



# Minutes

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The Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting, held on Tuesday, June 25, 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, 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 6:46 p.m. and welcomed guests in attendance in person and guests who were joining the meeting online by Google Meet.

The Chairperson welcomed vice-principal Adam White from Monsignor O’Donoghue Catholic Elementary School and Michael DeMaeyer, principal from St. John Paul II Catholic Elementary School, who were attending the meeting as principals and vice-principal representatives.

1. Examen and Opening Prayer

The Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie invited the Director of Education, Stephen O’Sullivan to begin the meeting with prayer which involved the participation of all of the trustees.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Michael Mooney, Learning Consultant was invited to give a land acknowledgement in which he acknowledged the traditional territory of the Michi Saagi Anishnaabeg and the treaties of the area and asked the reflective questions: How does the land take care of me? and How do I take care of the land?

3. Singing of the National Anthem

The National Anthem was sung.

4. Approval of the Agenda

**MOTION:** Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by John Connolly  
that the agenda be approved.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie declared a conflict of interest with agenda item G.2, Review of Administrative Procedures affected by Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) No. 128, Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct to restrict cellphones and vapes in schools due to the nature of his employment.

6. Approval of the minutes from the May 28, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by Mary Ann Martin  
that the minutes of the May 28, 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:

- Acknowledged the dedication of all staff to make this year successful for students, especially secondary students who finish up exams and prepare for graduation this week.
- Joyously announced the new Catholic school in Clarington with a sod-turning ceremony on June 14.

- Gratitude extended to Jennifer Koch for her leadership and support of the Adult Faith Formation program.
- Thank you to Darren Kahler, Superintendent of Human Resource Services and his Human Resources team for their work with job fairs in preparation for September and for their work with CUPE and OECTA to support to serve our students.
- The second Cultural Competency Training session took place with the trustees. We are grateful for the leadership of Jacqueline Gorveatt, Anne Taylor, and Michael Mooney in this work.
- The board recognized and celebrated June 21<sup>st</sup>, National Indigenous Peoples Day to honour and recognize the heritage and diversity of First Nation, Métis and Inuit people of Canada.
- Congratulated the Honorable Todd Smith for his recent appointment as Minister of Education.
- Congratulated the 2024 graduates and expressed sincere hope that learning at PVNCCDSB has served you well.
- Congratulated staff who have decided to retire this year and look forward to celebrating at the board reception in the fall.
- Service pins representing significant milestones of service to PVNC Catholic were distributed to 146 staff members collectively representing 5,420 years of service.
- Thanks were extended to the senior leadership team and the administrative assistants and executive assistant for their dedication and leadership and invaluable service.
- The trustees were thanked for their role in shaping and ensuring the schools are places of faith and learning.
- The student trustees were thanked for their service and the outstanding positive impact they have on PVNC Catholic students. Madelyn Gaskell was congratulated on her graduation and honoured for her leadership and contributions to the students. Welcome to Carter Peios who will join the Board of Trustees in the fall.
- The PVNCCDSB community is one of strength and blessings and we look forward to the future with renewed commitment to Catholic education.

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

2. Introduction of the new Junior Student Trustee, Carter Peios and the appointment of the Student Trustees for 2024-2025.

Vice-chairperson, Jenny Leahy gave a brief introduction of Carter Peios, student from Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School who was voted by the Student Council Liaison Committee to be the Junior Student Trustee during the 2024-2025 school year.

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

that Carter Peios, student at Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, be appointed the Junior Student Trustee for a one-year term, August 1, 2024, through to July 31, 2025; and

that Claire Heitzner, student at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School, be appointed the Senior Student Trustee for a one-year term, August 1, 2024, through to July 31, 2025.

Carried.

3. Presentation to Graduating Student Trustee, Madelyn Gaskell.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie and Director of Education, Stephen O'Sullivan, made a gift presentation to graduating student trustee, Madelyn Gaskell. Madelyn was thanked for her service and leadership to the students of PVNCCDSB and for her professionalism at the board table over the last two years.

4. 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:

- Proudly celebrate the achievements of the students of PVNC Catholic and present year in review that included highlights from throughout the year.
- In the fall the students and LINK leaders welcomed the new Grade 9 students to secondary school. Student Council elections were held and there were activities such as Terry Fox fundraisers, fall sports and social justice activities and clubs.
- Senior students started to think about post-secondary education late in the fall and the Student Council Liaison Committee planned for the annual board-wide retreat with the theme "Voices that Flourish; We Flourish Together". The event was held in December with guest speaker Aubrey Noronha giving an inspiring presentation.
- There were many events that benefited meaningful agencies. Student participation fostered empathy and a sense of global awareness through events like "Orange Shirt Day", "Think Fast" and "Rock Your Socks" day.
- School sports highlights included Holy Cross CSS Junior Boys football qualifying

for the MetroBowl and the Holy Cross CSS Girls Hockey Team winning an OFSAA gold medal.

- The OSTA-AECO conferences were opportunities to learn from other trustees across the province and receive professional development in leadership and public speaking.
- New Junior Student Trustee election was very exciting and we welcome Carter Peios to the board table to continue to empower student voices.
- Throughout the year the activities have a theme of building community and celebrating our Catholic faith and its core values. This was celebrated by the Catholic Leadership Awards honoring one student from each of the PVNC Catholic schools who exemplifies the Catholic Graduate Expectations.
- Madelyn Gaskell extended thanks to PVNC Catholic for the opportunities and experiences of beauty and warmth that define the board and fortunate to have had wonderful mentors and teachers. Thank yous were also extended to the Student Council Liaison Committee and to Claire Heitzner for being her partner and friend.
- Madelyn Gaskell also stated that she will forever cherish time with the trustees at the board table and gratitude for the years of learning, laughing, and growing at PVNCCDSB.
- Claire thanked Maddy for being a great mentor to learn from and wished her well in her future studies at the University of Guelph.

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

##### 5. Report from the Communications Department.

Galen Eagle, Manager of Communications shared the following system highlights and initiatives:

- Groundbreaking ceremony took place at the future site of the Bowmanville Catholic Elementary School on June 14, 2024, with Bishop Daniel Miehms and Father Craig Cruikshank blessing the site along with trustees and local dignitaries in attendance.
- Students from St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School became published authors when they produced a book “For the Love of Animals”. The book was the result of an inquiry based learning project and sales from the book will benefit the Peterborough Humane Society.
- Monsignor Leo Cleary Catholic Elementary School was the winner of a national Eco Team award recognizing the students’ leadership and stewardship at their school.

- St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School student, Ethan Wallis was presented the Canadian Tooling and Machining Association (CTMA) High School Award for his keen interest in pursuing a career in the field and a demonstration of a high proficiency in metalworking skills.
- St. Peter CSS Grade 10 student, Reese Cowan received national recognition for her contributions as a member of the 534 Royal Canadian Air Cadets. Reese Cowan was the recipient of the Royal Canadian Legion Cadet Medal of Excellence and the inaugural Murray Whetung Community Service Award, commemorating veteran Murray Whetung, a member of Curve Lake First Nations who voluntarily served in WWII.
- There were 63 PVNC Catholic Everyday Hero award program recipients who were nominated during the 2023-2024 school year.
- St. Mary CSS hosted the fourth annual PVNC Catholic Secondary School Chess Tournament which saw the top sixteen competitors from all regions of the board compete. Lev Khaimovich, Grade 9 student from St. Mary CSS was the individual champion, while the Holy Cross CSS was named the team champion.

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 Achievement Action Plan Update, A Year in Review.

Superintendent of Learning, Jeannie Armstrong, introduced the PVNC Catholic Math team: Sandra Connolly, Learning Consultant, Nancy McCarthy, Learning Consultant, and Math Coaches, Amanda Walchuk, Adelle Cronin, and Jennifer Minnie.

The group reviewed the goals that were set and achieved this year which were curriculum focused and emphasized effective instructional and assessment practices. The progress achieved by the math team has been publicly acknowledged by the Ministry of Education and resulted in the team sharing their experiences and practices amongst their peers throughout the province.

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

2. Protecting the Environment: PVNCCDSB Environmental Learning Updates.

Sheila Piggott, Superintendent of Learning, introduced the presenters: Michael Mooney, Learning Consultant, and Michael Halloran, Teacher from Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School.

Michael Mooney gave an overview of the presentation and highlighted the strategic goals of the environmental education program noting the priority of environmental education as it relates to the strategic priorities and the desire to certify all schools in their environmental practices and develop short and long-term environmental plans.

Michael Halloran introduced the four students from the Sustainable Environmental Education and Design (SEED) Specialist High Skills Major program at Holy Cross CSS: Lauren Graham, Grace Davis, Holly Heuchert and Ashlin English and Theresa Fair.

The students presented their culminating projects which explored LED Lighting cost analysis at Holy Cross CSS, Rewilding of the Board Office property and installation of electric vehicle charging ports at Holy Cross CSS.

Michael Mooney gave an overview of the environmental symposiums and water festival which included Indigenous learning. The next step in the environmental education plan is to move forward through accompaniment which will include caring for our spaces with a focus on process, caring for each other through student mentorship, and celebrating our students and their accomplishments.

The presenters were thanked for attending and the trustees had an opportunity to have their questions addressed.

#### **D. Programs and Services:**

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

1. Recommended Actions from the Committee-of-the-Whole, June 10, 2024: 2024-2025 Budget, Notre Dame Capital Improvements Overview and 2018 Accommodation Review.

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

that the 2024-2025 Consolidated Expenses Budget, in the amount of \$221,883,763 be approved as presented.

Carried.

**MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay

that the Board receive the Notre Dame Capital Improvements Overview for information; and

further, that the board request that Senior Administration investigate acting on the 2018 ARC in light of the current circumstances and the

Ministry and the province.

Carried.

2. Bonnerworth Park Redevelopment – Update.

Sean Heuchert, Superintendent of Business, Finance and Facilities Services gave a brief background on administration's interactions with the City of Peterborough with regard to the Bonnerworth Park redevelopment proposal. It was noted that the board received information about a recreational plan for outdoor facilities, which included updates and changes to approximately fifteen different sites/facilities in Peterborough. The board has no record that the city reached out to find out about facility use by PVNC Catholic schools.

It was requested that trustees receive information in the future regarding communications from the city affecting public facilities so that the trustees are able to communicate with parents.

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

that the Board write a letter to the mayor and members of Peterborough city council advising of the significant impact that the Bonnerworth Park redevelopment will have on St. Peter Catholic Secondary School athletics and the PVNCCDSB elementary school athletics program; and,

that the letter include wording to express the Board's disappointment at the city's disregard for public and user group input and the process by which the consultation was conducted; and,

that the Board advise the Peterborough city council that, as a Catholic institution, we support Pope Francis in his quest, as outlined in Laudato Si, for the protection of the environment from irresponsible use and abuse.

Carried.

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

The Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie, reported that cybersecurity legislation "Strengthening Cyber Security and Building Trust in the Public Sector Act, 2024" has been introduced in the Ontario Legislature with the purpose of safeguarding children's personal information. OCSTA will be providing a response to the call for public consultation.



Chairperson MacKenzie noted the information that was received about the OCSTA Fall Regional Meeting that will take place on September 19 in Ottawa.

4. STSCO Governance Committee Meeting, June 5, 2024, Open Session Report.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie gave a report from the open session of the STSCO Governance Committee meeting that was held on June 5, 2024. Letters have been sent out to Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School students who will be given access to city bussing during the 2024-2025 school year. Bus passes will be provided to some students in lieu of a yellow bus providing a route to school.

The annual First Rider Program will be held again this year to reduce first day jitters for kindergarten students who will be new to riding the bus.

It was reported that the Opt-in program has come to completion and the board had a response rate of 83 percent. There are 53 students who have neither opted for nor opted out of busing. Those families will be contacted to clarify their plans for transportation in the fall.

5. Trustee Professional Development, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Fall Regional Meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay that trustees wishing to do so, be authorized to attend the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) Fall Regional Meeting, on September 19, 2024, at the Ottawa Catholic School Board, Nepean, ON.

Carried.

**F. Human Resources:**

1. Joint Health and Safety Semi-annual Report, June 2024.

Darren Kahler, Superintendent of Human Resource Services delivered a presentation highlighting statistics and the activities from the Joint Health and Safety Committee since the last report which was delivered in December, 2023.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Jenny Leahy that the Joint Health and Safety Committee Semi-annual Report to the Director of Education dated June 18, 2024, be received.

Carried.

**G. Policy Development:**

1. Recommended Actions from the Policy Development Committee, June 4, 2024.

**MOTION:** Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by Mary Ann Martin  
that the Board receive the reports and recommendations from the  
Policy Development Committee meeting dated June 4, 2024, for  
publication and implementation.

Carried.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay  
that the meeting be extended beyond its 9:30 p.m. curfew, to  
10:00 p.m.

Carried.

2. Review of Administrative Procedures affected by Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) No. 128, Provincial Code of Conduct and School Board Codes of Conduct to restrict cellphones and vapes in schools:

Board Vice-chairperson, Jenny Leahy assumed the chair as Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie left the room for this agenda time due to his conflict of interest declared at the beginning of the meeting.

**MOTION:** Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Loretta Durst  
that the following Administrative Procedures be received and  
posted with future review dates amended:  
G.1 a) that Administrative Procedure #313, Student Acceptable  
Use of Technology be received and posted as revised under  
Directional Policy #300, Student Achievement and Well-being.  
G.1 b) that Administrative Procedure #314, Personal Device  
Network Access be received and posted as revised under  
Directional Policy #300, Student Achievement and Well-being.

G.1 c) that Administrative Procedure #516, Use of Electronic Communications and Social Media be received and posted as revised under Directional Policy #500, Employee Relations.

G.1 d) that Administrative Procedure #909, Code of Conduct be received and posted as revised under Directional Policy #900, Safe and Accepting Schools.

G.1 e) that Administrative Procedure #912, Supporting Positive Student Behaviour: Safety for All be received and posted as revised under Directional Policy #900, Safe and Accepting Schools.

Carried.

Board Chairperson Kevin MacKenzie re-entered the meeting and resumed the role of chair.

**H. Old Business:**

**I. New Business:**

**J. Bring Forward:**

**K. Information Items:**

1. Chairperson's Report.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie reported that a letter from Durham MP Jamil Jivani was received in response to the letter from the board that was sent to request support for the private member's bill advocating for increased funding for food programs in schools and did not provide any commitment to action.

The Board Chairpersons had the opportunity to have a teleconference with the new Minister of Education, Todd Smith. Minister Smith is greatly interested in education as his wife was a teacher and is now a vice-principal.

June 14<sup>th</sup> was an extremely exciting day as the official groundbreaking took place with members of Clarington council and trustees in attendance. Councilor Granville Anderson acknowledged the potential for shared public green spaces and Chairperson MacKenzie looks forward to exploring this possibility with him.

Board Chairperson MacKenzie also attended an event at Good Shepherd Catholic

Elementary School and witnessed wonderful things happening in the school. The Board Chairperson wished God's blessing on the staff and students of PVNC Catholic.

2. Committee Reports:

a. First Nation Métis and Inuit Education Advisory Committee, June 11, 2024.

Trustee John Connolly reported that the First Nation Métis and Inuit Education Advisory Committee reviewed the Indigenous Education Board Action Plan and the past year's activities and achievements. He credited the Indigenous Education team for accomplishing a great deal with a small and mighty team. The committee also heard updates from the partnership communities.

b. Special Education Advisory Committee, June 13, 2024.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay reported that Sean Heuchert, Superintendent of Business and Finance provided information to the committee about the newly implemented core education funding and special education funding. The committee heard a presentation about Wind Reach Farms and the therapeutic riding program that they provide at minimal cost through fundraising and donations.

Trustee Tanguay noted that there will be a response letter to the Ministry to respond to the Ministry's response to the SEAC letter sent earlier this year. The draft letter will be presented in the fall for approval to be sent to the ministry.

c. Audit Committee (Open Session), June 13, 2024.

Trustee Loretta Durst reported that financial information from March 31 that was part of the board's budget package was reviewed. The Audit Committee received a report with recommendations from the internal audit team. It was reported that Trustee Durst will chair the Audit committee for the next school year.

3. Report from the Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association Annual General Meeting and Conference.

Trustee Mary Ann Martin reported that she represented PVNCCDSB at the Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association Annual General Meeting and Conference held in Calgary, Alberta from June 2 to June 4, 2024. A brief overview of the conference and the sessions which Trustee Martin attended was given.

Trustee Martin conveyed the themes of the speakers and spoke about the need to continue to advocate for the rights of Catholic education, noting the exceptional hospitality of the organizing committee and their spirit of compassion and service. Trustee Martin strongly advocated that next year's conference, which will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, should be attended by more of the trustees.

4. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Information Items:
  - a. May 30, 2024 – New High School Graduation Requirements for a Stronger Ontario Diploma.
  - b. June 4, 2024 - Celebrating National Indigenous History Month.
  - c. June 6, 2024 - Premier Ford's new Cabinet Ministers.
  - d. June 14, 2024 – 2024 Fall Regional Meetings Registration.

#### **L. Future Meetings and Events:**

1. Board Meetings:
  - a. Regular Board Meeting Open Session, September 24, 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, September 16, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
  - b. Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting, September 16, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
  - c. Policy Development Committee Meeting, October 15, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
3. Other Committee Meetings: (Listed in chronological order.):
  - a. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, September 17, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
  - b. Special Education Advisory Committee, September 26, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
  - c. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, October 2, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
  - d. STSCO Governance Committee, October 9, 2024, 2024, 3:00 p.m.
  - e. Accessibility for All Committee, October 10, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
  - f. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, October 10, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
  - g. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, November 5, 2024, 4:00 p.m.
  - h. Audit Committee, November 14, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
  - i. Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Committee, TBA.
4. Board Events:
  - a. 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.
- b. First Day of School, September 3, 2024.
  - c. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association, Fall Regional Meeting, Ottawa, ON.

**M. Conclusion:**

1. Report from the In-camera Session held June 25, 2024.

- MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Jenny Leahy  
that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising  
from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session, held on June  
25, 2024, as follows:
- A. Call to Order:
    - 1. Opening Prayer.
    - 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda.
    - 3. No conflicts of interest declared.
    - 4. Approval of the minutes of the May 28, 2024, Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session.
  - D. Business, Finance and Governance:
    - 1. OCSTA In-camera Report.
    - 2. STSCO Governance Committee, In-camera Session Report.
  - E. Human Resources:
    - 1. OECTA Occasional Teachers Local Agreement Ratification.  
Motion approved that the local portion of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) Occasional Teachers Local Collective Agreement, effective September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2026, be ratified.  
Motion to move to Double In-camera session.
    - 2. Personnel Matter  
Motion to resume In-camera session.
  - I. Conclusion:
    - 1. Closing Prayer.
    - 2. Motion to convene in open session.

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie invited Trustee Mary Ann Martin to lead the closing prayer to end the meeting.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by Mary Ann Martin, seconded by Loretta Durst  
that the open session meeting be adjourned at 9:59 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.