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The Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting, held on Tuesday, March 26, 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), Claire Heitzner (Junior Student Trustee), Jenny Leahy, Kevin MacKenzie (Chairperson), Mary Ann Martin, and Kathleen Tanguay.

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

Recorder – Michelle Kennedy

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

The Board Chairperson Kevin MacKenzie called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed guests in attendance in person and guests who were joining the meeting online by Google Meet.

The Chairperson welcomed the vice-principal representatives Karen Spencely, Vice-principal of Special Education, and Kerri Langer, Vice-principal at Good Shepherd 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 Jenny Leahy, seconded by John Connolly  
that the agenda be approved with the addition of agenda item H.1,  
Correspondence from the Ministry to the Board Chairperson  
regarding Special Education.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

6. Approval of the minutes from the February 27, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay  
that the minutes of the February 27, 2024, 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:

- Holy Cross Catholic Secondary came away champions in the 'AA' division from the OFSAA Girls' Hockey Tournament. A provincial victory is a testament to the hard work and dedication of students and staff.
- Results from the Staff Census are now available and are posted to the website. The findings will deepen our understanding and provide insights into making our work environments more inclusive through system-wide policies and programs.
- The director regularly meets with public health unit officials and coterminous directors of education to discuss, collaborate and share best practices ensuring the safety and well-being of students.

- Family Math Night was hosted by the Math Team at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School. The evening promoted parent engagement in student achievement and learning. Thank you to Trustee Mary Ann Martin for her support and attendance.
- Professional Development sessions continue in many aspects of learning such as Indigenous Education, Special Education, Math, and Deep Learning. Thank you to the superintendents for their continued focus to advance the skills of PVNC Catholic educators.
- Met with the Directors of Education of Eastern Ontario to meet with the Ministry of Education to share concerns and collectively strive to improve education in Ontario.
- Mourn the loss of teacher, Melanie Webb, member of the St. Mary Catholic Secondary School community.
- Mourn the loss of former PVNCCDSB trustee, Margaret Godawa who served on the board from 1982 to 2006. Her time on the board included service as board chair and the Special Education Advisory Committee.
- Best wishes for a Happy Easter as we celebrate the hope and promise of renewal.

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:

- Rock Your Socks Day was celebrated at all secondary schools on March 21 to support World Down Syndrome Day.
- 'Thinkfast' was hosted at several secondary schools to bring awareness to the issue of hunger and food security in our communities.
- Holy Cross Catholic Secondary held a spirit week in March which included themed days. New clubs have been introduced, there were social justice initiatives and the celebration of the OFSAA gold medal.
- St. Mary Catholic Secondary School is preparing for their production of 'Godspell'. Students are looking forward to the upcoming Europe trip and garden party themed Prom.
- Many community engagement events took place at St. Peter Catholic Secondary highlighted by the March Madness Spirit Week. A student talent coffee house will take place on April 11.

- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary is encouraging applications to leadership positions in the LINK program and school spirit was evident at the recent Boys' Hockey buy-out.
- Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School students showed their talents at HT's Got Talent and a recent Mock Trial and they look forward to the drama production of "Clue".
- St. Stephen Catholic Secondary held a sock drive, gently worn shoe drive and a dress-down day in memory of student Alex Latimer with proceeds going to St. Vincent de Paul. The drama production 'Nothing But the Truth' will be staged in May.

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 February:

- "Great Big Crunch" event in support of healthy food held at school at St. Anthony Catholic Elementary School.
- PVNC Catholic Student Census will launch in April. The census will collect identity based demographic information following the ministry of Education's Equity Action Plan and will provide information to identify and remove barriers to learning.
- St. Teresa students create a neighbourhood campaign to counter the dog waste problem on their school yard. The deep learning project empowered the students to learn about the health and safety implications and advocate the neighbours to try to solve the problem.
- St. Mary Catholic Secondary School launches coffee cart with learning for living students to promote inclusivity and life skills through the delivery of coffee around the school.
- Peter Bagnall, teacher from St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School wins the Archbishop Philip Pocock Award from CARFLEO for excellence in religious education.

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

## **C. Presentations:**

1. Providing Excellence in Teaching and Learning: Math Update.

Jeannie Armstrong, Superintendent of Learning was accompanied by the Board Math team. Jeannie Armstrong gave a presentation that updated the trustees about the ongoing Math initiatives that are taking place throughout the board and particularly in the target schools.

The goals and priorities were reiterated and the evidence of the impact of the work that is being conducted in the schools was shared. The math team continues to prioritize the understanding of the curriculum and the continuum of learning across the grades. Progress is evident because there continues to be an improvement in the number of teachers using the programs and via survey, they report an improvement in their confidence and competence in the use of the programs.

The activities, professional development and voluntary learning sessions that are being undertaken were reported. At the end of the presentation, the trustees were invited to ask questions which were answered.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by John Connolly  
that the Board receive the Math Team Report.

Carried.

2. Inspiring Faith: Role of the Chaplaincy Leaders and Faith Ambassadors.

Julie Selby, Superintendent of Learning introduced Jennifer Eaton-Koch, Learning Consultant, Father Paul Massel, Board Chaplain and Faith Animator, and Deacon Shawn Panio, Chaplaincy Leader, St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School who presented the role of the Chaplaincy Leaders and Faith Ambassadors in PVNC Catholic schools.

The importance of the tasks that these individuals take on with respect to the morale and climate of the school was conveyed. Each of the elementary schools has a staff member voluntarily fill the role of faith ambassador who brings to life the work and initiatives of the central faith team. The role of the Chaplaincy Leader in secondary schools was explained by Deacon Shawn who reviewed what a typical day is like in a secondary school as a chaplain.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the panel of presenters answered questions from the trustees.

**D. Programs and Services:**

1. Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School International Student Excursion to Jalapa, Guatemala, March 10-19, 2025.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Loretta Durst  
that the proposed Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School Student Excursion to Jalapa, Guatemala, from March 10-19, 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, reported that information received from the OCSTA has been shared with the trustees. Chairperson MacKenzie noted that a tentative agreement has been reached between the trustees' association and the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association and the province. The provincial agreement will come into effect once it is ratified by all parties.

2. Recommended Action from the Committee-of-the-Whole, March 18, 2024: School Renewal Project Update.

**MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Jenny Leahy  
that the Board receive the School Renewal Report Update.

Carried.

3. Audit Committee Member Appointments.

Sean Heuchert, Superintendent of Business and Finance, explained the prescriptive process in the Education Act that regulates the appointment of members to the Audit Committee. He noted that there was a public call for applications to become a member of the committee and none were received. When there are no applications received, current members are able to stand for a third term for the audit committee.

**MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Loretta Durst  
that the Board re-appoint Deb McRae as an external member of the Audit Committee from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2027; and, that the Board re-appoint Trang (Tia) Nguyen as an external member of the Audit Committee from April 1, 2024, to March 31,

2027.

Carried.

**F. Human Resources:**

**G. Policy Development:**

**H. Old Business:**

1. Correspondence from the Ministry to the Board Chairperson regarding Special Education.

Trustee Tanguay requested that attention be brought to the copies of the letters that were given to each of the trustees: a copy of the letter sent to the Minister of Education regarding Special Education and a copy of the response that was received from the Ministry. It was requested that further discussion take place and a rebuttal be prepared that would involve staff expertise. By consensus it was determined that the matter would be referred to the next Committee-of-the-Whole meeting for discussion.

**I. New Business:**

1. Trustee Matter.

Kevin MacKenzie read a statement regarding further complaints that were received regarding actions by Trustee Joshua Glover which contravened the Trustee's Code of Conduct.

**MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Jenny Leahy

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

Carried.

It was noted by Chairperson MacKenzie that since there is a determination of a breach of the code of conduct, the trustees can impose a sanction or sanctions against Trustee Glover.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Loretta Durst

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

that the sanctions imposed on January 23, 2024, be extended for an additional twelve (12) months, to on or about November 15, 2025 (date of the annual meeting); and,

that Trustee Glover be prohibited from attending meetings that form part of all Board business, such as OCSTA or CCSTA meetings and events, for the remainder of his term ending November 14, 2026.

Carried.

2. Ad Hoc By-law Review Committee.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Loretta Durst that the Board strike an ad hoc committee for the purpose of reviewing the Board By-laws; and, that the drafted terms of reference for the By-law Review Committee be adopted.

Carried.

**J. Bring Forward:**

**K. Information Items:**

1. Chairperson's Report.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie gave his remarks noting the difficult task that was put before the trustees about the code of conduct and expressed hope that Trustee Glover would appreciate the gravity of the situation and that the board can move forward to healing.

Kevin MacKenzie also reported that he participated in the recent teleconference call with the Minister of Education. Minister Lecce noted that the Ministry, in partnership with the trustees' associations sent a letter to the Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF) advocating for an increase in the number of days that retired teachers can work while drawing pension. Despite this, the letter from the board of trustees was sent to the Minister in support of the Ministry's advocacy of the increase in days. The OTF has since declined the request in a responding letter.



The Board Chairperson reported that a universal approach to the Performance Appraisal process for Directors of Education has been put into legislation. The process will involve a committee approach and will be standard across all boards across the province.

Kevin MacKenzie offered his congratulations to the new MP for Durham, Jamil Javani. Regarding his own campaign for the federal by-election, Chairperson MacKenzie expressed his gratitude to all who sent him messages of encouragement.

At the end of his report, Kevin MacKenzie wished everyone Easter Blessings.

2. Committee and Committee Chairperson's Reports:

a. First Nation Métis and Inuit Advisory Committee, March 5, 2024

Trustee John Connolly reported that it was a productive meeting with informative presentations and discussion about the proposed revised Administrative Procedure 703, Voluntary Self Identification for Students of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Ancestry and the new Administrative Procedure 705, Indigenous Education. Superintendent Julie Selby shared that Curve Lake First Nation will be moving forward with a trustee candidate in September 2024.

b. Special Education Advisory Committee, March 21, 2024.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay reported that the committee did not have quorum for the meeting on March 21, however the meeting proceeded with worthwhile presentations and discussions. Committee member Shawna Bellcourt gave a presentation on the agency with which she is employed (Community Living Peterborough) and explained her role within the agency. The presentation was relevant to the work of the committee and beneficial for members to understand resources available to students.

3. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Information Items:

a. February 27, 2024 – Letter to Federal Government, National School Food Policy and Program.

b. February 29, 2024 – Integrity Commissioner and Electronic Board Meetings Regulation Consultation.

c. March 4, 2024 – Joint Letter to OTF from Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, OCSTA, et al.

d. March 18, 2024 – Letter from OTF to Hon. Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, OCSTA, et al.

e. March 20, 2024 – OCSTA Catholic Education Leadership Speaker Series: Catholic Social Teachings on Social Media, April 3, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

**L. Future Meetings and Events:**

1. Board Meetings:
  - a. Regular Board Meeting Open Session, April 23, 2024, 6:30 p.m.  
(In-camera Session, 6:00 p.m.)
2. Board Standing Committee Meetings: (Listed in chronological order.)
  - a. Chairperson's Committee Meeting, April 8, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
  - b. Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting, April 8, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
  - c. Policy Development Committee Meeting, April 30, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
3. Other Committee Meetings: (Listed in chronological order.):
  - a. STSCO Governance Committee, March 27, 2024, 2024, 3:00 p.m.
  - b. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, April 15, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
  - c. Special Education Advisory Committee, April 18, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
  - d. Student Council Liaison Committee, April 23, 2024, 4:15 p.m.
  - e. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, April 30, 2024, 4:00 p.m.  
(virtual)
  - f. Accessibility for All Committee, May 9, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
  - g. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, May 9, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
  - h. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, June 11, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
  - i. Audit Committee, TBA
  - j. Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee, TBA.
4. Board Events:
  - a. Ontario Catholic Trustees' Association Annual General Meeting and Conference,  
Niagara Falls, ON.
  - b. Catholic Education Week, May 5-11, 2024.

**M. Conclusion:**

1. Report from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera Session held March 26, 2024.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Loretta Durst  
that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising

from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session, held on  
March 26, 2024, as follows:

- A. Call to Order:
  - 1. Opening Prayer.
  - 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda.
  - 3. Declaration of conflict of interest by Trustee John Connolly.
  - 4. Approval of the February 27, 2024, Regular In-camera minutes.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
  - 1. OCSTA In-camera Report.
- E. Human Resources:
  - 1. Approval of a recommended action to ratify the Memorandum of Settlement and attached appendices, dated March 5, 2024, made between the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) and the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) and agreed to by the Crown, and to report the result to the OCSTA.
- I. Conclusion:
  - 1. Closing Prayer.
  - 2. Motion to convene in Open Session.

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie invited Trustee Jenny Leahy to lead the closing prayer to end the meeting.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Jenny Leahy  
that the open session meeting be adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Carried.

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Kevin MacKenzie  
Board Chairperson

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