

**HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**Catholic Parent Involvement Committee  
Minutes**

Date: December 10, 2013.

ITEM 1      PRAYER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the First Floor Committee Room of the Father Kennedy Catholic Education Centre. A. Vecchiola led those present in prayer and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ITEM 2      NEW MEMBER

C. Ciapanna, the selection committee recommended that Mrs. Lina Marchionda fill the vacancy on H.W.C.D.S.B.C.P.I.C. The recommendation was approved.

ITEM 3      ATTENDANCE

C. Ciapanna welcomed and introduced the newest member to CPIC, Mrs. Lina Marchionda. She has a daughter in Grade 8 at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Elementary School.

PRESENT:

COMMITTEE:      L. Lech, Co-Chair; A. Vecchiola, Co-Chair;  
J. Hooper-Boyd; T. Hartnett; H. MacLeod,  
L. Marchionda; E. Pecyna; D. Taylor.

ADMINISTRATION:      P. Daly, Chairperson;  
P. Amos, Director of Education;  
C. Ciapanna, Superintendent of Education.

RECORDING SECRETARY:      Ms. E. Rastelli

ITEM 4      APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2013 MEETING

MOTION:

CPIC-14-4-2

THAT THE CATHOLIC PARENTS INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22, 2013 BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

MOVER: C. Ciapanna  
SECONDER: E. Pecyna

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 2013 – AUGUST 31, 2014

MOTION:

THAT THE CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 2013 – AUGUST 31, 2014  
BE APPROVED.

MOVER: C. Ciapanna  
SECONDER: T. Hartnett

CARRIED

ITEM 5      REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Vecchiola/L. Lech

Discussion ensued in response to the question “*How can we as a school board and parents work more closely with our parishes and pastors to strengthen the Catholic values and faith we have been taught to share*”. The following was emphasized:

- P. Daly indicated that documents pertaining to this topic are available from the OCSTA (Ontario Catholic School Trustee Association), to share with parent councils etc., he will send some information to the committee members
- Always best when a parent helps
- Schools are the first line of defence
- Additional information can be found on <http://hamiltondiocese.com/ccso/> regarding Catholic Services and see attached document Bridge Builders

P. Daly

- Expressed his appreciation to everyone on the Committee for their commitment to Catholic Education
- He encouraged parents to continue to get involved and think about the future of Catholic education.

- He highlighted New Evangelization
  - Areas of focus include: Religious Education/Literacy; Christian Service; Prayer; and Faith Formation.

#### P. Amos

#### Skinner Recommendations

The Hamilton Public Health Services, Hamilton Police Services, the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board hosted a free event to launch parent resources developed in response to recommendations from the inquest into the 2010 alcohol poisoning death of a local youth, Christopher Skinner. The resources can be found on the Board's website.

#### Numeracy Task Force

The decline in student achievement in mathematics is evident both locally and provincially. In response to this ongoing concern with mathematics achievement the Board is establishing a task force comprised of current and former mathematics experts including teachers, administrators, retired teachers and retired administrators. The task force will examine mathematics education in the Board and provide recommendations to both the Board and the Ministry of Education in finding the most successful practices that support student achievement in mathematics.

#### Updates

- Director's Annual Report will be released in January 2014
- Multi-Year Strategic Plan will be updated in January 2014
  - Draft copy will be sent to Committee members for input
- February/March – Board's budget – P. Pace-Gubekjian, Superintendent of Finance working on budget for February/March release
- Policy Review – policies will be placed on the Board's web-site for input in January 2014
- "Great to Excellent" by Michael Fullan. Highlights of the paper include:
  - In 2003 Ontario's schools were in a troubled state.
  - Now in early 2013, the overall performance of the almost 5,000 schools in the province has dramatically improved on most key measures, and continues to improve.

H. MacLeod

OAPCE

- OAPCE has welcomed a new President Orlanda Sousa
- This year the AGM conference theme for 2014 is “Parental Influence on Student Well-Being and Catholic Education” as well as the milestone celebration of 75 years of OAPCE.

JEPAG

- January 15, 2014 with Michael Reist at Cardinal Newman C.S.S. at 7:00 p.m. “What every parent should know about school.” Everyone is invited. H. MacLeod expressed thanks to the schools for helping to promote the event through their school newsletters and to the Board for posting the announcement on the web-site.
- February 25, 2014 – Day of the Lord Retreat with Fr. Dave Wynen at the Cathedral of Christ the King Church starting at 7:00 p.m.
- May 5, 2014 – Motivating your Kids/Teens with Dr. Karyn Gordon at the NMC room 1A starting at 6:30 p.m - 9:00 p.m.

C. Ciapanna

- The EQAO School Support and Outreach Team will provide a regional parent forum in Oakville on Saturday, January 18, 2014. The forum will take place 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. Those Committee members interested in attending are to contact C. Ciapanna’s Office.
- The Catholic School Council Breakfast will be held on Friday, January 31, 2014 at 8:30am at the NMC.

ITEM 6

MEETING DATES

The next meeting date is:

Tuesday, February 25, 2014 – **6:00** p.m. – NMC Room 1E

It was agreed that the Committee would participate in the Day of the Lord Retreat with Fr. Dave Wynen at the Cathedral of Christ the King following this meeting

Future Meeting:

Tuesday, May 27, 2014 – 6:30 p.m. – Fr. Kennedy C.E.C.

ITEM 7      ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.