



Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee (CPEC) held at the Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough and virtually by Google Meet on Monday, April 17, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Committee Members:

Present: Jennifer Ball, Jeremiah Beggs, Patricia Carmichael, Joshua Glover (Trustee), Karen Goodhand (Chairperson), Christine Haffie, Rachel Logan, Father Paul Massel, Margaret Prentice.

Regrets: Julianne Charette, Lisa Hiltz, Jane Pryde.

Trustees: Kevin MacKenzie, Mary Ann Martin.

Catholic School Council, Parent Guests: Daniela MacKenzie.

Administration: Joan Carragher, Director of Education; Jeannie Armstrong, Superintendent of Special Education; Natalie Bittner, Principal, St. Paul Catholic Elementary School, Sean Heuchert, Superintendent of Business, Finance and Facilities Services, and Joel Sloggett, Chief Administrative Officer, Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario.

Recorder: Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant.

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by the committee chairperson, Karen Goodhand.

1. Opening Prayer

Father Paul led the committee in prayer to begin the meeting.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Following prayer, Joan Carragher gave a land acknowledgement noting that the meeting was taking place on the treaty lands and the traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig Anishnaabeg.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Joshua Glover, seconded by Jennifer Ball

that the agenda be approved with the addition of item B.2 b)
Electronic Meetings.

Carried.

4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Committee members Rachel Logan and Patricia Carmichael declared themselves as employees of PVNCCDSB.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held January 30, 2023.

MOTION: Moved by Karen Goodhand, seconded by Joshua Glover

that the minutes from the meeting held on January 30, 2023, be approved as corrected.

Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Transportation.

Joel Sloggett, Chief Administrative Officer of the Student Transportation Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario was introduced to the committee and gave a presentation on the bussing operations for the board in the areas of Northumberland, Clarington and Peterborough City and County.

The challenge of driver shortage was discussed, and he noted that a great deal of time and effort that has been put forward to solve the problem of lack of drivers to cover routes and charters for school trips and sports. A directed effort to recruit drivers in an advertising campaign has been launched and it is hoped that wages and signing bonuses will help to attract new drivers and retain current drivers. The Northumberland and Clarington areas were the most challenged and will be targeted most heavily in the campaign.

Communications regarding cancellations and late buses was discussed. Mr. Sloggett noted that when the companies make good communication it works well and STSCO has been working with the companies to put a plan in place to ensure communication with families.

It was also noted that transportation continues to be a challenge in other areas of the province and the consortia work together and share information and techniques to foster efficiency.

Joan Carragher, Director of Education thanked Joel Sloggett for his time to speak with the committee and on behalf of the committee thanked him for his service and wished him well in his upcoming retirement.

2. a) Capital Projects

Sean Heuchert, Superintendent of Business, Finance and Facilities Services gave a presentation regarding capital building projects. It was noted that population growth and accommodation pressures are being experienced throughout the board's jurisdiction. The process of a capital project was explained as they not budgeted by the board and are subject to approval by the Ministry of Education. Project applications are in competition with other projects throughout the province which may have higher or more immediate need. At the end of his presentation, Sean Heuchert answered questions from the participants.

b. Electronic Meetings and Engagement.

Sean Heuchert, Superintendent of Business, Finance and Facilities Services presented information regarding meetings of the board both in person and online. Agendas and approved minutes for Board Meetings and Committee meetings are posted to the board website and accessible by the public. Meetings are public and many have a virtual option; the door is open both physically and virtually. Sean Heuchert answered questions from the committee at the end of his presentation.

3. Presentation: Strategic Priority – Inspiring Faith

Jeannie Armstrong, Superintendent of Special Education and Father Paul Massel, Board Chaplain/Faith Animator, gave a presentation on the strategic priority 'Inspiring Faith' and presented the three-year pastoral plan, 'Igniting Faith Hope and Love'. The pastoral plan and its overarching goals to invite conversation, celebrate, and see God's presence in our community fits with the strategic pillars of the board of being creative, being well and being community.

Father Paul and Jeannie Armstrong explained planned activities and projects that will take place over the next three years to live out the goals that were identified to inspire faith, inspire hope, and inspire love. At the end of the presentation, Father Paul and Jeannie Armstrong answered question.

4. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee – Special Event.

Due to the guest speaker's commitment to training in Peterborough during the day on June 12 and June 13, Kevin Cameron has requested that the event be hosted in Peterborough. There was discussion about the location of the event this year and the committee requested that it be in a school location. Joan will investigate a school host for the event that and have some displays of student work or live talent.

It was noted that next year's location will be scheduled to be hosted in Clarington.

A list of roles for the evening was reviewed and volunteers were assigned to tasks:

Greeters - Christine Haffie, Trish Carmichael, Rachel Logan

Master of Ceremonies - Julianne Charette

Land Acknowledgement - Rachel Logan

Opening Prayer - Father Paul

Greetings from Board Chairperson - Kevin MacKenzie

Greetings from Director - Joan Carragher

Introduction of Trustees - Joan Carragher

Welcome on behalf of CPEC - Karen Goodhand

Introduction of CPEC Committee - Karen Goodhand

Introduction of Kevin Cameron - Jen Ball

Thank you to Kevin Cameron - Joshua Glover

Closing Prayer - Father Paul

5. Ministry Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Virtual Gathering for PIC Chairpersons.

Information regarding a planned upcoming provincial virtual gathering in the month of May, 2023 was shared. This session is for parents from across the province who are involved in board-level committee work.

A summary of the virtual gathering held in February 2023 is available on the Committee Google Drive.

C. Information Items:

1. System Updates

Joan Carragher, Director of Education updated the committee on system events and initiatives from the start of the 2022-2023 school year which included the following points:

- The Grants for Student Needs which is the basis for the board's revenue has been received from the Ministry of Education. The information is being reviewed and preparations are under way to prepare the 2023-2024 budget.
- Catholic Education Week will take place from April 30th to May 6th with the theme "We are many, We are one". Resources have been shared with schools that include lessons, liturgies, and activities to celebrate the week. The trustees will be attending the Catholic Student Leadership Awards on May 3rd where a student from each school who exemplifies the Catholic Graduate Expectations will be honoured.
- The month of May is Asian Heritage month and will kick off on Wednesday, May 3rd with a special ceremony at the Catholic Education Centre.

Joan Carragher invited and answered questions from the committee members.

2. Committee Member Updates.

Committee members shared updates from their schools:

Trustee Joshua Glover reported that he has reached out to the Catholic School Councils and has attended Catholic School Council meetings at many schools. In addition, the trustees have been out visiting and touring schools throughout the board to meet the staff and students which has given the trustees a greater understanding of the culture and challenges that school communities face. Trustee Glover also reported that with the announcement of the Director's retirement, the board of trustees is engaging in a search for a new director of education. The trustees are also reviewing the needs of the St. Elizabeth Catholic Elementary School community and will be coming to a decision with respect to the issue of overcrowding at the school.

Jennifer Ball – deferred her report to next meeting.

Rachel Logan – informed the committee about a guest speaker, Marshall Hohman who will be giving a presentation about accessibility awareness through his lived experiences on April 20th.

Christine Haffie – deferred her report to next meeting.

3. Next Committee Meeting:

The next CPEC meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

D. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer.

Father Paul led the closing prayer to conclude the meeting.

2. Adjournment.

MOTION: Moved by Christine Haffie, seconded by Jennifer Ball
that the meeting adjourn at 9:10 p.m.

Carried.