



# MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, held on Tuesday, January 30, 2024, in the Father Kenneth Burns c.s.c. Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland.

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

### A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Land Acknowledgement

Land Acknowledgement statement was delivered by Student Trustee Johnstone.

2. Opening Prayer

Opening Prayers were led by Trustee Bruzzese.

3. Roll Call

Chair Di Lorenzo noted that Trustee Benoit is excused and Trustee Huibers joined electronically.

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

The following staff were in attendance:

**Camillo Cipriano**, Director of Education; **Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells**, **Kimberly Kinney**, **Gino Pizzoferrato**, **Pat Rocca**, **Domenic Massi**, **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 Marino  
Seconded by Trustee Burkholder

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Agenda of the Board Meeting of January 30, 2024, 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 December 19, 2023\***

Moved by Trustee Joyner  
Seconded by Trustee Burkholder

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

**CARRIED**

**6.2 December 19, 2023**

Moved by Trustee Marino  
Seconded by Trustee Joyner

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

**CARRIED**

**6.3 January 16, 2024**

Moved by Trustee Joyner  
Seconded by Trustee Burkholder

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of January 16, 2024, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**6.4 January 23, 2024**

Moved by Trustee Marino  
Seconded by Trustee Joyner

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of January 23, 2024, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**7. Consent Agenda Items**

Trustee Di Lorenzo requested Item 7.1.2 be held. This item was moved to Committee and Staff Reports Section C4 of the agenda.

**7.1 Unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 16, 2024 and Consideration of Recommendations**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the unapproved Minutes of the Committee of the Whole of January 16, 2024, as presented.

**7.1.1 2024 Board Committee Membership**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the 2024 Board Committee Membership, as presented.

**7.1.2 Dress Code – Secondary Uniform – Safe Schools Policy (302.6.6)**

Moved to Section C4.

**7.1.3 Safe and Accepting Schools Policy (302.6)**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Safe and Accepting Schools Policy (302.6), as presented.

**7.1.4 Corporate Cards, Purchasing Cards and Petty Cash Policy (600.4)**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Corporate Cards, Purchasing Cards and Petty Cash Policy (600.4), as presented.

**7.2 Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meeting of December 6, 2023**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the Approved Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of December 6, 2023, as presented.

**7.3 Approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (NCPIC) of November 2, 2023**

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board receive the approved Minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of November 2, 2023, as presented for information

**7.4 In-Camera Items F1, F2, F3, F8.1 & F8.2**

Moved by Trustee Bruzzese  
Seconded by Trustee Huibers

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

**CARRIED**

## **B. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

## **C. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS**

### **1. Director of Education's Annual Report 2023**

Director Cipriano presented the Director of Education's Annual Report for 2023.

Director Cipriano answered questions of Trustees.

### **2. Niagara Catholic Graduation Rates for the 2017-2018 Grade 9 Cohort as of August 31, 2022**

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education presented the Niagara Catholic Graduation Rates for the 2017-2018 Grade 9 Cohort as of August 31, 2022.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells answered questions of Trustees.

### **3. Revised Estimates for the Year 2023-2024**

Giancarlo Vetrone, Superintendent of Business & Financial Services presented the 2023-2024 Revised Estimates Report for information.

Superintendent Vetrone answered questions of Trustees.

### **4. Consent Agenda Item A7.1.2 - Dress Code - Secondary Uniform Policy (302.6.6).**

Director Cipriano answered questions of Trustees and indicated that a communications notice will be sent out to clarify the process and timelines particularly regarding the kilt. The notice will include the updated Policy and Administrative Operational Procedures.

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee Marino

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Dress Code – Secondary Uniform – Safe Schools Policy (302.6.6), as presented.

**CARRIED**

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

### **1. Correspondence**

Chair Di Lorenzo highlighted information contained in the following letters:

#### **1.1 Letter from Minister Parsa**

Trustee Marino noted he would like to continue advocating for a unified food program in all Ontario schools.

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

Trustees Huibers, Burkholder and Di Lorenzo provided highlights of the OCSTA Seminar held on January 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>.

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

Joe Zaroda, Superintendent of Education provided answers to questions asked at the December Board meeting regarding the Blessed Trinity Catholic Secondary School extended field trip to Europe. Superintendent Zaroda noted that a committee has been established to review and update the current Educational Field Trips Administrative Operational Procedures.

Denis Morris Catholic High School will be holding a skilled trade promotion night on Thursday, February 1, 2024.

February 13, 2024, Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School will be hosting the special education Mardi gras dance.

**4. Trustee Information**

**4.1 Calendar of Events – February 2024**

Director Cipriano highlighted the February 2024 Calendar of Events.

**4.2 Travel Reimbursement Update**

Superintendent Vetrone highlighted the Travel Reimbursement Update.

**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**

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee Turner

**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 8:19 p.m. and reconvened at 8:33 p.m.

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

Moved by Trustee Burkholder

Seconded by Trustee Turner

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board report the motions from the In Camera Session of the Board Meeting of January 30, 2024.

**CARRIED**

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

Moved by Trustee Bruzzese

Seconded by Trustee Huibers

**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 December 19, 2023, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F1)**

Moved by Trustee Bruzzese

Seconded by Trustee Huibers

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting - SECTION B: Trustee and Director Only of December 19, 2023, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F8.1)**

Moved by Trustee Bruzzese

Seconded by Trustee Huibers

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the Minutes of the In Camera Session of the Special Board Meeting - SECTION B: Trustee and Director Only of January 16, 2024, as presented.

**CARRIED (Item F8.2)**

The Board received a Staffing Report listing new hires, resignations and retirements.

The Board was provided with a Human Resources Services Status Report summarizing the status of grievances.

A new administrative assignment was announced for Trustee information.

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

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

### **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Trustee Joyner

Seconded by Trustee Turner

**THAT** the January 30, 2024 meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

This meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic District School Board held on **January 30, 2024**.

Approved on **February 27, 2024**.

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Danny Di Lorenzo  
Chair of the Board

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Camillo Cipriano  
Director of Education/Secretary -Treasurer