



Minutes

The Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting, held on Tuesday, May 28, 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

A. Call to Order of the Open Meeting:

The Board Chairperson Kevin MacKenzie called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. and welcomed guests in attendance in person and guests who were joining the meeting online by Google Meet.

The Chairperson welcomed vice-principals Lisa Diachenko and Greg Kieskowski, from St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School, who were attending the meeting as representatives of the principals and vice-principals.

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 with the addition of item I.1, Shared
Public Spaces.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Trustee John Connolly declared a conflict of interest with agenda item, F.1, 2024-2025
Staffing Report.

6. Approval of the minutes from the April 23, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Mary Ann Martin
that the minutes of the April 23, 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:

- Many schools were visited for Catholic Education Week and throughout the month of May. A highlight of Catholic Education Week was the Catholic Student Awards.
- 'Pilgrims of Hope' is the theme for the 2025 Catholic Education Week.
- Congratulations to Michael Bellmore who was elected to president of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association.
- The Living Rosary Program was celebrated in our schools during the month of May and over 300 rosaries were distributed through the work of Father Paul Massel and Jennifer Koch, Learning Consultant.

- The Indigenous Education Team guided our learning about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-spirited people as we honoured them on Red Dress Day.
- Thank you to the trustees for embarking on their journey of learning and participation in Indigenous Cultural Competency Training and taking steps toward our commitment to the process of Truth and Reconciliation.
- The annual Environment Symposium was a full-day event of awareness activities with students from across the board participating.
- The Newcomer Picnic was hosted by the Multi-language Learner team and was a success to build connections within our PVNC Catholic community.
- 150 students attended the Indigenous Trades Fair held at Hiawatha First Nation. Thank you to all the staff involved who made the day a success and for the hospitality from Hiawatha. We thank MPP David Piccini for his support and presence.
- The Catholic Parent Engagement Committee hosted a Parent Math Learning event that was offered in-person and online with Dr. Christine Suurtamm. Thank you to the Math Team for their assistance and enthusiasm.
- The PVNCCDSB Math team was invited to present to their colleagues across the province to showcase the work being done in our schools that has been acknowledged.
- This week is Accessibility Awareness week. Thank you to Special Education staff who have worked to provide schools with resources which will inspire staff to challenge attitudinal barriers and act inclusively.
- We are very proud to celebrate the announcement of the new Catholic Elementary school in Bowmanville, which is scheduled to open in September, 2026. Thank you to everyone for your efforts in making this come to reality.

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:

- One student from each school was honoured to receive the Catholic Student Leadership award for their contributions to their Catholic school communities during Education Week.
- Students from all of the secondary schools participated in Red Dress Day to raise awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2 Spirit plus peoples and learn about the disproportionate rates of domestic violence faced in

indigenous communities.

- Expressed thanks to the Board for allowing Junior Student Trustee Claire Heitzner and incoming Junior Student Trustee Carter Peios to attend the recent OSTA-AECO conference in Toronto where they heard exceptional guest speakers and engaged in workshops and networking with other student trustees from across the province.
- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School hosted a Special Olympics Corn Hole competition, held a school-wide spoon game, participated in outdoor education excursions, and staged LINK events to welcome incoming Grade 8 students.
- St. Mary Catholic Secondary School hosted a chess tournament and a May Day event along with preparations for their drama production of 'Godspell'.
- St. Peter Catholic Secondary School saw a Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) presentation, held their annual Seniors Supporting Seniors program, in which senior students assist senior citizens in the community, and enjoyed their 'Under the Stars' themed prom.
- St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School participated in the Ontario Catholic Youth Day, held a spring concert, participated in the Relay for Life, and staged the drama presentation, 'Nothing but the Truth'.
- Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School held a Prom-posal contest, and the student council is looking forward to presenting their 'Fun in the Sun Day'.
- Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School prepared for their upcoming student council elections, held their Titan-palooza Fun Day, and presented their drama production of 'Clue'.

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 system highlights and initiatives:

- Team Trinity – first annual team trinity jamboree to celebrate National Accessibility Week.
- PVNC Catholic hosts skilled trades fair for Indigenous students with Hiawatha First Nation.
- Monsignor Leo Cleary Catholic Elementary School hosts first family chess tournament.

- Take your MPP to School Day was held at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School when MPP Todd McCarthy visited the school to talk with a Gr 10 Civics class about parliamentary business with fellow MPP Patrice Barnes.
- Five PVNC Catholic Secondary Schools ranked in the top 25 Terry Fox Fundraisers in Ontario.
- Board-wide Primary Math Olympics saw students from all schools gather for competition and learning.
- Asian Heritage Month was launched at Holy Cross at the beginning of May.
- Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School celebrated 25 years as a school community.
- Catholic Student Leadership Awards were held during Catholic Education Week and celebrated a recipient from each school exemplifying the qualities of the Catholic Graduate Expectations.
- “Being Community Cup” challenge, won by St. Teresa Catholic Elementary School, encouraged food drive participation amongst the schools in Peterborough City and County throughout Catholic Education Week.

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

C. Presentations:

1. Providing Excellence in Teaching and Learning: Student Achievement Plan Update.

Superintendents of Learning Jeannie Armstrong, Sheila Piggott, and Julie Selby updated the trustees on the Student Achievement Plan which detailed the goals and actions of year one. The board’s performance in comparison to the provincial performance was noted in all the areas and goals have been developed to decrease gaps. Areas of improvement were cited in Literacy, Math, graduation rates and preparedness for future success, improvement in students’ participation in class time and learning, and improve student well-being. Specific goals and action plans have been noted in each of the areas.

The development of the achievement plan which is posted on the board website included public engagement during the month of April through the website consultation platform, where over 600 participants visited the plan. The feedback provided was positive and there were no recommendations to make any changes to the plan.

At the conclusion of the presentation the presenters invited questions and comments from the trustees.

D. Programs and Services:1. Student Excursions.

MOTION: Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay

that items D.1 a) and D.1 b) be approved as presented:

D.1 a) that the proposed St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School International Excursion to Netherlands, Belgium and France, from May 1-9, 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.

D.1 b) that the proposed Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School International Excursion to the Netherlands and France, from May 1-9, 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 the OCSTA Fall Regional Meeting will take place at the Ottawa Catholic School Board, 570 West Hunt Club Road, Nepean, ON, on Thursday September 19, 2024. More details will be shared when they become available.

2. Revised 2024-2025 School Year Calendar.

Darren Kahler, Superintendent of Human Resource Services presented a report to the trustees regarding further changes to the 2024-2025 school year calendar. The proposed changes are due to changes made to our co-terminus Board's school year calendar. Alignment with the public board is necessary to avoid excessive transportation costs when busing is not shared between the boards. The proposed changes are to move the professional activity day on November 1, 2024, to October 25, 2024, and move the June 6, 2025 professional activity day to June 9, 2025.

MOTION: Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay that the board rescind the February 27, 2024, approval of the 2024-2025 School Year Calendars; and that the revised 2024-2025 School Year Calendars be approved and submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval, as required.

Carried.

F. Human Resources:

1. 2024-2025 Staffing Report.

Darren Kahler, Superintendent of Human Resource Services presented a report to the trustees regarding projected staffing for the 2024-2025 school year. The number of elementary, secondary and centrally assigned teachers is predicted to decrease based on projected enrollment at this time. The number of teachers retiring and the number of teachers deemed surplus were also reported. Occasional teachers, and planned school administration levels were also reported. At the end of the presentation, Superintendent Kahler responded to questions from the trustees.

G. Policy Development:

1. Recommended Actions from the Policy Development Committee, April 30, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by John Connolly that the Board receive the reports and recommendations from the Policy Development Committee meeting dated April 30, 2024, for publication and implementation.

Carried.

H. Old Business:

I. New Business:

1. Shared Public Spaces.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie brought forward a concern about the

growing cost of playground equipment and the burden on schools and Catholic School Councils to fundraise for the installation and upkeep of playground equipment that has a limited lifespan. Chairperson MacKenzie proposed a motion, which, following discussion amongst the trustees, by friendly agreement, was amended.

MOTION: Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay that senior administration investigates and reports to the board the need and interest in updating outdoor school play areas using environmentally friendly and cost-effective means, including the exploration and consideration of funding sources, existing resources, and safety considerations.

Carried.

J. Bring Forward:

K. Information Items:

1. Chairperson's Report.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie reported that the official ground-breaking ceremony will take place on June 14 with MPP Todd McCarthy, His Excellency, Bishop Miehm and other dignitaries.

Minister Lecce's last teleconference call with School Board Chairpersons included information on PPM 128, and Professional Development Day Mental Health content.

Chairperson MacKenzie reported that he recently attended St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School for Bring your MPP to School Day where MPP Todd McCarthy and MPP Patrice Barnes participated in activities with students.

Chairperson MacKenzie wished everyone a Happy Pride month for June and blessings on the staff and students of PVNC Catholic.

2. Committee Reports:

a. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, April 30, 2024.

A report on the meeting was given by Superintendent Sheila Piggott. An update on the DELF language assessment was given as well as Collaborative Inquiry. There will be four reading coaches in place for next year, three English and one French.

b. Accessibility for All Committee, May 9, 2024.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay reported that the first rider program will take place again in August in Bowmanville, Cobourg and Peterborough. Evacuation practices for students with disabilities were discussed. The committee's terms of reference were reviewed. Red Shirt Day is Wednesday, May 29th to encourage accessibility awareness.

c. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, May 9, 2024.

Trustee Loretta Durst reported on the presentations that were heard. Jessica Devlin from the New Canadians Centre, Religious Education Updates on the Month of Mary initiatives involving the Rosary, and updates on the new Family Life Curriculum 'Blessed and Be Loved' which will roll out in September for Grades 1-8.

d. Special Education Advisory Committee, May 16, 2024.

Teachers assigned to CASA classes were able to meet to share with each other best practices and concerns. A presentation from Julie Wilson, from the CICE program (2-year certificate program) at Fleming College. The program offers a post-secondary life skills course for special education students. The Board Special Education Plan was also reviewed.

e. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, May 21, 2024.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay reported that the committee heard a presentation from Jennifer Angelo and Dr. Cynthia Chan Reynolds regarding Mental health updates. There will be a parent engagement evening held on June 12 regarding Student Mental Health. The Math Parent Engagement event was held on May 27 and free math kits will be delivered to parents who signed up to participate.

3. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Information Items:

- a. April 22, 2024 – Follow up Resources from April 10th Social Media Presentation.
- b. May 13, 2024 – Cybersecurity Legislation.

L. Future Meetings and Events:

1. Board Meetings:

- a. Regular Board Meeting Open Session, June 25, 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, June 4, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
 - b. Chairperson's Committee Meeting, June 10, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
 - c. Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting, June 10, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
3. Other Committee Meetings: (Listed in chronological order.):
- a. STSCO Governance Committee, June 5, 2024, 2024, 3:00 p.m.
 - b. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, June 11, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
 - c. Special Education Advisory Committee, June 13, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
 - d. Audit Committee, June 13, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
 - e. Accessibility for All Committee, October 10, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
 - f. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, October 10, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
 - g. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, November 5, 2024, 4:00 p.m. (virtual)
 - h. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, TBA
 - i. Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee, TBA.
4. Board Events:
- a. Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association Annual General Meeting and Conference, Calgary, Alberta.
 - b. Secondary School Graduation:
St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School – Wednesday, June 26, 2024;
Holy Cross Catholic Secondary, Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, St. Peter Catholic Secondary School, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School – Thursday, June 27, 2024.

M. Conclusion:

1. Reports from the In-camera Sessions held April 23, 2024, and May 28, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Jenny Leahy
that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising
from:

the Special Board Meeting, In-camera session, held on April
23, 2024, as follows:

- A. Call to Order:
 - 1. Opening Prayer.
 - 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda.
 - 3. No conflicts of interest declared.
- B. Presentations:
 - 1. Legal Matter.
- I. Conclusion:
 - 1. Closing Prayer.
 - 2. Adjournment.

and, the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session, held on May 28, 2024, as follows:

- A. Call to Order:
 - 1. Opening Prayer.
 - 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda with addition of items E.1, OECTA Local Agreement Ratification and H.1, Trustee Matter.
 - 3. Conflict of interest declared by Trustee John Connolly with agenda item, E.1.
 - 4. Approval of the minutes of the April 23, 2024, Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session and the April 23, 2024, Special Board Meeting, In-camera session.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
 - 1. OCSTA In-camera Report.
- E. Human Resources:
 - 1. OECTA Local Agreement Ratification.
Motion approved that the local portion of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) Collective Agreement, effective September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2026, be ratified.
- H. New Business:
 - 1. Trustee Matter.
- 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 Kathleen Tanguay
that the open session meeting be adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Carried.

Kevin MacKenzie
Board Chairperson

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