



NIAGARA CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

NOVEMBER 17, 2016

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, held on Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland, ON.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Daly.

A. ROUTINE MATTERS

1. Opening Prayer

Opening prayer was led by Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader.

Welcome

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells welcomed Krista Wood, the new and returning members of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and thanked them for their support of Catholic education in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

2. Roll Call

Guest: Krista Wood, Board Chaplaincy Leader

Parent Members	Affiliations	Present	Excused	Absent
Chris Kouroushis	Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	√		
Kym Raso	Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet		√	
Shonna Daly	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	√		
Rebecca Monte	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	√		
Kim Hedden	Merritton/Thorold	√		
Heather McCluckie	Merritton/Thorold	√		
Alexandria Attree	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Rita Colling	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Mary Mannella-Byers	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Josephine Muraca-Lettieri	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	√		
Marion Battersby	St. Catharines	√		
Lisa Finley	St. Catharines	√		
Kate Hingston	St. Catharines		√	
Julie Wiley-Pol	St. Catharines		√	
Anne Watt	Welland	√		
Carrie Vernelli	Welland	√		
Community Representatives				
Leone Strilec	Development and Peace		√	
Shelley Gilbert	Society of Saint Vincent de Paul	√		

Anna Racine	SEAC Representative	√		
Fr. Peter Rowe	Bishop/Diocesan Representative	√		
Hannah Tummillo	Secondary Student Senate Representative	√		
Trustees				
Kathy Burtnik	Vice-Chair of the Board	√		
Dino Sicoli	Trustee		√	

The following staff was in attendance:

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells, Josie Rocca, Support Staff Representative and Yvonne Anderson, Recording Secretary.

Regrets sent: Theo Dagenais, Glenn Gifford, Kate Hingston, Dino Sicoli, Kym Raso, Leone Strilec and Julie Wiley-Pol.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Kim Hedden

Seconded by: Marion Battersby

THAT the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the agenda of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of November 17, 2016 as amended.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Mary Mannella-Byers, Rita Colling and Lisa Finley informed the NCPIC that they are employees of the Board.

5. Terms of Office

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells presented information about the NCPIC membership terms of office. Members discussed the terms of office and the terms of office were determined by consensus.

Terms of Office Parent Members 2016-2017			
Name	Geographical Area	Terms of Office	
		One (1) year term	Two (2) year term
Chris Kouroushis	Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet		√
Kym Raso	Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	Second year of a two year term	
Shonna Daly	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	Second year of a two year term	
Rebecca Monte	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham		√
Kim Hedden	Merritton/Thorold		√
Heather McCluckie	Merritton/Thorold	Second year of a two year term	
Alexandra Attree	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	Second year of a two year term	
Rita Colling	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake		√
Mary Mannella-Byers	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	Second year of a two year term	
Josephine Muraca-Lettieri	Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake		√
Marion Battersby	St. Catharines	Second year of a two year term	
Lisa Finley	St. Catharines		√
Kate Hingston	St. Catharines		√
Julie Wiley-Pol	St. Catharines	Second year of a two year term	
Anne Watt	Welland	√	
Carrie Vernelli	Welland		√

6. Election of the Niagara Catholic Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) Regional Director

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells on behalf of the Niagara Catholic District School Board and the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee thanked Heather Pyke for her dedication and commitment to Catholic education as a parent member and community representative on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, and as the Niagara Catholic OAPCE Regional Director and Vice-President of OAPCE.

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that according to the NCPIC Policy and By-Laws one (1) parent/guardian holding a two (2) year term will be elected/appointed as required for a term not to exceed two (2) years to represent the Niagara Catholic District School Board as the Regional Director for the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) and will act as liaison between the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) and the OAPCE Liaison Representatives from the Catholic School Councils of the Board. In the event that

nominations or self-nominations are not received for the position, the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Board, and the Director of Education reserve the right to appoint a representative.

- Discussion occurred regarding the terms of office and the option of having two members appointed to the position. Information about the OAPCE Regional Director's position will be provided to NCPIC members with the minutes. Further discussion will take place at the January 19, 2017 NCPIC meeting.

7. Niagara Catholic OAPCE Regional Director's Remarks

- Deferred

8. Commissioning of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee

Fr. Peter Rowe, presided over the commissioning ceremony of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee. NCPIC members publicly acclaimed their commitment to promote the Mission of Catholic education and the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

9. Approval of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2016

Moved by: Rebecca Monte

Seconded by: Mary Mannella-Byers

THAT the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of May 12, 2016 as presented.

CARRIED

B. PRESENTATIONS

C. 2016-2017 NCPIC GOALS

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells stated as a result of the 2015-2016 Catholic School Council Parents/Guardians Survey, a NCPIC Newsletter was created to support the operation of Catholic School Councils in the Board. The draft December 2016 Newsletter was provided for review by NCPIC. Superintendent Forsyth-Sells requested that feedback be sent to Yvonne Anderson.

MOTION

Moved by: Rebecca Monte

Seconded by: Josie Muraca-Lettieri

THAT In keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the 2016-2017 NCPIC Goal is to develop a communication plan using social media, newsletters, and presentations to Catholic School Councils; and to provide presentations at Niagara Catholic School Open Houses to inform and engage parents about the NCPIC for the improvement of student achievement and well-being.

CARRIED

D. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **FAITH FORMATION**-*Josie Rocca and Krista Wood*

Josie Rocca and Krista Wood reported that the Board has invited the NCPIC to participate in sessions offered in the Faith Formation Program 2016-2017. A recommendation was made that NCPIC members would reschedule the NCPIC meeting of January 19, 2017 to January 18, 2017 to participate in the “Loving Him Through Scripture”.

2. **POLICY**- *Shonna Daly*

The following Policies and Administrative Procedures are currently being reviewed as part of the cyclical Policy and Administrative Procedures Review process.

- Assessment, Evaluation, Reporting and Homework Policy 301.10
- Catholic Leadership: Principal and Vice-Principal Selection Policy 202.2
- Student Suspension – Safe Schools Policy 302.6.4
- Student Expulsion – Safe Schools Policy 302.6.5

Feedback is to be submitted to jennifer.pellegrini@ncdsb.com by January 14, 2017

3. **PRO GRANT**-*Krista Wood and Shonna Daly*

- The consolidated results of the Tier 1 discussion groups were distributed.
- NCPIC is invited to reflect upon what these results may mean for them as a committee and also as parents, staff and parishioners within their own communities.
- Tier 2 “Building Community”
 - Timeline: January-June 2017
 - Local triad committees will be established and chaired by the local Pastor and Principal(s) within a parish family. These committees will at a minimum include Catholic School Council members, students, and school staff, but could also include pastoral assistants, youth ministers, parishioners, and representatives from various parish groups.
 - First task of the local committees will be to review and discuss the Tier 1 results and to consider how they might reflect the experience and needs of their communities.
 - Second task is to develop or strengthen a local initiative or event to support and strengthen the family, school, parish relationship.
 - Committees will be asked to share a brief summary/progress report with the Congress Planning Committee in April 2017.
 - Feedback from Tier 2 will be used in preparation for Tier 3.
- Tier 3 “Festival of Families”
 - Will include a prayer service led by Bishop Bergie, a barbeque, music, as well as family activities and workshops (based on Tier 2 feedback).
 - NCPIC is invited to make suggestions for possible workshops and activities.

- The Congress Planning Committee will be looking for additional support from the NCPIC in the form of volunteers for the Festival of Families and will provide a summary at the NCPIC meeting of January 18, 2017.

E. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

1. NCPIC Community Representatives

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells shared that two (2) nomination forms and letters of support have been received for the position of Community Representative(s) on the NCPIC:

- Shelley Gilbert-Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Leone Strilec-St. Catharines Diocesan Council for Development and Peace

MOTION

Moved by: Mary Mannella-Byers

Seconded by: Lisa Finley

THAT a report be presented at the Board Meeting of November 22, 2016 with the recommendation that the Niagara Catholic District School Board approve the appointment of the following community members to serve as Community Representatives on the NCPIC for the term of 2016-2017:

- Shelley Gilbert-St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Leone Strilec-St. Catharines Diocesan Council For Development and Peace

CARRIED

2. Annual Report NCPIC 2015-2016

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells provided the Annual Report for the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee 2015-2016.

3. NCPIC Financial Report

A financial statement was provided for information.

F. COMMUNITY REPORTS

Development and Peace

- Education Campaign, "At the Heart of the Action" is currently underway in the parishes. Please consider signing the action card urging Prime Minister Trudeau to keep the promises he made at COP21 last year.
- Our partners in Haiti reported that the homes built with the financial support of Development and Peace after the earthquake are still standing after the hurricane. This is an excellent example of our commitment to long-term sustainable development in addition to humanitarian aid.
- In partnership with the Catholic Women's League, Development and Peace will launch the Share Lent Campaign on February 18, 2017.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

- Bishop Bergie blessed the Grand Opening of the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift store in Niagara Falls.
- Several schools took part in the Thanksgiving Food Drives.
- Volunteers are getting ready to prepare Christmas baskets.

G. SEAC REPORT-Anna Racine

- The mandate of the Special Education Advisory Committee is to make recommendations to the Board regarding special education programs and services for our students.
- SEAC participates in Board's Annual Review of the Special Education Plan and the Board Budget.
- SEAC provides a report for Catholic School Council Agendas and School Newsletters to keep parents/guardians informed of SEAC activities.

Membership of the SEAC

Up to 12 Local Parent Associations

2 Trustees and 2 Principal Representatives

Superintendent of Special Education along with special education staff

Current Agencies are:

- Tourette Syndrome Association
- Learning Disabilities
- Community Living
- Pathstone Mental Health
- Down Syndrome Caring Parents

SEAC Report for Catholic School Council Agendas and School Newsletters

The following list is an update of the current goals that the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) have been working on for this school year.

- *Recruiting new associations to join SEAC*
- *Policy Review*
- *Professional Development Working Sessions for SEAC members focussing on Special Education programs and services*

The following presentations/working sessions have occurred at SEAC meetings this school year:

September – *Google Read and Write*

November – *Provincial Leads Meeting overview: Meeting of Student Success Leaders, School Effectiveness Leads and Special Education Leads, October 2016*

Parents are welcome to attend the monthly meetings of the Niagara Catholic Special Education Advisory Committee. Meetings are held at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland, Ontario at 7:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, unless posted otherwise.

Please refer to the Niagara Catholic School Year Calendar located on our Board website, www.niagaracatholic.ca for a list of meeting dates.

H. BISHOP/DIOCESAN REPORT-*Fr. Peter Rowe*

- Fr. Peter Rowe stated that he was pleased to continue as the Bishop/Diocesan representative on the NCPIC.
- Fr. Peter requested that all members take the time over the holidays to reflect on the Gospel Values and traditions of the Catholic Faith.

I. STUDENT SENATE REPORT- *Hannah Tummillio*

- To start off the year, members of the Secondary Student Senate represented the Niagara Catholic District School Board by walking in the Grape and Wine Parade on September 24, 2016.
- The theme for the annual Student Senate, Student Leadership Symposium Video Contest "This is Us" was inspired by suggestions put forth by student councils. Each school council will submit a video showcasing their unique school culture, as well as the presence of their Catholicism within their community that will be premiered at the Student Leadership Symposium in May 2017.
- On November 29, 2016 the Student Senate will assist in the facilitation of Niagara Catholic's 28:8 Student Leadership event, in partnership with Team Canada '72 and Brock University's Goodman School of Business. This event will be attended by 30 student leaders from each secondary school and will develop their understanding of the qualities of perseverance and teamwork through firsthand accounts from the players.

J. STAFF REPORTS

- All Niagara Catholic Secondary Schools participated in the 2016-2017 Pilgrimage on October 29, 2016 and raised over \$151,000 dollars.
- Niagara Catholic Secondary Schools are preparing for the Grade Eight Open Houses that will take place during the last two weeks of November.
- November 18, 2016 was a Board wide P.A. Day.
- Elementary Open Houses will take place on November 23, 2016 from 9:00a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Advent will be celebrated throughout Niagara Catholic.

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS-*Kathy Burtnik*

- Vice-Chair Burtnik wished all in attendance a very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year.

L. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

M. NEXT MEETING:

The original date of Thursday, January 19, 2017 NCPIC Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre was changed to Wednesday, January 18, 2017 in order for the NCPIC members to participate in Faith Formation "Loving Him Through Scripture" with Fr. Peter Rowe from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The NCPIC meeting to follow the Faith Formation at 7:00 p.m.

N. CLOSING PRAYER: Closing Prayer was led by Fr. Peter Rowe.

Q. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Shelley Gilbert

Seconded by: Rita Colling

THAT the November 17, 2016 meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee be adjourned.

CARRIED

This meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.
