



Minutes

The Minutes of the Open Session of the Regular Board Meeting, held on Tuesday, October 29, 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, Claire Heitzner (Senior Student Trustee), Jenny Leahy, Kevin MacKenzie (Chairperson) (online), Mary Ann Martin, Carter Peios (Junior Student Trustee), 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

A. Call to Order of the Open Meeting:

The Board Chairperson Kevin MacKenzie joined the meeting online and deferred the position of chair to the Board Vice-chairperson, Jenny Leahy. Jenny Leahy called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and welcomed guests in attendance in person and guests who were joining the meeting online by Google Meet.

The Vice-chairperson welcomed Sherri Slade-Brady, Principal at Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School, Lisa Diachenko, Vice-principal at St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School, and Nancy Jones, Principal at Holy Family Catholic Elementary School, attending the meeting as the principals’ representatives.

1. Examen and Opening Prayer

The Board Vice-chairperson, Jenny Leahy opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Jenny Leahy, Board Vice-chairperson gave a land acknowledgment to respectfully recognize that the land we gather on is the treaty and traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg.

3. Singing of the National Anthem

The National Anthem was sung.

4. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Mary Ann Martin that the agenda be approved with the addition of H.1, Old Business, Approval of the Response Letter to the Ministry of Education from the Special Education Advisory Committee; and, that item D.1, Student Excursions, be moved up to before Section C, Presentations.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

6. Approval of the minutes from the September 24, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by Mary Ann Martin that the minutes of the September 24, 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:

- October was the month of Mary and the month of thanksgiving at PVNC Catholic. The Director thanked the trustees for their ongoing support and commitment to the board.
- October 24th was the Faith Day Professional Development day across the board which brought a sense of gratitude and spirit of hope and an opportunity for staff to reflect on our core values and honour the unique contributions of each employee. Superintendent Julie Selby and Learning Consultant Jennifer Koch were thanked for their work to prepare the day for staff.
- A successful Math parent engagement evening was hosted in which approximately 70 parents engaged in activities to learn more about how students are learning Math.
- Math leaders from across the province gathered at PVNC Catholic to engage in learning and focus on year two of the Math Achievement Action Plan. Superintendent Jeannie Armstrong and her Math leadership team were thanked for their work to successfully host the event and demonstrate their strong commitment and capability in leading our board in Math initiatives.
- Jonathan Di Ianni, Superintendent of Special Education was thanked for leading his team in delivering professional development for Special Education Resource Teachers and CASA teams, ensuring that students with diverse needs are well supported.
- Superintendent Julie Selby and the Faith and Equity team were thanked for their Truth and Reconciliation Lunch and Learn activities in which staff took the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Indigenous culture and step toward their reconciliation journey.
- On October 10th skilled trades and Junior Achievement were showcased at St. Mary Catholic Secondary School with visitors from Junior Achievement Northern and Eastern Ontario and the Hon. David Piccini. Thank you to our guests and to Principal Jill Barker, and the Student Success department for their work to host the day and highlighting the need for diverse career paths.
- On October 23rd there was a Priest, Principal and Chaplaincy Team Leader meeting held at the Catholic Education Centre. Bishop Daniel Miehm and Anne Jamieson, from the OCSTA were thanked for their presentations of Blessed and Beloved, the new Family Life Curriculum.
- Congratulations to the PVNC Catholic students who were winners of the CEFO Catholic Education Youth Awards given out on October 26th in Toronto: Grace Bishop from Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, Ethan Deryaw from St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, Michael Gomes from St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School, Holly Heuchert from Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, Neave Alderson from St. Peter Catholic Secondary School, and Rachel Goodhand from St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School.

- Former trustee, Joe Whibbs passed away on October 20th. The board honours his 23 years of service to the board and to Catholic Education as a trustee, Board Chairperson and Board Vice-chairperson. We extend our condolences and offer prayers to his family in their grief.

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, Claire Heitzner and Junior Student Trustee, Carter Peios, gave the Student Trustee report which included the following highlights:

- St. Stephen students showed their community spirit by hosting a blood donation drive, holding a Thanksgiving food drive and taking part in First Aid and CPR training. The drama production held auditions for this year's production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown". The LINK crew will host a Gr 9 Halloween dance and costume contest.
- Holy Trinity students raised \$15,000 with their annual walk at Darlington Provincial Park. Fall sports are flourishing with the football team moving on to the OFSAA finals. The RISE (Respect, Inclusion, Social Justice and Equity) club was visited by the board's Equity Advisor to plan a quilt project. Chanie Wenjack was remembered during Secret Path Week with small shoes being placed to remember students who attended residential school and who did not come home.
- St. Mary Catholic Secondary School students participated in Terry Fox events. The girls' rugby team celebrated a successful season. The academic awards ceremony celebrated student achievement. LINK leaders are leading Gr. 9 trick or treating in the halls, costume contests and pumpkin carving.
- St. Peter Catholic Secondary students held their annual Service to Seniors and went out into the community to do yardwork and odd jobs for senior citizens in the neighbourhood. The Terry Fox 'Holy Bowl' raised funds and celebrated football at both St. Peter and Holy Cross. Students are taking part in university, college and SHSM presentations with the future in mind.
- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School raised funds through their participation in the 'Hike for Hospice'. The LINK crew is active in the school and led the house tug of war competition and a Week of Wellness to promote student well-being. The students are looking forward to trick or treating and a costume competition and a semi-formal dance.
- Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School will be celebrating Halloween with a dance and other spirit week activities. The Terry Fox campaign net \$15,000, which resulted in staff members camped out on the turf overnight for making the

challenge goal. A new Chaplaincy Team has started connecting students with their faith. Students are also looking forward to upcoming school trips.

Student trustees Claire Heitzner and Carter Peios 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:

- Led by the Ministry of Education, Math Teams from boards from across the region gathered at the PVNC Catholic Education Centre to share information about their initiatives to improve student achievement in Math. The PVNC Catholic Math team has been recognized for their leadership and excellence in the province.
- The St. Peter chaplaincy leader team has once again led their senior students in giving back to the community through their service to seniors.
- The Catholic Education Foundation of Ontario gave out its annual awards at the Father Fogarty Awards dinner. A student from each Catholic secondary school in Ontario receives recognition for their Catholic leadership. PVNC Catholic had six recipients attend the dinner with their families.
- The board's United Way fundraising campaign has been launched with a goal of raising \$60,000 this year.
- The board took part in Faith Day activities. Images were shared of ways that different schools deepened their faith through activities held on the professional development day.

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

D. Programs and Services:

1. Student Excursions.

There were no questions brought forward regarding the proposed excursions which were distributed to the trustees in the Board Meeting agenda package.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Loretta Durst
that items D.1 a) to D.1 c) be approved as presented:

- a) that the proposed St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School

international excursion to Czechia, Austria, Slovenia, and Italy, March 12-21, 2026, 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.

- b) that the proposed St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School international excursion to Switzerland, Italy, France, and Spain, from March 10-20, 2027, 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.
- c) that the proposed St. Peter Catholic Secondary School international excursion to Spain and Portugal, from March 11-20, 2026, 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.

C. Presentations:

1. Delegation: Student Participation in an International Excursion Organized by a Different School Than Which They Attend.

Tania Harper was invited by Board Vice-chairperson, Jenny Leahy to come forward and give her ten-minute presentation to advocate for permission for her daughter, who is a student at St. Peter Catholic Secondary School, to participate in an international excursion to Greece being organized for Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School students taking place in March 2025. At the conclusion of the delegation, the trustees asked questions to clarify information given in the presentation. Vice-chairperson Leahy thanked Mrs. Harper for attending the meeting and presenting her delegation.

2. Presentation from EQAO (Education Quality and Accountability Office).

Superintendent of Learning, Jeannie Armstrong introduced guests from the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), Dan Koenig, Chief Executive Officer and

Geordie Gibbon, Manager, School Support and Outreach.

Dan Koenig and Geordie Gibbon gave a slide deck presentation about the 2023-2024 EQAO Results for PVNC Catholic. The presentation included trends in data and how the testing data can be used to apply priority focus for improvement in student achievement. The Math Action Plan and the Student Achievement Plan was reviewed and an overview of the PVNC Catholic results was given, noting significant increases in some results. The goals will be to gain as much insight as possible from the data to inform next steps to making further improvements in the coming year.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the trustees were given the opportunity to have their questions about EQAO answered by Mr. Koenig and Mr. Gibbon.

3. Providing Excellence in Teaching and Learning: Catholic Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being.

Superintendent of Learning, Jeannie Armstrong and Jennifer Minnie, Learning Consultant, gave a presentation about the Catholic Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being. The presentation included information about the process for the development of the plan, and the alignment with the Student Achievement Plan and noted the alignment with the Catholic Graduate Expectations. The plan aligns with the three pillars of the strategic priorities: Being Well, Being Creative, and Being Community. Under each strategic priority, the plan assesses needs and uses targeted strategies in the areas of pedagogical practices, leveraging digital, learning partnerships and learning environments for goal-setting and identifies key performance indicators from which to monitor progress.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the trustees were invited to ask questions which were answered by the presenters.

D. Programs and Services:

2. Approval of School Level Identification, Placement and Review Committees, 2024-2025.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Mary Ann Martin
that the Board approve the Identification, Placement and Review
Committees as listed, for the 2024-2025 school year.

Carried.

E. Business, Finance and Governance:

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

Jenny Leahy, Board Vice-chairperson, delivered Chairperson Kevin MacKenzie's report on his behalf. It was reported that the OCSTA has begun its consultation process regarding the 2025-2026 Core Funding. The trustees were reminded about the upcoming OCSTA Trustees' Seminar in January. It was also noted that OCSTA distributed information about submissions for motions for the Annual General Meeting in the spring. More discussions will happen at a later meeting regarding a submission from PVNCCDSB.

2. STSCO Governance Committee Meeting, October 9, 2024, Open Session Report.

Through the Board Vice-chairperson Jenny Leahy, the Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie reported that the following items were discussed at the STSCO Governance Committee Meeting on October 9, 2024: an overview of the start-up activities, safety training update, and a compliance update. It was also reported that there continues to be a bus driver shortage for many transportation providers. Recruitment ideas and suggestions were discussed.

3. Approval of Member Appointment to the Special Education Advisory Committee.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Kevin MacKenzie that Stephanie Powers, Interim Executive Director at the Down Syndrome Association, be approved as a member of the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remaining term of November 15, 2022, to November 14, 2026.

Carried.

4. Recommended Actions from the Committee-of-the-Whole, October 21, 2024: 2024-2025 Trustee Honoraria, Trustee Expenses for the Fiscal Period 2023-2024, Enrollment Update, and 2024-2025 Staffing Report.

a. **MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Mary Ann Martin that the Honoraria for Board members as outlined in the report for the period November 15, 2024, to November 14, 2025, be accepted.

Carried.

- b. **MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay
that the Trustee Expenses for the Fiscal Period 2023-2024 be
accepted and posted to the Board website.

Carried.

- c. **MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Loretta Durst
that the Enrollment Update – October 8, 2024, be accepted.

Carried.

- d. **MOTION:** Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Kathleen Tanguay
that the 2024-2025 Staffing Report be accepted.

Carried.

F. Human Resources:

G. Policy Development:

1. Recommended Action from the Policy Development Committee, October 15, 2024.

- MOTION:** Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by John Connolly
that the Board receive the report and recommendations from the
Policy Development Committee meeting dated October 15, 2024,
for publication and implementation.

Carried.

H. Old Business:

1. Approval of the Response Letter to the Ministry of Education from the Special Education
Advisory Committee.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay read the draft letter addressed to the Ministry of Education
aloud to the trustees. The letter of response was prompted by correspondence received
in July, which was in response to the Special Education Advisory Committee's letter to
the Ministry, which was sent in June 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen, seconded by Mary Ann Martin

that the letter written in response be approved and sent to the Ministry of Education from the Special Education Advisory Committee and the Board Chairperson.

Carried.

I. New Business:

J. Bring Forward:

K. Information Items:

1. Chairperson's Report.

Jenny Leahy, Board Vice-chairperson, read the report from the Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie. It was reported that the new Education Minister, Jill Dunlop, has not kept up the teleconferences with School Board Chairpersons from across the province, which had become a regular practice with the former Education Minister in the last four years.

It was reported that a letter from the Minister was received regarding political biases and the importance of keeping schools as places that are free from biases. The message was sent in anticipation of the one-year anniversary of the October 7 Hamas-led attack on Israel.

The Chairperson encouraged all to solemnly reflect and remember those lost and injured in military conflict on Remembrance Day, November 11th.

God's blessings were wished upon the students and staff of PVNC Catholic.

2. Report from Trustee Attendance at 'When Faith Meets Pedagogy Conference'.

Trustee Mary Ann Martin reported on her attendance at the 'When Faith Meets Pedagogy' Conference from October 24-26, 2024. Trustee Martin acknowledged the work of Learning Consultant Jennifer Eaton-Koch who organizes the attendees from PVNC Catholic and assisted with the conference.

Mary Ann Martin noted that the keynote speaker was a spiritual motivational speaker who awakened the audience to the endless love of Jesus Christ. Mrs. Martin acknowledged our blessing of Catholic Education and encouraged other trustees to attend the conference in the future. In addition to the conference, Mary Ann Martin was

present at the Catholic Education Foundation of Ontario's Father Fogarty awards dinner with the award recipients from each of the PVNC Catholic secondary schools.

3. Committee Reports:

a. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, October 2, 2024.

The Board Chairperson's report was given by Vice-chairperson Jenny Leahy on Kevin MacKenzie's behalf. It was reported that there was new member in attendance, but no chairperson appointed as no one put themselves forward as a candidate. The Math Team reported to the committee on the Math Achievement Action Plan for the year. Kerri Riel gave a presentation about outdoor spaces. Funding information for the committee for the 2024-2025 school year was provided to the committee.

b. Audit Committee, October 3, 2024.

Trustee Loretta Durst reported on the open session of the Audit Committee meeting which included a presentation from the board auditors from Baker Tilly, who presented their plan for the year. The regional school board auditors also presented their plan for the upcoming year which will include an audit of Educational Assistant staffing allocation. In addition, risk management principles will be introduced to principals.

c. Accessibility for All Committee, October 10, 2024.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay reported that the Accessibility for All committee is a large committee with representatives from many departments who share the responsibility for the standards of which we must be compliant. A plan is developed each year with the participation of all departments. PVNCCDSB passed the province's desk audit of the board. Accessibility Week activities celebrated in May 2024 and the accessibility features of the new school plans in Clarington were reviewed. The updated accessibility multi-year plan has been shared on the website, which meets legislated requirements.

d. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, October 10, 2024.

Trustee Loretta Durst reported that Special Education Consultant Jeff Hockett gave a presentation on the tiers of support for inclusion and belonging that are engaged by the Special Education Department. Bart Scollard, PVNC OECTA Unit President noted the upcoming Mass of Remembrance that will take place at the Cathedral on November 13. Take Your Kids to work day will be supported by the New Canadians Centre by arranging a special bus to visit workplaces for Grade 9 students of newcomers.

e. Special Education Advisory Committee, September 26 and October 17, 2024.

Vice-chairperson, Jenny Leahy reported on the meeting held on September 26 – which featured a report about the work that staff from different departments engage in as well as the work that happened in the summer programs.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay also reported on the October 17 meeting which welcomed a new committee member and included a review of the Special Education plan for the year and the planned action towards the goals that have been set. The plans for committee meetings were also set.

4. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Information Items:

- a. September 25, 2024 – Ministry of Education Safe and Inclusive Schools
- b. September 26, 2024 – OCSTA Memo, Catholic Education Week Together in Faith Bulletin.
- c. October 7, 2024 –OCSTA Catholic Education Leadership Speaker Series: Pilgrims of Hope
- d. October 8, 2024 – OCSTA Memo, Local Government Week
- e. October 8, 2024 – OCSTA Memo, Pope Francis Elevates Archbishop Francis Leo to the College of Cardinals.
- f. October 18, 2024 – OCSTA Memo, 2024 Annual Finance Brief Submission.

L. Future Meetings and Events:

1. Board Meetings:

- a. Annual Board Meeting, November 19, 2024, 4:00 p.m.
- b. Regular Board Meeting Open Session, November 26, 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, November 11, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
- b. Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting, November 11, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Policy Development Committee Meeting, January 21, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

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

- a. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, November 5, 2024, 4:30 p.m.

- b. Audit Committee, November 14, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
- c. Special Education Advisory Committee, November 21, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
- d. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, November 21, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
- e. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, December 10, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
- f. STSCO Governance Committee, January 8, 2025, 3:00 p.m.
- g. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, February 13, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
- h. Accessibility for All Committee, February 27, 2025, 1:00 p.m.
- i. Supervised Alternative Learning Committee, TBA

4. Board Events:

- a. Board Retirement Dinner, Friday, November 8, 2024, Regency Ballroom, Holiday Inn Waterfront, Peterborough.
- b. Mass for Deceased PVNC Catholic Community Members, November 13, 2024, at 4:00 p.m., St. Peter-in-Chains Cathedral, Peterborough.
- c. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association 2025 Catholic Trustees Seminar, Delta Hotels by Marriott, Toronto Airport & Conference Centre, Toronto.

M. Conclusion:

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by John Connolly
that the meeting move into in-camera session at 9:08 pm.

Carried.

Open session reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

1. Report from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera Session, held October 29, 2024.

MOTION: Moved by Kevin MacKenzie, seconded by Mary Ann Martin
that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising
from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session, held on
October 29, 2024, as follows:

- A. Call to Order:
 - 1. Opening Prayer.
 - 2. Motion for the Approval of agenda.
 - 3. No conflicts of interest were declared.
 - 4. Approval of the minutes of the September 24, 2024,

Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session.

- B. Presentations:
 - 1. Delegation.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
 - 1. OCSTA In-camera Report.
 - 2. STSCO Governance Committee, October 9, 2024, In-camera Report.
 - 3. Approval of the Recommended Actions from the In-camera Session of the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting, October 21, 2024.
- E. Human Resources:
 - 1. Staffing – item was deferred to a future meeting.
- I. Conclusion:
 - 1. Closing Prayer.
 - 2. Motion to convene in open session.

In-camera session resumed.

- B. Presentations:
 - 1. Delegation – Approval of motions regarding the Delegations heard on October 29, 2024, including “that the board uphold Administrative Procedure 305, Out of School Activities stating, ‘that children who are not students of the school, are not permitted to participate in Category 3, 4 or 5 Out of School Activities.’”

Motion to convene in open session.

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer.

The Board Vice-chairperson, Jenny Leahy, invited Trustee Loretta Durst to lead the closing prayer to end the meeting.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Mary Ann Martin that the open session meeting be adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Carried.

Kevin MacKenzie
Board Chairperson

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