



Minutes

The Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting, held on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre, 1355 Lansdowne Street West, Peterborough, and virtually, by Google Meet.

Present:

Trustees – John Connolly, Loretta Durst, Madelyn Gaskell (Senior Student Trustee), Joshua Glover, Claire Heitzner (Junior Student Trustee), Jenny Leahy, Kevin MacKenzie (Chairperson), Mary Ann Martin, and Kathleen Tanguay.

Administration – Jeannie Armstrong, Jonathan Di Ianni, Galen Eagle, Darren Kahler, Father Paul Massel, Stephen O’Sullivan, Sheila Piggott, and Julie Selby.

Recorder – Michelle Kennedy

A. Call to Order of the Open Meeting:

The Board Chairperson Kevin MacKenzie called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and welcomed guests in attendance in person and guests who were joining the meeting online by Google Meet.

The Chairperson welcomed the principal representatives Tammy Rutter, Principal at St. Teresa Catholic Elementary School and Laura Carson, Principal at St. Dominic Catholic Elementary School.

1. Examen and Opening Prayer

The Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie invited Father Paul Massel to begin the meeting with the Daily Examen and prayer.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Kevin MacKenzie, Board Chairperson, respectfully acknowledged that the board meeting was taking place on the treaty and traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabeg.

3. Singing of the National Anthem

The National Anthem was sung.

4. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by John Connolly
that the agenda be approved.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

A conflict of interest was declared by Joshua Glover for agenda item, E.5, Trustee Matter.

6. Approval of the minutes from the December 19, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by Mary Ann Martin
that the minutes of the December 19, 2023, Regular Board Meeting be approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

There was no business arising from the minutes.

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

1. Report from the Director of Education.

Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education, presented the Report from the Director of Education, which included the following points:

- The Christmas break was a time of relaxation and renewal and we returned to school for the new year and the preparation for the end of the first term.
- Secondary students will head into their first semester exam period in the next week.
- Secondary schools have been hosting families for information nights for students coming to Gr 9 in September. Grade 8 students will be turning their minds to secondary school while the senior secondary students prepare for post-secondary pathways.
- The Director will be attending a conference with all Directors of Education from across the province and will connect specifically with the English Catholic

Directors to dialogue about current issues facing publicly funded education in Ontario.

- Attended the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association seminar last week in Toronto where Catholic trustees and directors of education from across the province gathered to engage in learning. Thank you to Trustees Glover, Leahy, Tanguay and Martin who also attended.
- The board has a strong commitment to equity and inclusivity as indicated by our strategic priority "Ensuring Equity". As part of the continued commitment, the board participated in Black Excellence Day on Friday, January 19, 2024. Thank you to Benjamin, the board's equity advisor for her leadership with the event.
- We mourn the loss of Helen McCarthy, a former trustee, who passed away on December 30, 2023. Helen served eight years as a trustee and leaves a legacy of opening the dialogue of tolerance and acceptance in our Catholic school community.

Stephen O'Sullivan invited and answered questions from the trustees at the conclusion of the report.

2. Report from the Student Trustees.

Senior Student Trustee, Madelyn Gaskell and Junior Student Trustee, Claire Heitzner, gave the Student Trustee report which included the following highlights:

- The Student Council Liaison Committee meeting was cancelled for the month of January due to the upcoming exam week.
- Highlights were shared from each of the secondary schools.
- Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School will have a comfy clothes day. The drama production of 'Shakespeare in Love' is scheduled for February 28, 29 and March 1.
- Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School now have spirit wear Croc Jibbitz available. LINK crew and teachers held 'Cocoa and Cram' exam preparation strategy sessions for Gr 9 students preparing for their first high school exams.
- Students at St. Peter Catholic Secondary School were able to 'buy-out' of class to support the boys' hockey team. On February 8th students from Holy Cross and St. Peter can attend a semi-formal dance hosted jointly by both schools.
- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School students hosted a badminton tournament for their feeder schools.
- St. Mary Catholic Secondary School students were happy to have a therapy dog visit promoting well-being in preparation for exams.
- The local Food Bank was grateful for the big success of the 'Be an Angel'

program at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary. Auditions have been held for the upcoming drama production “Nothing but the Truth” and sign-ups for the 2025 trip to Greece sold out in 20 minutes. St. Stephen student Jessie was a member of Team Canada at the IIHF Women’s World U18 Championship and helped to bring home the bronze medal.

Student trustees Madelyn Gaskell and Claire Heitzner invited questions and comments from the trustees at the conclusion of their report.

3. Report from the Communications Department.

Galen Eagle, Manager of Communications shared the following highlights and initiatives from the Communications Department for the month of January:

- PVNC Catholic will be hosting a Black History Month Opening Ceremony at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School on February 1, 2024. This special event will welcome several prominent black leaders and local dignitaries who will launch Black History Month for the board in an engaging learning event.
- The Everyday Hero Award, entering its third year, has returned. The peer-nominated award will honour deserving staff members who make PVNC Catholic workplaces better places due to their positive daily contributions.

At the conclusion of the report, Galen Eagle invited questions and comments from the trustees.

C. Presentations:

1. Providing Excellence in Teaching and Learning: Literacy Updates.

Superintendent of Learning, Sheila Piggott introduced Lindsay Bowen, Literacy Consultant, who presented information to trustees on the Literacy Initiatives at PVNC Catholic in response to the Right to Read Report which was commissioned by the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

The focus and goals of the PVNC Catholic reading program were shared noting that the strategies and resources being used in instruction are evidence-based. The strategies and method for using the early screening tools were explained. The tools determine proficiency of phonemic awareness, phonics and reading fluency and calculate what level the student is working at.

Lindsay Bowen reported that PVNC Catholic is leading the way with advancements of literacy instruction and our board has been recognized by the Ontario Human Rights Commission and Dyslexia Association for the work that is being done. It was also reported that Kate Winn, teacher at St. Luke Catholic Elementary School who is recognized for her literacy expertise, was present at Minister Lecce’s announcement of the new Kindergarten curriculum, on January 23, 2024.

Sheila Piggott and Lindsay Bowen answered questions from the trustees at the conclusion of the presentation.

2. Ensuring Equity: Indigenous Education Action Plan.

Superintendent of Learning, Julie Selby introduced the Indigenous Education team: Jacqueline Gorveatt, Learning Consultant, Cydney Habraken, Indigenous Education Coach, Mike Mooney, Learning Consultant, and Anne Taylor, Indigenous Education Advisor. The team gave a presentation to the trustees that focused on the work of the Indigenous Education team which also includes Anishinaabemowin Language teachers and social workers to support the learning of 228 self-identified students as well as fulfill commitments to the Ontario First Nation Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework and the Equity and Inclusive Education Policy.

The presenters reviewed the ways in which they support classroom learning and Indigenous student well-being which include supporting school communities and the system as a whole. Anne Taylor shared her teaching about walking the path, journeying in a culture of non-judgement and awareness that bring us closer to the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The presenters answered questions posed by the trustees at the end of the presentation.

3. Maximizing Resources: Bill 98.

Stephen O'Sullivan, Director of Education, Superintendents Jeannie Armstrong, Jonathan Di Ianni, Darren Kahler, Julie Selby, and Sheila Piggott, and Bridget McCann-Girard, Principal of Continuing, Adult, and Experiential Learning delivered a presentation on Bill 98, The Better Schools and Student Outcomes Act. The act is an establishment of the priorities of the government with respect to enhancing student achievement, improving the quality of education, and strengthening of parents' voice.

The superintendents reviewed the 2023-2024 areas of focus which are being implemented at PVNC Catholic and explained the aspects of the act that will impact board operations in the areas of Human Resources, Curriculum, Assessment, Mental Health, and Board Facilities.

At the conclusion of the report, the Director, Superintendents and Principal responded to questions from the trustees.

D. Programs and Services:

1. Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School Student Excursion to Scotland, March 26, to April

5, 2025.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by John Connolly

that the proposed Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School Student Excursion to Scotland, from March 26-April 5, 2025, be approved in principle and that the trip will include mandatory insurance for all travelers. Such insurance must cover school board or principal rulings for cancellation of the trip.

Carried.

E. Business, Finance and Governance:

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

The Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie, deferred his report to the trustees who attended the OCSTA Catholic Trustees' Seminar to speak about their experiences from the recent conference.

2. Trustee Report from the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Catholic Trustees' Seminar.

Trustees Kathleen Tanguay, Jenny Leahy, Mary Ann Martin and Joshua Glover each shared their experiences from the OCSTA Catholic Trustees' Seminar held in Toronto on January 18-20, 2024. The trustees were thankful for the opportunity to attend to hear the guest speakers, meet other trustees and gain insights on current issues and trends in Catholic Education.

3. Student Transportation Services of Central Ontario (STSCO) Governance Committee, January 10, 2024, Open Session Report.

Kevin MacKenzie, Board Chairperson reported on the STSCO Governance Committee meeting that was held on January 10, 2024. It was reported that the "Opt-in" program will be launched and there are approximately 18,000 transportation eligible families to engage in the process. To receive bus service in the coming school year, families will have to sign up. This process will eliminate bus spaces for students who do not use the service at all. The consortium will be engaging in a social media campaign to promote the program and another update will be given to report on the engagement and uptake.

4. Recommended Actions from the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting, January 15, 2024: Revised Estimates Report, In Year Deficit Elimination Plan, and PVNCCDSB

Resolutions for the 2024 OCSTA Annual General Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Loretta Durst
that the board received the Revised Estimates Update report for
the 2023-2024 budget as at November 30, 2023.

Carried.

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Mary Ann Martin
that the Board approve the “In Year Deficit Elimination Plan” as
described in the Revised Estimates Update report for the 2023-
2024 budget.

Carried.

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Joshua Kathleen Tanguay
that the resolution on the topic of Fair and Equitable
Transportation, as presented at the Board Meeting on January 23,
2024, be sent to the Ontario Catholic School Trustees’ Association
for inclusion in the meeting package for consideration by the
membership at the Annual General Meeting in May, 2024.

Carried.

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Joshua Glover
that the resolution on the topic of Additional Ministry Funding to
Adequately Fund Board Sick Leave Plans, as presented at the
Board Meeting on January 23, 2024, be sent to the Ontario
Catholic School Trustees’ Association for inclusion in the meeting
package for consideration by the membership at the Annual
General Meeting in May, 2024.

Carried.

5. Trustee Matter.

MOTION: Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by John Connolly

that the Board find that Trustee Joshua Glover has breached the trustee code of conduct.

Carried.

MOTION: Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by John Connolly

that the board deliver a letter of censure to Trustee Glover for the determined breach of conduct; and

that Trustee Glover be sanctioned from all board meetings and its committees beginning January 24, 2024, through to the end of the 2024 term, on or about November 15, for the Board Annual Meeting and be prohibited from attending committee meetings for which he is not a member, including Catholic School Council meetings, for the remainder of his term; and,

that should Trustee Glover have a question, concern or any other communication related to his role as a trustee to raise with board staff, apart from forwarding parent concerns to senior administration, he must address the same with the Chairperson or the Director of Education for the remainder of his term; and,

that the board offer additional training yet to be determined.

Carried.

F. Human Resources:

G. Policy Development:

H. Old Business:

I. New Business:

J. Bring Forward:

K. Information Items:

1. Chairperson's Report.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie acknowledged the passing of former Trustee

Helen McCarthy and noted her commitment to faith and her spirit of inclusion. The flags of school properties were lowered on January 8, 2024, in her honour.

Chairperson MacKenzie reported that the bi-weekly teleconference calls with the Minister of Education continue. Minister Lecce encouraged boards to continue to ensure students get outside, if only for shortened times when the weather is extremely cold. Minister Lecce noted upcoming curriculum updates for secondary school programs.

The Board Chairperson remarked that trustees are entrusted with their duties by the public who elected them and are therefore expected to hold themselves accountable for their actions. He expressed hope that there will be healing and he looks forward to the future when the board is together around the table.

2. Committee and Committee Chairperson's Reports:

a. First Nation Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee, January 16, 2024.

Trustee John Connolly reported that there has been a request to add to the representation on the committee to include both Métis regions covered by the board's jurisdiction. The matter will be on the committee's agenda consideration in the future. The board's Indigenous Education Action Plan was reviewed by the committee.

b. Special Education Advisory Committee, January 18, 2024.

Superintendent Jonathan Di Ianni reported that an update on the delivered professional development was given, the draft OCSTA resolution regarding special education transportation was well received by the SEAC committee. A presentation the work on "The Third Path" was given by Dr. Cynthia Chan Reynolds, Jennifer Angelo and Jeff Hockett. It was noted that the letter to Minister Lecce regarding special education funding has been sent and also shared with the Directors of Education throughout the province.

3. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Information Items:

a. December 18, 2023 – Supporting National Catholic Health Care Week in Canada, February 4-10, 2024.

b. January 15, 2024 – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024 – CCCB.

c. January 15, 2024 – Submission Letter to Ministry of Education re: Director Performance Regulations.

d. January 16, 2024 – June 5-6 Seminar for CDSB Indigenous Leads.

e. January 17, 2024 – OCSTA's 2024 Pre-Budget Submission.

L. Future Meetings and Events:

1. Board Meetings:
 - a. Regular Board Meeting Open Session, February 27, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)
2. Board Standing Committee Meetings: (Listed in chronological order.)
 - a. Policy Development Committee Meeting, February 6, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
 - b. Chairperson's Committee Meeting, February 12, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
 - c. Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting, February 12, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
3. Other Committee Meetings: (Listed in chronological order.):
 - a. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, January 29, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
 - b. Special Education Advisory Committee, February 15, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
 - c. Accessibility for All Committee, February 22, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
 - d. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, February 22, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
 - e. Student Council Liaison Committee, February 27, 2024, 4:15 p.m.
 - f. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, March 5, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
 - g. STSCO Governance Committee, March 27, 2024, 2024, 3:00 p.m.
 - h. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, April 24, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
 - i. Audit Committee, TBA
 - j. Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL), TBA.
4. Board Events:
 - a. Ontario Catholic Trustees' Association Annual General Meeting and Conference, May 2-4, 2024, Niagara Falls, ON.
 - b. Catholic Education Week, May 5-11, 2024.

M. Conclusion:

1. Report from the Regular Board Meeting, Double In-camera Session, January 23, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by Mary Ann Martin

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising

from the Regular Board Meeting, Double In-camera session, held on January 23, 2024, as follows:

- A. Call to Order:
 - 1. Opening Prayer.
 - 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda.
 - 4. A conflict of interest was declared.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
 - 1. Trustee Matter.
- I. Conclusion:
 - 1. Closing Prayer.
 - 2. Motion to adjourn.

Carried.

2. Report from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera Session, January 23, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Jenny Leahy

that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session, held on January 23, 2024, as follows:

- A. Call to Order:
 - 1. Opening Prayer.
 - 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda.
 - 4. There were no conflicts of interest declared.
 - 5. Approval of the December 19, 2023, Regular In-camera minutes.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
 - 1. OCSTA In-camera Report.
 - 2. STSCO Governance Committee In-camera Session Report, January 10, 2024.
- I. Conclusion:
 - 1. Closing Prayer.
 - 2. Motion to convene in Open Session.

Carried.

3. Closing Prayer

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie invited Trustee Kathleen Tanguay to lead the

closing prayer to end the meeting.

4. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Joshua Glover, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay
that the open session meeting be adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Carried.

Kevin MacKenzie
Board Chairperson

Stephen O'Sullivan
Director of Education, Secretary-Treasurer
per M.K.