

HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: March 28, 2017

ITEM 1 PRAYER

C. Ciapanna called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. in the First Floor Committee Room at the Fr. Kyran Kennedy Catholic Education Centre.

Mrs. N. Centritto led the opening Prayer.

ITEM 2 ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE: L. Marchionda, Co-Chair, N. Centritto, Co-Chair,
R. Gambale, T. Hartnett, J. Hooper-Boyd, L. Lech,
E. Pecyna.

ADMINISTRATION: D. Hansen, Director of Education
C. Ciapanna, Superintendent of Education

RECORDING SECRETARY: E. Rastelli

REGRETS: P. Daly, G. Pettiti

ITEM 3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 13, 2016 MEETING

MOTION:

THAT THE CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 13, 2016 BE APPROVED.

MOVER: E. Pecyna

SECONDER: L. Marchionda

CARRIED

ITEM 4 REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

L. Marchionda/N. Centritto

i) Discussion Panel - Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Symposium

L. Marchionda and N. Centritto were invited to participate in a discussion panel by S. Bortolotti, Educational Officer for the PIC Symposium, via teleconference, on Thursday, March 9th. L. Marchionda was available to participate. Topics discussed included issues parents are encountering and professional learning needs. She reported that the discussion was very productive and informative.

P. Daly

No report.

D. Hansen

D. Hansen provided updates on the following:

i) Ontario Autism Program - After School Skills Development Program

The Board submitted a funding proposal in the fall of 2016. The “After School Skills Development Program for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) was developed to provide a meaningful, inclusive after school experience to support individual growth and development.

The after school program will support children with ASD in an engaging and skills-based environment with their classmates and neighbourhood peers. The program will be fully integrated and align with the existing after school program (outdoor physical literacy, snack, creative exploration, and socialization).

The program will be offered at six school sites and have the capacity to support a maximum addition of 16 students identified with ASD at one time.

The Board was approved for \$735,002 in funding for two years.

ii) EQAO Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

Thursday, March 30, 2017, is the date that all secondary schools in the province are scheduled to administer the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test. This Board will be participating.

iii) Graduation Rate Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board

D. Hansen led the Committee through the report presented to the Board of Trustees on February 21, 2017. He noted that the graduation rate is a key indicator of student success within a school board and an important assessment of the implementation of the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan and the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement.

The report addressed the graduation rate for students over the last five years representing a graduation rate of 89%.

iv) Robotics Teams

D. Hansen shared the following with the Committee:

- St. Mary's MakeShift Robotics Team won the Chairman's Award at the Victoria Park Collegiate FRC District Competition in Scarborough on March 19th and will be participating in the FIRST Robotics Provincial Competition in Mississauga on April 12th-14th;
- Bishop Ryan Celt-X Team won two awards at the Victoria Park Collegiate FRC District Competition in Scarborough on March 19th -- the Engineering Inspiration and Industrial Design Award;
- BR Celt-X Team had a district win at Georgian College in Barrie on March 24-26th;
- Bishop Tonnos' Robotics Team advanced to the semi-final round at the Waterloo district regional qualifier against veteran team Orchard Park and were recognized with Waterloo's Rookie Inspiration Award; and
- Cardinal Newman Robotics Team made it to the final-quarter round at Georgian College before being eliminated.

The four teams are set to compete at McMaster University FRC District Competition on April 1st.

C. Ciapanna

C. Ciapanna provided updates on the following:

i) 2017-2018 School Year Calendar

A copy was distributed for the Committee's information. The calendar was approved at the Board meeting on March 7, 2017.

ii) Start Time – CPIC Meetings

Discussion ensued regarding starting future CPIC Meetings at 6:00 p.m. A motion will be recommended at the next CPIC Meeting.

iii) 2017 Parent Involvement Committee Symposium

The London Regional PIC Symposium will take place on Saturday, April 1st. The following members will be attending:

- Corrado Ciapanna;
- Elizabeth Garofalo;
- Jacquie Hooper-Boyd;
- Lawrence Lech;
- Lina Marchionda;
- Gloria Petitti; and
- Carla Underhill

iv) Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants

Applications for Grants are due May 25, 2017.

v) Prayer

A prayer was distributed for the Committee's information. "The Pope Francis Book Walking with Jesus: A Way forward for the Church"

A copy is attached.

vi) Renewing the Promise

C. Ciapanna reported that the Catholic education community will gather for a two-day symposium on November 14 & 15, 2017 in Toronto. The theme will be focusing on "Renewing the Promise: Exploring the Critical Role of Catholic Education in Contemporary Society."

The Committee was asked to provide input on three questions. C. Ciapanna will compile the Committee's responses as well as the responses from each school's Catholic School Council and submit them to the Institute for Catholic Education.

The following three questions were deliberated:

Question #1: What are some ways that Catholic Education in Ontario supports students to be living witnesses to their faith in Jesus Christ?

Question #2: What are some current challenges facing Catholic Education in Ontario?

Question #3: What are some opportunities for Catholic education in Ontario that will help to shape a positive future?

Dates/Events

- i) May 1st – May 6th – Catholic Education Week:
 - Theme - Catholic Education: Walking Forward Together; and
 - Mass at Cathedral High School
- ii) June 6th – Celebrating Excellence in Catholic Education Awards at Bishop Tonnos Catholic Secondary School
- iii) October 2017 – OAPCE – will not have one large Conference. Will schedule 3 small Conferences - dates TBA

ITEM 5 MEETING DATES

The next meeting date is:

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. – Fr. Kennedy C.E.C.

Future Meeting Date(s):

October 2017
December 2017

ITEM 6 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The Pope Francis book *Walking with Jesus: A Way Forward for the Church.*

1. Have the Courage to be truly happy.
2. We are the guardians of creation.
3. In the poor and outcast we see the face of Jesus.
4. No one is excluded from life's hope, from God's love.
5. Wisdom is precisely this: to see the world, to see situations, circumstances, problems through God's eyes.
6. If the Church is alive she must always surprise.
7. Faith is passed on by contact, from one person to the other, just as one candle is lighted by another.
8. We need to love and be loved.