



# Minutes

THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING, held on Tuesday, September 24, 2019, in the Boardroom at 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough.

## PRESENT:

Trustees – Mmes. Linda Ainsworth, Eveline Fisher (Student Trustee), Michelle Griepsma, and Helen McCarthy.  
Messrs. David Bernier, Josh Hill (Student Trustee), Braden Leal, Kevin MacKenzie, and Emmanuel Pinto.

Administration – Mmes. Joan Carragher, Laurie Corrigan, Isabel Grace, and Dawn Michie.  
Messrs. Galen Eagle, Pepe Garieri, Tim Moloney, and Michael Nasello.  
Father Paul Massel

Recorder – Mrs. Michelle Kennedy

## **A. Call to Order of the Open Meeting:**

### 1. Examen

The Chairperson, Michelle Griepsma, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Father Paul Massel led those present in a daily examen.

### 2. Opening Prayer

The meeting opened with prayer, also led by Father Paul Massel.

Michelle Griepsma welcomed the principal and vice-principal representatives, Stephen Smith and Jennifer Wright. A welcome was extended to the Junior Student Trustee, Josh Hill, and to Superintendent Pepe Garieri in attendance at their first Board Meeting.

### 3. Acknowledgement

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson, acknowledged that the Board Meeting was taking place on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabe.

### 4. Singing of the National Anthem

The National Anthem was sung.

5. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie  
that the Agenda be approved.

Carried.

6. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Trustees Braden Leal and Linda Ainsworth both declared conflict with item D.1, Approval of the School Level Identification, Placement and Review Committees. Both Braden and Linda filed a 'Statement & Declaration of Interest Form' with the Executive Assistant, Michelle Kennedy.

7. Approval of the Minutes.

a. Approval of the Minutes of the June 25, 2019 Regular Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Braden Leal  
that the minutes of the June 25, 2019 Regular Meeting be approved.

Carried.

b. Approval of the Minutes of the August 22, 2019 Special Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie  
that the minutes of the August 22, 2019 Special Meeting be approved.

Carried.

8. Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

There was no business arising out of the minutes.

9. Swearing in of Student Trustee, Josh Hill.

A swearing-in ceremony for the Junior Student Trustee, Josh Hill, was officiated by the Director of Education, Michael Nasello, Vice-Chairperson, David Bernier, and Board Chairperson, Michelle Griepsma. Josh recited a pledge and was welcomed to the Board with a prayer and blessing by Father Paul Massel. Josh was then presented with a

board pin.

## **B. Reports from the Office of the Director and Student Trustees:**

### 1. Report from the Director of Education, Michael Nasello.

Michael Nasello gave the Director's Report, including the following highlights:

- The school has begun with 58 school administrators and approximately 2100 board staff welcoming about 15,000 students back to school or to school for the first time.
- The passing of the Board's former executive assistant, Kathy Cleary was mourned this week. We pray for the repose of her soul and comfort for her family.
- Negotiations are underway for contract renewals for all of the unions that support the many professionals at PVNC. We must remember and honour the multitude of positive relationships that are valued through the potentially difficult times.
- An intentional focus for this year will be the Care of God's Creation. There have been inspirational actions by Greta Thunberg recently that call on us to panic. Pope Francis' letter to the world, 'Laudato Si' calls us to care for our earth as a fundamental principle to who we are. As part of this year's initiative, a challenge has been issued to all schools to become involved in the Eco schools program.
- There will be more to come in the coming months on what we can do as PVNC community to collaborate and care for our environment and make a difference every day.
- The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the St. Dominic school community was celebrated on September 17. The Eucharist was celebrated by Bishop Miehm, Fr. Balonwu Okpe and Fr. Paul Massel. Local dignitaries brought greetings of congratulations and the Sisters of St. Joseph who staffed the school in the early years were represented by Sr. Jean Perry and Sr. Joan Moran.
- September 30 will be commemorated as Orange Shirt Day to remember and inspire learning about residential schools and their impact on the indigenous culture and their communities all across Canada.
- September 27 is the Board-wide Faith Day. Dr. David Wells will continue with video messages about themes from 'Renewing the Promise' a pastoral letter from the Ontario Bishops' Council.

The Director then invited questions from the trustees.

### 2. Report from the Student Trustees, Eveline Fisher and Josh Hill.

Eveline Fisher, Senior Student Trustee and, Josh Hill, Junior Student Trustee gave a report to the Board of the activities which are taking place in secondary schools throughout the system:

- Schools have hosted their opening assemblies and monthly Masses have begun in September providing opportunity for students to join together in faith.
- Student council elections have taken place for student representatives in their schools.
- Many clubs and groups have started up again, including social justice, white pine, best buddies, etc.
- Orange Shirt Day will take place, where students remember and raise awareness of the residential school experience with promotion of the slogan “Every Child Matters”.
- Link crews have been working to ensure that Grade 9 students are settling in and feeling welcome.
- Terry Fox campaigns have begun to raise funds for Cancer research.
- Holy Trinity and St. Stephen participated in the Groundwater Festival which promotes environmental awareness to students.
- Students participating in the Health and Wellness SHSM program at St. Thomas Aquinas travelled to Ganaraska to complete certifications for their program.
- Mindfulness Mondays have commenced again at Holy Cross where students can gather for peaceful meditation.
- A food drive was held at St. Peter by the Social Justice club to benefit Indigenous communities.
- The Student Council Liaison Committee is working to plan a retreat scheduled for November 7, 2019 at St. Thomas Aquinas CSS that will host student council members from PVNC secondary schools. The theme for this years’ retreat is “Voices that Grow” which will focus on the celebrating communal growth, environmental growth and personal growth.

The student trustees then invited and answered questions from the trustees.

3. Report from the Manager of Communications, Galen Eagle.

Galen Eagle, Manager of Communications shared the system achievements and highlighted the following events and other stories from across the Board:

- The celebration of 150 years of Catholic Education at St. Dominic Catholic Elementary School, Lindsay.
- David Wells will return as keynote for the PVNC Faith Day for staff on September

27, 2019.

- The return of the United Way campaign with a kick-off planned for October 2, 2019.
- The success story of a recent adult education student and his recent graduation from Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School as an example of the board outreach to adults in the workforce working to complete their OSSD requirements. This is happening because of a flexible on-site and on-line learning program.

**C. Presentations:**

1. Proposed St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School, Lindsay, Excursion to Silent Lake, Ontario, from October 8, 2019 to October 10, 2019.

Jonathan Di Ianni, Principal of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School gave a brief presentation on the details of the proposed excursion. This excursion is a repeat trip that is a culminating activity as part of a dual credit course with Fleming College.

MOTION: Moved by David Bernier, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the proposed St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School Student Excursion to Silent Lake Provincial Park, Ontario from October 8, 2019 to October 10, 2019 be approved in principle and that it meets OPHEA guidelines for Outdoor Education.

Carried.

2. Holocaust Education Program

The Director of Education, Michael Nasello, Principal Stephen Smith, and St. Peter Secondary School Student, Liv Brown, gave a presentation to the Board summarizing their experiences while on the Holocaust Education excursion which travelled to Germany and Poland in July, 2019. Miss Brown spoke passionately about her experiential learning and the insights she gained while on the trip. At the end of the presentation the presenters answered questions from the trustees.

3. Summer Learning Update.

Superintendent Tim Moloney and Lisa Cole, Principal of Continuid Education and Experiential Learning gave a presentation on Summer Learning which took place at our Board. Lisa Cole reviewed each of the programs, namely, Summer School, Camp AIM,

Focus on Youth and Welding Camps and reported on their content, funding and many success stories.

4. Update on Curriculum Changes.

Dawn Michie and Pepe Garieri gave a presentation on the updates on Curriculum in our schools for the 2019-2020. The presentation focused on the Math Strategy and Deep Inquiry Learning, Early Years, ECO Schools. The trustees were also informed of changes to the Health and Physical Education Curriculum and the release of the Careers Studies Curriculum. A brief overview of the department staff and their roles was also given.

**D. Programs and Services:**

1. Approval of the School Level Identification, Placement, and Review Committees, 2019-2020.

The list of the committees for the schools were reviewed. Trustees Braden Leal and Linda Ainsworth did not participate in discussion and abstained from voting on this item.

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie that the Board approve the Identification, Placement and Review Committees as listed, for the 2019-2020 school year.

Carried.

**E. Business, Finance and Governance:**

1. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Open Session Report.

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson updated the Board on recent OCSTA business. It was noted that updates throughout the summer were sent directly to trustees but are now now being posted on the google drive.

Michelle Griepsma reported that the 'Toonies for Tuition' fundraising campaign was a success in Ontario where they saw an increase in participation and engagement with students. This fundraising event is important for those in other provinces who do not have access to publicly funded Catholic education.

Once again OCSTA is holding a video competition for students with the theme of 'Igniting Hope' more information is available on the OCTSA website.

## 2. Audit and Accountability Fund Update

Michael Nasello, Director of Education, gave some background information about the Ministry of Education invitation to Boards to participate and access the province's Audit and Accountability fund to engage in audits to discover areas of operations where efficiencies can be gained. Following the direction given at the August Board meeting, Michael Nasello gave an update that he has responded to the Ministry to respectfully decline the offer.

### **F. Human Resources:**

### **G. Policy Development:**

### **H. Old Business:**

### **I. New Business:**

### **J. Bring Forward:**

### **K. Information Items:**

#### 1. Chairperson Report

Michelle Griepsma, Board Chairperson extended an invitation to trustees to bring forward agenda items to her or other members of the Chairperson's Committee that could be brought forward to future Board Meetings.

Mrs. Griepsma also reported that Bishop Miehm has invited her to a meeting. She invited trustees to provide her with any questions or topics that they would have for discussion with His Excellency.

#### 2. OCSTA Regional Report

Trustee Linda Ainsworth reported on the OCSTA Fall Regional meeting that took place in Renfrew, Ontario, which was attended by her and Trustee Helen McCarthy. Prior to the meeting, OCSTA provided three questions for board response. Linda thanked the trustees, superintendents and the director for their input into the report. At the meeting, six boards participated and shared their responses and experiences following reductions to funding and staffing levels. It was also reported that Manager of Communications, Galen Eagle was a guest speaker and delivered information on communications with the media.

#### 3. Trustees' Committees Reports

- a. Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting, June 20, 2019.

No report or questions arose from the Trustees' Committees Reports.

4. Policy Development Committee – Change of Date to May 13, 2020.

It was noted that the date of the Policy Development Committee meeting originally scheduled for May 20, 2020, has been changed to Wednesday, May 13, 2020.

**L. Future Meetings and Events:**

1. Board Standing Committee Meetings: (Listed in chronological order.)

- a. Policy Development Committee, October 1, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- b. Chairperson's Committee, October 7, 2019, 4:30 p.m.
- c. Committee-of-the-Whole, October 7, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- d. Board Meeting Open Session, October 22, 2019, 6:30 p.m.  
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)

2. Other Committee Meetings: (Listed in chronological order.):

- a. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee Meeting, September 30, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- b. STSCO Governance Committee Meeting, October 9, 2019, 3:00 p.m.
- c. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee Meeting, October 9, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- d. Accessibility for All Committee Meeting, October 10, 2019, 1:15 p.m.
- e. Special Education Advisory Committee, October 17, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- f. Student Council Liaison Committee, October 22, 2019, 4:15 p.m.
- g. Audit Committee Meeting, November 13, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- h. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, November 6, 2019, 4:30 p.m.
- i. First Nation, Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee, December 10, 2019, 6:30 p.m.
- j. Supervised Alternative Learning Meeting, TBA.

3. Board Events:

- a. Catholic Leadership Development Series – Session #1, October 17, 2019, 4:00 p.m., Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough.
- b. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee and Catholic School Council General Assembly, November 6, 2019, 6:30 p.m., Catholic Education Centre, Peterborough.
- c. PVNC Board Retirement Dinner and Celebration, November 8, 2019, 6:00 p.m., Peterborough Golf and Country Club, Peterborough.



MOTION: Moved by Linda Ainsworth, seconded by Braden Leal  
that the meeting move to an In-camera Session at 8:46 p.m.

Carried.

**M. Conclusion:**

1. Report from the In-camera Meeting

MOTION: Moved by Braden Leal, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising from the  
September 24, 2019, in-camera session, as follows:

- A. Call to Order: The in-camera meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.
    - 1. Opening Prayer
    - 2. The agenda was approved with changes: removal of item D.2, STSCO Governance Committee, In-Camera Session Report and addition of items D.2, Audit Committee Meeting Update and H.1, Update on Collective Bargaining.
    - 3. Kevin MacKenzie declared a conflict of interest with item H.1, Update on Collective Bargaining.
    - 4. Approval of Minutes: Motions were carried to approved the minutes form the June 25, 2019 Regular In-camera meeting, the June 25, 2019 Special In-camera meeting, and the August 22, 2019 Special In-camera meeting.
  - C. Programs and Services:
    - 1. Update on EQAO
  - D. Business, Finance and Governance:
    - 1. OCSTA In-camera Session Report.
    - 2. Audit Committee Update.
  - E. Human Resources – No report given.
  - F. Other Urgent Matter:
    - 1. Approval of a recommended action from the expulsion committee of September 24, 2019.
  - G. Old Business:
    - 1. Kirkfield Property Update.
    - 2. Director Performance Appraisal.
- The meeting convened in Open Session at 6:31 p.m.  
The meeting reconvened in In-camera Session at 8:46 p.m.
- H. New Business:
    - 1. Update on Collective Bargaining.
- The In-camera meeting concluded with closing prayer and convened

in Open Session at 9:40 p.m.

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer

Kevin MacKenzie led the closing prayer.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Emmanuel Pinto, seconded by Dave Bernier  
that the meeting adjourn at 9:43 p.m.

Carried.

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Michelle Griepsma  
Board Chairperson

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Michael Nasello  
Director of Education, Secretary-Treasurer  
per M.K.