



Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board



Catholic Parent
Engagement Committee

Agenda

Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 21, 2024 – 6:30 p.m.

Catholic Education Centre – Boardroom

online by Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/dpb-sxda-jpg>

Members/Trustees who are unable to attend are asked to please notify Michelle Kennedy, Administrative Assistant 1-800-461-8009, or 705-748-4861, ext. 1247 or by email: mkennedy@pvnccdsb.on.ca

Chairperson: to be determined

A. Call to Order:

1. Opening Prayer.
2. Land Acknowledgement – Stephen O’Sullivan
3. Approval of Agenda.
4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest.
5. Approval of the Minutes of the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee meeting held October 2, 2024.
6. Business Arising from the Minutes.
7. Selection of a Committee Chairperson for the 2024-2026 term.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Outdoor Play Spaces – Installation and Maintenance Considerations.
Tom O’Grady, Manager of Facilities Services.
2. Human Trafficking Prevention and Personal Safety Initiatives at PVNC Catholic
Julianne Charette, Principal, St. Catherine Catholic Elementary School.
3. Planning for 2024 -2025 – CPEC Meetings and Events.
Stephen O’Sullivan, Director of Education.

C. Information Items:

1. System Updates.
Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education.
2. Ministry of Education November 2024 Conversation with PIC Chairs/Co-chairs and School Board Leads.
3. Committee Member Updates.

D. Conclusion:

1. Closing Prayer – Stephen O'Sullivan.
2. Adjournment.



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 Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Committee Members:

Julianne Charette (online), Karen Goodhand (online), Christine Haffie, Rachel Logan (online), Jen Ball (online), Kevin MacKenzie, Board Chairperson.

Administration:

Jeannie Armstrong, Superintendent of Learning, math team, Kerri Riel, Early Years and child Care Program Supervisor, Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education.

Guests:

Mary Ann Martin, Trustee (online), Adelle Cronin (Math Coach), Nancy McCarthy, Learning Consultant, Jennifer Minnie, Learning Consultant, Shannon Shillinglaw, Teacher (Math Coach), Amanda Walchuck, Teacher (Math Coach), Kristen Daise, parent, St. Stephen FOS (online), and Candice Turcotte, parent, Holy Cross FOS.

Recorder: Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant.

A. **Call to Order:** Due to the position of chairperson for the committee being vacant, the meeting was called to order by Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education.

1. **Opening Prayer**

Principal Julianne Charette led the committee in prayer to begin the meeting.

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

Following prayer, Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education, gave a land acknowledgement and noted 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 Candice Turcotte, seconded by Jennifer Ball

that the agenda be approved.

Carried.

4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest.

Rachel Logan declared that she is an employee of PVNCCDSB.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held May 21, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Christine Haffie, seconded by Julianne Charette
that the minutes from the meeting held on May 21, 2024, be
approved.

Carried.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes.

There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. Selection of a Committee Chairperson for the 2024-2026

Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education, invited anyone interested in becoming the chairperson to put their name forward. None of the members present expressed interest in becoming the committee chairperson. Stephen O'Sullivan continued as the chair of the meeting and this item will be brought forward again at the next meeting.

B. Recommended Actions/Presentations:

1. Math Achievement Action Plan Update.

Superintendent Jeannie Armstrong introduced the Math Team, consisting of Jennifer Minnie, Nancy McCarthy, Adelle Cronin, Amanda Walchuk, and Shannon Shillinglaw. The team gave a presentation about the Math Achievement Action Plan and updates that have been made for the 2024-2025 school year which have been informed by data received from EQAO testing results. PVNCCDSB is among boards who have shown an increase in math results this year as there are more children who are reaching the provincial standard.

The priority areas that have been set by the Ministry: fidelity of curriculum, mathematics content knowledge, and knowledge of the math learner and the team's approach to the areas of focus, were explained.

New 'Math Up' resources have been distributed to teachers in grades Kindergarten through 9 and the use of 'Knowledgehook' software is a district-wide approach to math support.

The Math team will be hosting parent engagement sessions again this school year. The first will be held on October 17th and there will be sessions in February and April which focus on EQAO testing.

At the end of the presentation the committee and guests had the opportunity to ask questions which were answered by the Math Team.

2. Outdoor Play Spaces.

Kerri Riel, Early Years and Child Care Program Supervisor, gave a slideshow presentation about outdoor play spaces. The presentation demonstrated ways in which natural play spaces provide health opportunities for child play to be active and creative which has been supported by research.

A key consideration is to have loose parts, which are natural materials that can be used as the children choose, promoting creativity and endless opportunities.

Kerri Riel referenced the Board's [Administrative Procedure 619, Playground Equipment Installation and Maintenance](#) which provides the framework in which schools must work to provide spaces for children. Other considerations noted by Kerri were to have storage solutions so materials are easily accessed, install mature trees whenever possible, to consider "safe as necessary, not safe as possible", install open-ended equipment such as a mud kitchen, and large sandboxes with covers.

It was noted that research indicates that outdoor play which involves creativity and open-ended play positively contributes to higher math and literacy scores.

There was a discussion about a possible future presentation on the construction aspect of school playgrounds and the restrictions and considerations needed by Catholic School Councils when they are planning school playground and outdoor spaces.

Kerri Riel was thanked for her presentation and those present were able to have their questions answered.

3. Strategic Priorities Renewal

Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education explained that the current Strategic Priorities document is due for renewal in 2025. A review and renewal will be undertaken to determine the goals and priorities of the board. The new plan which will be brought to the trustees for approval will inform the board's initiatives and goals for the next several years.

The strategic priorities review process will include engagement with staff, students and parents, who will provide information and a mandate about what the board needs to do in the coming years. Engagement and discussions about who we are, what values we cherish, and where we want to be as a board will take place in many forums including Catholic

School Councils and the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee. More information will be forthcoming in the spring of 2025.

4. Planning for 2024-2025 - CPEC Meetings and Events

The committee discussed Dr. Jody Carrington as a possible guest speaker for an event during this school year. Principal Julianne Charette spoke about her experience seeing Dr. Carrington speak at a conference. Her topics can include trauma, grief and how it plays together when we are supporting children through experiencing big feelings.

There was discussion about the funds available to bring a guest speaker. The committee was unanimously in favour of engaging Dr. Jody Carrington as a keynote speaker for an event for parents.

C. **Information Items:**

1. Parent Engagement Funding

Michelle Kennedy, Executive Assistant gave a brief verbal report about the funding available to the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee for the 2024-2025 school year.

The Ministry of Education provides funds for parent engagement in a few areas. The first is funding for the Parent Involvement Committee amount. The amount provided to PVNC Catholic is \$7,245 and is calculated based on the number of full-time equivalent students in the board. This amount is for the central operation of the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee and to support communications and activities with the parent councils and support learning at school and at home.

The second amount is the school council amount. The amount provided to PVNC Catholic is \$18,000 or \$500 per school. Each school council has access to this money to support the work of each Catholic school council.

The third amount is the 'Parents Reaching Out' (PRO) amount. PVNC Catholic is provided a base amount of \$1,500 plus \$500 per school, or \$19,500. This funding is to "support initiatives that identify and address local parent needs and/or remove barriers that prevent parents from participating and engaging fully in their children's learning and education progress."

2. System Updates

Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education updated the committee on various aspects of board activities and work taking place this fall:

- Administration and trustees engaged in a visit with MPP David Piccini to tour Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School and St. Michael Catholic Elementary School. The

purpose of the tour was for MPP Piccini to gain understanding of the facilities are being utilized as best they can. The board has begun the process of preparing to build a new school in Bowmanville and will be on-track for opening in September 2026.

- St. Anne Catholic Elementary School celebrated their 75th anniversary. It was a true celebration of the people that have contributed to the school community and of the beacon of Catholic education that St. Anne has been in Peterborough.
- St. Mary Catholic Secondary School will be hosting the Junior Achievement Program and MPP David Piccini on October 10. It will be an opportunity for the Junior Achievement organization to showcase some of their programs and for students to engage with the MPP Piccini to demonstrate their learning in the skilled trades programs.
- Extra curriculums are underway throughout the system including a multitude of clubs, activities and sports. We are grateful to the staff and parents and students who organize and engage in these activities that enrich students' experiences in our Catholic schools.

At the conclusion of his report, Stephen O'Sullivan answered questions from the Committee.

3. Committee Member Updates.

The following committee members shared their updates:

Rachel Logan reported that a friend has produced a film called "Plastic People: The Hidden Crisis of Microplastics" and that the license fee for screening has been waived should schools be interested in accessing this film for environmental education purposes. Rachel Logan also reported that Marshall Homan will be bringing a presentation to St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School for some students. Marshall Homan speaks about accessibility and inclusivity. <https://www.marshalltalks.com/>

Jennifer Ball reported that students are experiencing a good start to the year once they get to school. Clarington has been hard hit with the number of routes that don't have drivers for buses. The safety of students and parents in the kiss and ride areas also continues to be a concern with drivers in excess of speed limits and double parking and parking in no parking zones.

D. **Conclusion:**

1. Closing Prayer.

Julianne Charette closed the meeting with prayer.

2. Adjournment.

MOTION: Moved by Rachel Logan, seconded by Christine Haffie
that the meeting adjourn at 8:26 p.m.

Carried.

DRAFT

NOVEMBER MEETING, BULLYING PREVENTION AND CYBER SECURITY

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (PIC) & SCHOOL BOARD PARENT ENGAGEMENT LEADS (SBL)

Tuesday November 19, 2024 (En 7:00-8:30 pm)

| Time | Topic | Intent |
|---------|---|--|
| 7:00 PM | Introductions | Housekeeping Land acknowledgement |
| 7:05 PM | Welcome | Welcome and program overview |
| 7:07 PM | Ministry updates | Parent Resources: Your child's education: a parent guide to our school system, PPM170 Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullying - we can all help stop it What to watch for, What you can do and Where to get help |
| 7:15 PM | Cyber Security | Cyber Security Awareness Month 2024 – resources for parents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by the Ministry's IT&T cluster to highlight available information and new parent resources for Cyber Security Awareness Month 2024 |
| 7:20 PM | Media Smarts Workshop | <i>Raising Ethical Kids for a Networked World</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This presentation is an abbreviated version of a Media Smarts workshop that contains a lot of information about cyberbullying. <p>Media Smarts' presentations are culturally competent, and presentations and materials are available in both English and French.</p> |
| 7:50 PM | PIC Showcase | Select parent and board staff team(s) share successful practice |
| 8:00 PM | Breakout room discussions (Participants will be in breakout rooms for small group sharing) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please share with us what you are hearing from parents in your community with respect to bullying and cyberbullying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are you hearing from parents? • Please share actions of your PIC and school board to address these issues. 2. In September we spoke of funding to support local parent awareness campaigns related to vaping and excessive cell phone use. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please share your planning process. • What do parents and caregivers want and need to help them become more aware of vaping and excessive cell phone use, and to how to support their own children? 3. Our next meeting will be held in the fourth week of February. What would you like to discuss or learn about when we meet next time? |
| 8:28 PM | Closing | Closing remarks |

Bullying:

We can all help stop it

Schools should be a place where students, staff, parents/guardians and the community all feel welcome. Bullying, in all its forms, is a serious issue that can affect students' learning, sense of safety and overall well-being.

Children may be reluctant or unsure how to talk about bullying.

Here are some signs to look out for:

- complaining of being sick on school days
- having disrupted sleeping or eating habits
- not joining social events with other students
- acting differently than they normally do
- seeming distressed after phone, text or social media contact with others
- suddenly losing money or personal items
- coming home with torn clothes or broken possessions

We all have a responsibility to stop bullying. We encourage everyone – students, parents, guardians, educators – to get involved with bullying prevention.

Visit ontario.ca/stopbullying to learn more about bullying, what you can do if your child is being bullied, has witnessed bullying or may be bullying others.

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week






Did you know that Bullying Awareness and Prevention takes place annually starting the third week in November? During the week of November 17 to 23, 2024, we encourage parents and students to learn more about bullying and its effects on student learning and well-being.



Online safety: Keeping your children safe

October is Cyber Awareness Month. During the month, Ontario students will be encouraged to learn about online safety at school.

Here are some tips to help parents continue the conversation at home.

-  Learn more about social media, virtual reality and video games to better understand where your children are spending time online.
-  Balance your own time spent on and off devices and encourage your child to do the same.
-  Be aware that they are watching your digital interactions and behaviours – both positive and negative – and may copy them.
-  Have open discussions with them about your and their online experiences.
-  Stress the importance of strong passwords, using different passwords for different accounts and devices, and not sharing passwords with others.
-  Discuss news about online scams to raise awareness about potential threats.
-  Teach them to be cautious when meeting new people online where interactions can sometimes be disturbing, threatening and harmful.
-  Show them how to spot suspicious links, attachments and requests for personal information.
-  Encourage your children to clean up or back up personal information, files, unused apps, downloads and images to protect privacy.
-  Encourage your kids to use trustworthy websites.

Find out more

A series of privacy and online safety resources are available for parents, students and educators:

- Education Collaborative Network of Ontario:
www.ecno.org/cyber-awareness
- Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario
www.ipc.on.ca/en/resources/children-and-youth
- Ontario Cyber Security
<https://cybersecurityontario.ca/k-12>

| Third-Party Resources | |
|--|---|
| TVO | TVO's Bullying Awareness & Prevention |
| Media Smarts | Media and Digital Literacy |
| Ontario Native Education Counselling Association | On Bullying: A Journal of Youth Perspectives On Bullying: Activity Book |
| White Ribbon | Resources on Child Sexual Exploitation |
| Speak Out – Stop Sex Trafficking | Speak Out: Stop Sex Trafficking – Ending Trafficking Through Indigenous Women's, Girls' and Two-Spirit Leadership (endindigenoustrafficking.com) |
| Victim Services Toronto T.E.A.R Youth Program Principal Association Projects | Youth Leadership and Social Media Guide |
| Egale Canada | 2SLGBTQI+ - Tailored Resources for all members of the school communities including teachers, students, administrators, and parents/guardians. |
| Kids Help Phone | Cyberbullying: how to support the young person in your life Resources for children and youth as well as 24/7 e-mental health service offering free, confidential support to young people in English and French. Text - 686868 Phone – 1.800.668.6868 |

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| <p>Ontario Principals' Council (OPC), l'Association des directions et directions adjointes des écoles franco-ontariennes (ADFO), the Catholic Principals' Council Ontario (CPCO) and Victim Services Toronto</p> | <p>Parent Resources</p> <p>1) Cyber Safety Parent Tip Sheets (Multiple Languages)</p> <p>2) Parent Internet Guide</p> <p>3) Family Internet Agreement</p> |
| <p>Prevnet</p> | <p>Resources on bullying and teen dating violence for researchers, service providers, educators, youth, parents and caregivers.</p> |
| <p>Government and Ministry Policies and Resources</p> | |
| <p>The Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct (PPM 128)</p> | <p>Sets clear provincial standards of behaviour for all members of the school community.</p> |
| <p>Bullying Prevention and Intervention (PPM 144)</p> | <p>Direction to school boards on their policies and guidelines concerning bullying prevention, and intervention.</p> |
| <p>Bullying – We Can All Help Stop It</p> | <p>Resource for parents on bullying.</p> |
| <p>Progressive Discipline and Promoting Positive School Climate (PPM 145)</p> | <p>Direction to school boards on their policies and guidelines concerning progressive discipline.</p> |
| <p>Supporting Bias-Free Progressive Discipline in Schools: A Resource Guide for School and System Leaders</p> | <p>This resource guide is meant to be used to help enhance understanding among members of school communities about key areas and topics related to progressive discipline.</p> |

[Policy/Program Memorandum \(PPM\) no. 166: Keeping Students Safe: Policy Framework for School Board Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocols](#)

Policy Framework for School Board Anti-Sex Trafficking Protocols.