



Minutes

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

Administration – Jeannie Armstrong, Jonathan Di Ianni, Galen Eagle, Sean Heuchert, Stephen O’Sullivan, 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 6:32 p.m. and he welcomed guests in attendance in person and guests who were joining the meeting online by Google Meet. The Chairperson gave a special welcome to Jennifer DeMaeyer, Principal representative from St. Paul Catholic Elementary School in Lakefield.

1. Examen and Opening Prayer

Kevin MacKenzie, Board Chairperson invited Trustee Loretta Durst to open the meeting with prayer.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie, 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 Loretta Durst, seconded by John Connolly
that the agenda be approved with the addition of item I.1, OCSTA
AGM Resolution Proposal.

Carried.

5. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

6. Approval of the Minutes

a. Approval of the minutes from the October 29, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by Jenny Leahy
that the minutes of the October 29, 2024, Regular Board Meeting
be approved.

Carried.

b. Approval of the minutes from the November 19, 2024, Annual Board Meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by John Connolly
that the minutes of the November 19, 2024, Annual 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:

- Congratulations were extended to Kevin MacKenzie and Jenny Leahy who were elected and acclaimed the Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Board of Trustees, respectively.
- Congratulations were also extended to the rest of the trustees for their roles on various committees.
- The Trustees were thanked for their dedication and commitment to the governance of the board.
- The status of the recent structural assessment of the concrete roof of Notre Dame Catholic Elementary School was reported. Approximately one third of the building is closed off to use. The classrooms in the part of the building that has been deemed unfit for use have been moved to another part of the building which has been confirmed as safe. The resilience of the students and staff in the face of the urgency of the situation was commended. The board will continue to provide updates through the board's website and will work closely with the Ministry of Education and local political leaders to ensure that attention and a solution is being addressed.
- Met with colleagues from across the province at a meeting of the English Catholic Council of Ontario Directors of Education (ECCODE).
- Engaged in professional learning with Bishop Bergie, which was presented by OCSTA and was focused on the upcoming Jubilee Year.
- Discussed local issues which are impacting Catholic Education with local MPP David Smith and coterminous Director of Education Rita Russo from Kawartha Pine Ridge School Board.
- On Take Your Kids to Work Day on November 6, my son, Jack, joined me at the Catholic Education Centre and visited a school to find out about working as an educator in Catholic Education.
- Thanked the schools which the Director visited during the month of November. In all, nineteen schools in all four regions of the board hosted a school visit from the Director, including a 'Good News Assembly' at St. Mary Catholic Elementary School, Grafton.
- Each of the Superintendents were recognized for their recent departmental accomplishments.
- The joyful anticipation of the season of advent is filled with the hope and the promise of Christ coming and to carry that light into our work in Catholic Education.

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:

- At St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School, the girls basketball team won the LOSSA gold medal, the Student Council held a Christmas Ball Semi-formal and hosted the Board's LINK Leader Conference.
- At Holy Trinity Catholic Secondary School, there were events to inform students about Careers in the Trades and Specialist High Skills Major program. Gr 9 students participated in Take your Kids to Work Day and the Business classes have been preparing for the Annual Christmas Market. Poet Nadine Williams was a guest to talk about her poem, The Fabric of our Being and the quilt project.
- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary School students have been working on their "Be an Angel" campaign to benefit the community supporting the less fortunate. A highlight is the charity volleyball tournament final which faces off the winning team against school staff members.
- St. Peter Catholic Secondary School celebrated safe schools' week with lunch-time intramurals, board games and activities to promote inclusion. The upcoming Terry Fox assembly will reward the hard work of fundraising with staff members agreeing to incentives like makeovers, leg waxing, dance routines and more.
- The Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School community has been celebrating the senior boys' football OFSAA gold medal in Windsor, ON with most of the school watching the game and cheering them on from Peterborough. A 'Week of Wellness' was held promoting student well-being and Gr 11 and 12 students attended Trent University for an open house to explore its post-secondary opportunities.
- St. Mary Catholic Secondary School students enjoyed a carnival-themed semi-formal dance and celebrated athletic success by the girls' rugby and the boys' soccer teams. The annual Christmas Hamper fundraiser has commenced promoting the giving spirit.
- The student trustees expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to attend the OSTA AECO Fall General Meeting which provided an opportunity to meet other student trustees and take part in professional development opportunities.
- The choir from St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School in Bowmanville, will be singing the national anthem at an upcoming Oshawa Generals' game.

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:

- St. Stephen Catholic Secondary School hosted a LINK student conference for all PVNC Catholic secondary schools.
- The results from the Annual Board meeting were shared, highlighting Chairperson Kevin MacKenzie's re-election.
- A deep learning project from St. Teresa Catholic Elementary School and St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School.
- The installation of an accessible playground at St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School, Douro.
- Nadine Williams' visit to Good Shepherd Catholic Elementary School. Nadine is an author, poet, and educator who introduced a special project called 'The Fabric of Our Being' which will have the Good Shepherd CES community contribute to a quilt that is part of the project.
- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Secondary construction technology students have collaborated on a project of building a shed for St. Luke Catholic Elementary School.
- The trustees viewed a video story about St. Pope John Paul II Catholic Elementary School students who created Christmas cards for a local long-term care home to bring cheer to the elderly.

At the conclusion of the report, Galen Eagle invited questions and comments from the trustees. There was a query about the distribution of the newsletter, and it was noted that the PVNC Catholic Inspires newsletter is used as an internal communication for employees.

C. Presentations:

1. Providing Excellence in Teaching and Learning: Deep Learning.

Principal of Information Technology, Frank Bradica delivered a slide deck presentation about the Deep Learning program at PVNC Catholic.

The gradual release model of the program was explained with PVNC Catholic now being in the second year of helping principals to implement deep learning in their schools. In the first year, there was a group of eleven schools taking part and in the second year an additional nine schools joined the program.

The program consists of opportunities to meet and network with the other principals and then take the learning back for in-school professional development and an implementation phase.

Frank Bradica explained the four design elements: learning environments, leveraging digital, pedagogical practices and learning partnerships and the goal of using all four elements, building curiosity and interest in schools.

Community partnerships and the incorporation of Indigenous learning were highlighted with examples of projects throughout the system. It was noted how deep learning is benefitting both the students and educators and how it fits with the strategic priorities and the Catholic Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-being.

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

D. Programs and Services:

1. Math Achievement Action Plan.

Superintendent of Learning Jeannie Armstrong explained that as per the Ministry of Education requirements, the Board's 2024-2025 Math Achievement Action Plan has been shared with the Board of Trustees and necessitates a board motion to receive the report. The trustees were invited to ask questions which were answered by Superintendent Armstrong.

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Loretta Durst
that the Board receive the 2024-2025 PVNCCDSB Board Math
Achievement Action Plan for information.

Carried.

E. Business, Finance and Governance:

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

Chairperson Kevin MacKenzie reviewed communications that were received from OCSTA during the month which were distributed to the trustees. The information included an invitation to participate in research, the Ontario news release regarding efforts to combat bullying and support student mental health, information about the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education, notices of upcoming events, and the OCSTA's response to the School Food Program Agreement recently made.

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

MOTION: Moved by Kathleen Tanguay, seconded by Jenny Leahy
that Kate Long, Special Education Advisory Committee Volunteer
for Autism Ontario, be approved as a member of the Special
Education Advisory Committee for the remaining term of
November 15, 2022, to November 14, 2026.

Carried.

3. Recommended Actions from the Committee-of-the-Whole, November 11, 2024: 2023-2024 Variance Report and 2023-2024 Accumulated Surplus/Deficit Report.

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Loretta Durst
that the Board received the Variance Report for the 2023-2024
fiscal year; and,
that the Board receive the accumulated surplus transfers as
detailed in the 2023-2024 Details of Accumulated Surplus/Deficit
Report.

Carried.

4. Recommended Action from the Audit Committee, November 14, 2024: Annual Report from the Audit Committee, Regional Audit Committee, and Consolidated Financial Statements.

MOTION: Moved by Loretta Durst, seconded by John Connolly
that the following recommended actions from the Audit Committee
meeting held on November 14, 2024, be adopted:

- a) that the 2023-2024 annual report of the Audit Committee be received.
- b) that the Regional Internal Audit Team update, dated November 14, 2024, be received.
- c) that the Consolidated Financial Statements, presented by Baker Tilly, be received.

Carried.

F. Human Resources:

G. Policy Development:

H. Old Business:

I. New Business:

1. OCSTA AGM Resolution Proposal.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay brought forward concerns about the way in which students are serviced by various Ministries such as the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Children's Services in concert with the Ministry of Education, noting gaps in which students are waiting many months and sometimes years for service.

Trustee Tanguay is seeing the invitation from the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA) to submit AGM resolution proposals as an opportunity to propose that ministries work more collaboratively to pinpoint gaps in community services and use schools as community hubs to service students needing resources from various ministries and community agencies.

Further research and consultation will be required, which could include the Special Education Advisory Committee and senior administration, to develop a proposed resolution for approval at the end of January. It was noted that the deadline for submission to the OCSTA is February 7, 2025. The trustees agreed that this was an area of interest to be further discussed at the next Committee-of-the-Whole meeting.

J. Bring Forward:

K. Information Items:

1. Chairperson's Report.

Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie thanked Vice-chairperson Jenny Leahy for taking the position of Chair at the last board meeting.

Kevin MacKenize reported that he and the trustees were honoured to celebrate board's retirees from 2023-2024 on November 8th at the Annual Retirement Dinner. He was also

in attendance at the Holy Trinity Celebration of Learning assembly to commend students on their excellence in achievement which included Student Trustee Carter Peios receiving a Music Award.

The Minister of Education, Jill Dunlop, held a videoconference call with Directors and School Board Chairpersons from across Ontario to speak about accountability, transparency and expectations about discretionary funds. Chairperson MacKenzie welcomes the proposed audit by the province and stated his pride in the diligence in the board's fiscal responsibility at PVNC Catholic.

Kevin MacKenzie wished the trustees well in their third year of their four-year term as they continue their important work in Catholic education. At the conclusion of his report Mr. MacKenzie wished God's blessings upon the students and staff of PVNC Catholic.

2. Committee Reports:

a. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, November 5, 2024.

Trustee Jenny Leahy gave an overview of the topics discussed at the French as a Second Language Advisory Committee meeting held November 5, 2024, which included a summary of the training that FSL teachers has received and a review of funding that is designated to FSL. Hiring of qualified French teachers continues to be a challenge for the board.

b. Audit Committee, November 14, 2024.

Trustee Loretta Durst summarized the Audit Committee meeting which included board motions which were covered earlier in the meeting. Trustee Durst highlighted the topics on which the board will be audited by the Regional Audit team this year which can be found in the report that was provided.

c. Special Education Advisory Committee, November 21, 2024.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay reported that the letter to the Minister of Education which was approved by the board at the October Board meeting has now been delivered. Trustee Tanguay also reported that the SEAC committee heard a presentation entitled 'Augmenting Communication for Students' which was presented by the Speech Language Pathologists and Dr. Cynthia Chan Reynolds.

d. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, November 21, 2024.

Trustee Kathleen Tanguay reported on the Catholic Parent Engagement Committee meeting that took place on November 21, 2024. It was reported that Tom O'Grady, Manager of Facilities Services gave a presentation on playground maintenance, installation, and inspection requirements. Principal Julianne Charette also gave a

presentation on human trafficking prevention and the education through the health curriculum and work being done in partnership with community agencies.

The committee continues to discuss how it will spend the funding for parent engagement and are investigating a guest speaker and engagement to help parents begin to develop school play spaces.

3. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association Information Items:

- a. October 28, 2024 – OCSTA AGM Resolutions Information Package
- b. October 29, 2024 - OCSTA Past President Patrick Daly Receives CEFO Award.
- c. October 30, 2024 – Catholic Education Pilgrims of Hope Bulletin for November 2024.
- d. November 6, 2024 – Continuing Professional Education for School Trustees – Research Initiative.
- e. November 7, 2024 – OCSTA Catholic Education Leadership Speaker Series: A Return to Rome for Part II of the XVI Synod of Bishops – Reflections & Insight Presented by Linda Staudt, Canadian Lay Delegate, Diocese of London.
- f. November 18, 2024 – Catholic Education Week Resources.

L. Future Meetings and Events:

1. Board Meetings:

- a. Regular Board Meeting Open Session, December 17, 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, December 9, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
- b. Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting, December 9, 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. First Nation Métis Inuit Advisory Committee, December 10, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
- b. Special Education Advisory Committee, December 12, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
- c. Student Council Liaison Committee, December 17, 2024, 4:15 p.m.
- d. STSCO Governance Committee, January 8, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

- e. Catholic Parent Engagement Committee, January 16, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
- f. Faith and Equity Advisory Committee, February 13, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
- g. Accessibility for All Committee, February 27, 2025, 1:00 p.m.
- h. French as a Second Language Advisory Committee, April 1, 2025, 4:30 p.m.
- i. Audit Committee, TBA
- j. Supervised Alternative Learning Committee, TBA

4. Board Events:

- a. Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association 2025 Catholic Trustees Seminar, Delta Hotels by Marriott, Toronto Airport & Conference Centre, Toronto.

M. Conclusion:

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

MOTION: Moved by Jenny Leahy, seconded by Loretta Durst
that the Board approve the actions and the discussions arising
from the Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session, held on
November 26, 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 October 29, 2024, Regular Board Meeting, In-camera session.
- D. Business, Finance and Governance:
 - 1. OCSTA In-camera Report.
- I. Conclusion:
 - 1. Closing Prayer.
 - 2. Motion to convene in open session.

Carried.

2. Closing Prayer.

The Board Chairperson, Kevin MacKenzie, invited Trustee Kathleen Tanguay to lead the closing prayer to end the meeting.

3. Adjournment

MOTION: Moved by John Connolly, seconded by Jenny Leahy
that the open session meeting be adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Carried.

Kevin MacKenzie
Board Chairperson

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