Secondary Student Senate, strong leadership skills were demonstrated as they led and engaged the conference participants to the understanding that each of us has 'more than a single story' to define who we are. It is in listening to and sharing the stories of ourselves and our peers, that we *Witness* Christ in each other.

Following opening comments by our Director of Education, the conference began with the video message, '*The Danger of a Single Story*' by Chimamanda Adichie. Chimamanda explained that her "American roommate had a single story of Africa: a single story of catastrophe. The single story created stereotypes - they make one story become the only story and ultimately rob people of their dignity making our equal humanity difficult."

Following her inspirational message, students engaged in discussion and distilled a message for the day which they shared on a large graffiti wall. The large group then splintered into eight groups and began workshop rotations where they heard stories from other young people; stories of disaster in Haiti, struggles with mental health, autism and cerebral palsy. Additional workshops also provided students with an opportunity to share their own story through poetry and learn active listening skills.

For the 2014 Student Voice Conference, a deliberate attempt was made to present learning using many modalities recognizing that each of us is created in God's image and has a unique learning style. Workshop opportunities included active and interactive learning. Through live and online stories students shared the personal experiences that made them who they are. The multi-modalities also provided students with examples of how they could gather and share their stories of their school communities.

At the conclusion of each workshop, student Senators used guiding questions to extract the message. Students continued to share their learning on a graffiti wall. As the day progressed, the learning journey was recorded for all and it was apparent that all student participants had *Witnessed* Christ in themselves and each other.

The culmination of the day was a discussion as to how our Niagara Catholic student leaders would gather and celebrate the stories of their own school communities and *Witness* our faith to the world.

As part of this Board report, our Student Trustees and Co-Chairs of the Student Senate will share a visual presentation to capturing the images of Lead Out Loud 2014 Student Voice Conference.

The Student Voice Conference 2014 – Lead Out Loud report is presented for information.

Prepared by: Janice Barretto Mendonca, Equity & Student Leadership  
Terri Pauco, Religion and Family Life Consultant

Presented by: Janice Barretto Mendonca, Equity & Student Leadership

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

Date: November 25, 2014



**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL NIAGARA CATHOLIC CULTURE OF LIFE  
CONFERENCE 2014**

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The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Culture of Life Conference report is presented for information.

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Prepared by: Debra McCaffery, Board Chaplaincy Leader

Presented by: Debra McCaffery, Board Chaplaincy Leader

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

Date: November 25, 2014



**BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 25, 2014**

**2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
CULTURE OF LIFE CONFERENCE 2014**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Church has used terminology to reflect the philosophy of Culture of Life since its earliest days. The Didache, a first century document included in the Magisterium of the Church, refers to the “way of life” and the “way of death.” Pope John Paul II in *Evangelium Vitae* (Gospel of Life) stated “In our present social context, marked by a dramatic struggle between the culture of life and the culture of death, there is the need to develop a deep critical sense capable of discerning true values and authentic needs.”

In more recent years the term has been used extensively, often in political arenas, to defend or fight specific life issues such as abortion, euthanasia and stem cell research, with these battles often placing these concerns in very narrow silos.

When we return to the root of this concept, however, we can see that this philosophy is actually much broader, that all the elements of Catholic Social Teaching build the Culture of Life and should be a way of life that weaves through our entire day, a perspective that helps us fight against abortion but also helps us choose to be kind, fight bullying, and preserve the dignity of every human person. Giving students an opportunity to gather and learn in greater depth about the culture of life can provide much needed articulation around this important subject, and strengthen the student voice as we witness to our faith.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Culture of Life Conference 2014**

On Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Niagara Catholic hosted its *2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Culture of Life Conference* at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre in Niagara Falls. Approximately 160 students from all eight of our Catholic secondary schools gathered for the day to learn some essentials in apologetics, and to hone their skills in verbally defending the dignity of all human life.

Our keynote this year was Christina Alaimo, a University of Toronto Masters student in Health Care Ethics who has been passionate about the pro-life cause from an early age. As a former intern at Campaign Life Coalition, she has learned the ins and outs of all areas of the pro-life movement. She has supported women through the decision process as well as caring for those who decided to keep their babies at the last minute. Her skill in providing logical and scientific basis for the defense of all human life was evident as students engaged in conversations and role play to strengthen their own skills.

Mass was celebrated in the beautiful Mount Carmel Chapel, with Fr. Michael Wastag, O Carm. presiding.

In keeping with Niagara Catholic District School Board's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and the Strategic Direction to *Build Strong Catholic Identity and Community to Nurture the Distinctiveness of Catholic Education*, feedback from both staff and students indicate that the Culture of Life Conference 2014 was a meaningful experience that provided much understanding and many tools to do just that.

This information report will be highlighted through a brief videography of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Culture of Life Conference 2014.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Culture of Life Conference report is presented for information.

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Prepared by: Debra McCaffery, Board Chaplaincy Leader

Presented by: Debra McCaffery, Board Chaplaincy Leader

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

Date: November 25, 2014

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 28, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: CORRESPONDENCE  
OCSTA - CHANGES IN SELECTION PROCESS FOR  
REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

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Ontario Catholic School  
Trustees' Association

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Kathy Burtnik, *President*  
Bob Schreder, *Vice President*  
Kevin Kobus, *Executive Director*

November 10, 2014

**TO:** Chairpersons & Directors of Education  
**CC:** All Trustees  
**FROM:** Kevin Kobus, Executive Director  
**RE:** **Changes in Selection Process for Regional Directors**

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**Please place this memo on the agenda of a meeting of your board  
for consideration and decision.**

**[A response is required by January 16, 2015](#)**

Under the new Amended and Restated OCSTA By-Law Number 2014-01, the Selection Process for Regional Directors has changed considerably from past practice.

**The following section no longer exists under the new By-Law.**

*Additional Qualifications for Candidacy*

*Where a Region consists of more than one (1) Member Board, a Trustee Member is not eligible to be a candidate for nor hold the office of Regional Director if:*

- *another Trustee Member of the same Member Board is a candidate for or holds the office of Regional Director; or*
- *the President, Vice President or Past President is a Trustee Member of the same Member Board;*

The related section in the Amended & Restated By-Law Number 2014-01 states:

7.4 Selection Process for Regional Directors

No particular manner or method is prescribed for how each Region selects its Regional Director. The CDSBs comprising each Region, therefore, shall devise and adopt a fair, equitable and democratic process by which their Regional Director is selected, in accordance with Board guidelines, provided however, that:

- 7.4.1 Regional Directors from CDSB's described in Section 6.1.1 shall be selected in odd numbered years, and Regional Directors described in Sections 6.1.2 and 6.1.3 shall be selected in even numbered years; and
- 7.4.2 the selection process once adopted may not be altered more frequently than every second year, and in any event not later than one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the second Annual Meeting following the previous use of the process.

Catholic District School Boards comprising each Region may choose to:

- devise and adopt a process by which the regional director(s) are selected (as outlined in s.7.4) or
- conduct elections as per past practice with a call for nominations by the Association and elections by ballot held, if required, at the Annual General Meeting.

Regions are not all required to follow the same process for the Selection of Regional Directors.

- Each region is required to submit their decision regarding the Selection Process for Regional Director to OCSTA by **January 16, 2015**
- For regions choosing to conduct elections as per past practice, OCSTA will distribute nomination forms with a submission deadline of **April 2, 2015**.
- Regions choosing other methods will facilitate and conduct a fair and equitable selection process and submit their selection to OCSTA by **April 2, 2015**.

**The following section of the OCSTA By-law applies if any region is unable to agree on a process.**

7.5 Failure to Agree Upon Regional Director Selection Process

In the event that the CDSBs comprising a Region are unable to reach a consensus as to the process to be adopted for that Region for the selection of its Regional Director, any CDSB within that Region may refer the selection process to the Board; and upon referral:

7.5.1 the OCSTA Board shall give notice to the other CDSBs within that Region, requesting each to make representations to the Board within thirty (30) days after the notice, as to the selection process to be adopted;

7.5.2 within a further thirty (30) days, the Board shall consider all representations received from the CDSBs within that Region, and determine the process by which such Regional Director is selected;

7.5.3 such determination by the Board shall be final and binding for such Region and from which there is no right of appeal, but without prejudice to the right to adopt a new selection process subject to the limitations described in clause 7.4.2.

We encourage you to discuss this at a meeting of your board and to initiate communications with other boards in your region about the selection process for OCSTA Regional Directors.

Attachments:

- *Regions Chart*

Link

- [Amended and Restated By Law Number 2014-01](#)

Distribution

*All Catholic District School Boards except: Dufferin-Peel, Ottawa, Toronto, York*

## ONTARIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION

Kathy Burtnik, President  
 Bob Schreader, Vice President  
 Marino Gazzola, Past President

- Niagara CDSB  
 - Renfrew County CDSB  
 - Wellington CDSB

<b>Region 1</b>	Huron-Superior CDSB Nipissing-Parry Sound CDSB Northeastern CDSB Sudbury CDSB	Colleen Landers <i>Northeastern CDSB</i>
<b>Region 2</b>	Kenora CDSB Northwest CDSB Superior North CDSB Thunder Bay CDSB	Paul Landry <i>Kenora CDSB</i>
<b>Region 3 (at large)</b>	Northern Regions No. 1 & 2	Anne-Marie Fitzgerald <i>Northwest CDSB</i>
<b>Region 4</b>	Brant Haldimand Norfolk CDSB Bruce-Grey CDSB Huron-Perth CDSB Waterloo CDSB Wellington CDSB	Beverley Eckensweiler <i>Bruce-Grey CDSB</i>
<b>Region 5</b>	London DCSB St. Clair CDSB Windsor-Essex CDSB	Linda Ward <i>St. Clair CDSB</i>
<b>Region 6</b>	Toronto CDSB	John Del Grande Frank D'Amico
<b>Region 7</b>	Dufferin-Peel CDSB	Anna da Silva Thomas Thomas
<b>Region 8</b>	York CDSB	Carol Cotton
<b>Region 9</b>	Durham CDSB Peterborough, Victoria, Northumberland & Clarington CDSB Simcoe-Muskoka CDSB	Shawn Cooper <i>Simcoe Muskoka CDSB</i>
<b>Region 10</b>	Algonquin & Lakeshore CDSB CDSB of Eastern Ontario Renfrew County CDSB	Andrew Bray <i>Renfrew County CDSB</i>
<b>Region 11</b>	Halton CDSB Hamilton-Wentworth CDSB Niagara CDSB	Patrick Daly <i>Hamilton CDSB</i> Arlene Iantomasi <i>Halton CDSB</i>
<b>Region 12</b>	Ottawa CSB	Mark Mullan

Bishop John Boissonneau, ACBO Liaison to the OCSTA Board of Directors  
 Father Patrick Fitzpatrick, Chaplain  
 Kevin Kobus, Executive Director

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 28, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: CORRESPONDENCE  
RHIANON BURKHOLDER, VICE-CHAIR  
CORRESPONDENCE RE SERVING AS A TRUSTEE**

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Thursday, November 20, 2014

To: Kathy Burtnik, Chair of Niagara Catholic District School Board  
John Crocco, Director of Education, Secretary-Treasurer  
Trustees  
Sr. Administration and Principals

Writing this letter is important to me and it took much thought and courage on my part and coming to face all of you after the election was difficult. But then I was quickly reminded of why I became a Trustee: to help kids that struggle and to be a voice where there may not be one—these reasons, along with the fact that I am a huge advocate for Catholic Education, which I will continue to fight for in my own way.

And so I am completing my term and wish to finish what I started by setting an example for any student that has not succeeded in what they originally set out to do. I share similar feelings to the student who has had to overcome meanness and bullying and left feeling horrible—as if they failed.

During my four-year term as a Trustee I discovered friendships in people with great dedication and a fervent and authentic Catholic faith. Unfortunately, this is not a fairy tale story and it has not always been easy. I was threatened and bullied by some of my peers and I found myself on the receiving-end of many emotional parents. I even lost a few friends for reasons I will never understand. Yet I continue to grow stronger. I did my best to “call out” the bullies that I encountered along the way and tried to understand why some parents were upset. This is the reality that some of our students face and I am truly sorry this happens. I want to show you by example that with time and support it does get better and bullying and meanness can be overcome even in places where it should not exist in the first place. Although I am not a student any longer *per se*, I am still disappointed and sad at the malicious behavior exhibited by a few, but I trust, as I end my term, that things can get better.

Catholic Education and its tremendous supporters make it better. Over the last four years, I relied on family and friends of course, but John Crocco and his team are the best we have. They are smart, immensely competent and better yet they exhibit a certain kindness and good nature that any leader within Catholic Education should have. I want to thank my peers Kathy, Moe, Ted, Ed for being there for me. They always took the higher road and should be very proud of that.



Rhianon  
Vice Chair of the Board, Trustee

cc. Bishop Bergie, Honorary Chair of the Board  
Kathy Burtnik, President of OCSTA  
Anna Racine, Chair of SEAC  
Shonna Daly, Chair of NCPIC

**TO: NIAGARA CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 28, 2014**

***PUBLIC SESSION***

**TITLE: CALENDAR OF EVENTS – DECEMBER 2014**

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# DECEMBER 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Inaugural Board Meeting/ CW Meeting	<b>3</b> Grade 8 Mass SEAC Meeting	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Christmas Choirfest Throughout Niagara All Week	<b>9</b> Civic Carol Sing—Holy Cross Performing	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Faith Formation & Lunch for Priests, Trustees, Adminis- trators & Managers	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Christmas Break Begins	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <i>Merry Christmas</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Jan 1</b> <b>happy</b> <b>newyear!</b>		<b>Classes Resume</b> <b>Jan. 5, 2015</b>