



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, in the Father Kenneth Burns c.s.c. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Di Lorenzo.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Land Acknowledgement

Land Acknowledgement statement was delivered by Superintendent Rocca.

2. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Huibers.

3. Roll Call

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

Trustee Turner acted as Vice-Chair for Trustee Burkholder.

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

The following staff were in attendance:

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

4. **Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Trustee Bruzzese

Seconded by Trustee Marino

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of December 19, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

5. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

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

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

6.1 **November 28, 2023**

Moved by Trustee Huibers

Seconded by Trustee Bruzzese

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

CARRIED

6.2 **December 5, 2023**

Moved by Trustee Joyner

Seconded by Trustee Turner

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

CARRIED

7. **Consent Agenda Items**

Trustee Di Lorenzo requested Item A7.6 be held. This item was moved to Committee and Staff Reports Section C3 of the agenda.

7.1 **Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 5, 2023 and Consideration of Recommendations**

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole of December 5, 2023, as presented.

7.2 Trustee Honorarium for the Year November 15, 2023 to November 14, 2024

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Trustee Honorarium for the year period from November 15, 2023 to November 14, 2024, as noted in Appendix A, as follows:

\$16,515 for the Chairperson of the Board
\$13,493 for the Vice-Chairperson of the Board
\$10,470 for the Other Trustees

7.3 Trustee Expenses and Reimbursement for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Presented for information.

7.4 Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of October 4, 2023

THAT the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 4, 2023, as presented.

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

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

7.6 Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange

Moved to Section C3

7.7 In-Camera Items F1, F2 & F3

Moved by Trustee Joyner
Seconded by Trustee Marino

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

CARRIED

B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Christmas Cards

Director Cipriano provided background information on the design of the Christmas Cards.

Director Cipriano and Chair Di Lorenzo presented each student whose artwork was chosen to represent Niagara Catholic with a boxed set containing their designs, a plaqued picture of their artwork and a Niagara Catholic “Excellence in Arts” pin.

C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1. E-Learning

Joseph Zaroda, Superintendent of Education presented background information on the e-Learning program and introduced John Belcastro, Principal of Continuing Education and eLearning and Jeff Maxwell, Technology Enabled Learning and Teaching Consultant.

Principal Belcastro and Mr. Maxwell presented the e-Learning report for Trustee information.

Principal Belcastro and Mr. Maxwell answered questions of Trustees.

2. Niagara Catholic Equity Action Plan 2023-2026

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education presented the Niagara Catholic Equity Action Plan 2023-2026 for information.

3. Consent Agenda Item A7.6

3.1 Extended Overnight Field Trip, Excursion and Exchange

Superintendent Zaroda answered questions of Trustees. Following discussion a decision was reached to enhance the clarity of language in the Educational Field Trips Administrative Operational Procedures.

D. TRUSTEE ITEMS, OPEN QUESTION PERIOD & OTHER BUSINESS

1. Correspondence

1.1 Letter From Minister Lecce

Director Cipriano highlighted information contained in the letter from Minister Lecce.

2. Report on Trustee Conferences Attended

Nil Report

3. General Discussion to Plan for Future Action

Nil Report

4. Trustee Information

4.1 Calendar of Events – January 2024

Director Cipriano presented the January 2024 calendar of events.

4.2 OCSTA 2024 AGM & Conference – May 2-4, 2024

Director Cipriano reminded Trustees of the OCSTA 2024 AGM & Conference on May 2-4, 2024.

Trustees were asked to confirm their attendance with Anna Pisano.

Trustee Marino brought attention to the Trade Education Partners Breakfast held at Holy Cross Secondary School on December 12th. While acknowledging its success and the valuable information shared, he emphasized the need for increased efforts in promoting the programs and the numerous job opportunities within the trade industry.

5. Open Question Period

None Submitted

E. NOTICES OF MOTION

1. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMISSION

None Submitted

2. NOTICE OF MOTION PRESENTATION

None Presented

F. BUSINESS IN CAMERA

Addressed within consent agenda section.

G. REPORT ON THE IN-CAMERA SESSION

SECTION B: STUDENT TRUSTEES EXCLUDED

Moved by Trustee Joyner
Seconded by Trustee Marino

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 28, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED (Item F1)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

I. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR LIFE

J. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Bruzzese
Seconded by Trustee Marino

THAT the December 19, 2023 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **December 19, 2023**.

Approved on **January 30, 2024**.

Danny Di Lorenzo
Chair of the Board

Camillo Cipriano
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer