

HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: April 10, 2018

ITEM 1 PRAYER

C. Ciapanna called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in the First Floor Committee Room at the Fr. Kyran Kennedy Catholic Education Centre.

Mrs. N. Centritto led the opening Prayer.

C. Ciapanna welcomed and introduced the newest CPIC member, Diana Eberts, from the Corpus Christi Catholic School community.

ITEM 2 ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE: L. Marchionda, Co-Chair, N. Centritto, Co-Chair,  
D. Eberts, R. Gambale, J. Hooper-Boyd, L. Lech.

ADMINISTRATION: P. Daly, Chairperson of the Board  
D. Hansen, Director of Education  
C. Ciapanna, Superintendent of Education

RECORDING SECRETARY: E. Rastelli

REGRETS: T. Hartnett

ITEM 3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2017 MEETING

MOTION:

THAT THE CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2017 BE APPROVED.

MOVER: P. Daly  
SECONDER: R. Gambale

CARRIED

ITEM 4      REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

L. Marchionda/N. Centritto

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

N. Centritto indicated she and J. Hooper-Boyd would be attending the ninth CPIC Symposium in Toronto on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. They anticipate this symposium will be as informative as it was last year.

P. Daly

P. Daly provided updates on the following:

i)      Special Education Funding

In December 2017, the Board of Trustees approved an additional \$450,000 to the special education budget, which will be used for hiring Child & Youth Workers and exploring new strategies for special education including mental health and transition.

ii)     Pastoral Letter for Catholic Education

The Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario's Pastoral letter for Catholic Education, Renewing the Promise, will be released in May. A copy will be shared via C. Ciapanna's office.

iii)    Child Care Centres

The following Catholic elementary schools will be getting childcare centres:

- St. Kateri Tekakwitha;
- Holy Name of Mary;
- St. Thomas the Apostle; and
- St. Patrick
  - St. Patrick will also have a 2 room EarlyON child and family centre

iv)     Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Elementary School students will enter their new school on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Official Blessing and Dedication is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>.

D. Hansen

D. Hansen provided updates on the following:

i) Launch of Board Meeting Highlights

In an effort to communicate widely the decisions made by our Board, we will publish each month the “Board Meeting Highlights.” A summary of the reports and decisions made at our Religion, Family Life and Instructional Services Committee Meetings, held on the 3rd Tuesday of every month, and the Committee of the Whole & Board Meetings, held on the 1st Tuesday of every month, will be included in the highlights.

ii) Secondary Christian Service Hours – Graduation Requirement

Two recent initiatives have supported students in the fulfillment of the graduation requirement of 40 hours of community service:

- The 40x40 Program
  - In 2016, the Ministry of Education permitted graduating Grade 8 students to begin community service during the summer preceding the Grade 9 year.
- The Online Directory of Christian Service Opportunities
  - As partnerships with the Hamilton community offer more experiential learning and volunteer opportunities increase, the need for an on-line repository of information detailing the opportunities available as well as the creation of an on-line recruitment process is evident and essential.

iii) Preparation with Special Needs for Sacraments

Assisting children as they prepare to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation has always been a proud part of the Catholic heritage and tradition of the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board.

In the preparation of children for the sacraments, children are prepared:

- in important ways at home, at school and in the parish;
- ongoing foundational preparation, most often experienced in the home and at school, is rooted in prayer, acts of Christian charity and the teaching of the Religious Education programs in our Catholic schools

iv) Religious Education Curriculum

Religious education literacy is understood as literacy related to sacred scripture, the main tenets of the faith, the moral teaching of the Church, liturgy and prayer, the principle of social justice, and the nature of life in community and of the Church's mission in the world.

The Board has purchased the Grade 5 *Growing in Faith, Growing in Christ* Program this year.

v) Grad Mass

System-Wide Grad Mass for the Board's seven Catholic secondary school graduates will be held on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary Pro Cathedral.

vi) Passing of Domenica Leone

Assistant Superintendent of Education Domenic Leone passed on April 7<sup>th</sup>. She will be remembered for her spirit, commitment to the students and her sense of community.

vii) OCSTA – Patrick Daly

Congratulations to P. Daly as he ends his two year term at the end of April 2018 as President of the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association.

C. Ciapanna

C. Ciapanna provided updates on the following:

i) OAPCE – Symposium

The Symposium will be in October/November 2018. The Conference in 2019 will mark the organization's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

ii) Staffing

Due to enrolment projections, staffing in elementary schools is increasing.

iii) Spectator's Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to Lucia Marchionda, daughter of L. Marchionda for receiving the 2018 Hamilton Spectator's Volunteer of the Year Award.

iv) Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants

Applications for Grants were sent out to schools.

v) 2018 Elections

Members are asked to remind parents to register as Catholic ratepayers.

Dates/Events

i) May 6<sup>th</sup> – May 11<sup>th</sup> – Catholic Education Week:

- Theme - Catholic Education: Renewing the Promise; and,
- Mass at Cathedral High School on Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>

ii) June 5<sup>th</sup> – Celebrating Excellence in Catholic Education Awards at Cathedral High School

ITEM 5      MEETING DATES

The next meeting date is:

Tuesday, May 22, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. – Fr. Kennedy C.E.C.

Future Meeting Date(s):

TBD

ITEM 6      ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.