



NIAGARA CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE  
NIAGARA CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2018**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee, held on Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Father Kenneth Burns csc Board Room, at the Catholic Education Centre, 427 Rice Road, Welland, ON.

Chair Daly called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**A. ROUTINE MATTERS**

**1. Opening Prayer**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells led the opening prayer.

**2. Roll Call:**

Parent Members	Affiliations	Present	Excused	Absent
Shonna Daly	Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	√		
Leanne Prince	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	√		
Rebecca Williams	Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	√		
Kim Hedden	Merritton/Thorold	√		
Heather McCluckie	Merritton/Thorold	√		
Chris Kouroushis	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		√	
Angela Lorenzo	St. Catharines		√	
Carrie Vernelli	Welland	√		
Leone Strilec	Development and Peace	√		
Shelley Gilbert	Society of St. Vincent de Paul	√		
Anna Racine	SEAC Representative		√	
Fr. Peter Rowe	Bishop/Diocesan Representative	√		
Gabriel Demizio/Camille Peddle	Secondary Student Senate Representative	√		
<b>Trustees</b>				
Kathy Burtnik	Trustee	√		
Dino Sicoli	Trustee		√	

The following staff was in attendance:

Lee Ann Forsyth-Sells, Superintendent of Education, Josie Rocca, Support Staff and Yvonne Anderson, Recording Secretary.

Regrets sent: Rita Colling, Gabriel Demizio, Brad Johnstone, Kate Hingston, Kim Kuchar, Angela Lorenzo, Anna Racine and Dino Sicoli.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by: Mary Mannella-Byers

Seconded by: Leanne Prince

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the agenda of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of September 6, 2018 as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No conflict of interest was declared.

**5. Approval of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2018**

Moved by: Kim Hedden

Seconded by: Chris Kouroushis

**THAT** the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee approve the minutes of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of May 3, 2018 as presented.

**CARRIED**

**B. PRESENTATION**

**C. Chair's Report-Chair Daly**

Chair Daly thanked all the members for their time and commitment to the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee and for their support of parent engagement in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

**D. 2018-2019 NCPIC GOALS**

Deferred to the NCPIC meeting of November 1, 2018.

**E. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. FAITH FORMATION-Josie Rocca**

As a follow-up to the NCPIC meeting of May 3, 2018, the NCPIC will host a Catholic School Council Chairs/Co-Chairs and Parents/Guardians Faith Formation teaching mass/social. The faith formation subcommittee will meet to finalize the details and a *Save the Date* memo will be sent to all elementary and secondary schools.

**2. POLICY- Chair Daly**

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

- Continuing Education Policy (400.1)
- Electronic Communications Systems Policy (Employees) (201.12)

- Playground Equipment Policy (702.1)
- Student Parenting Policy (302.5)

Please submit your feedback to Jennifer Pellegrini by September 10, 2018

- Employee Workplace Harassment Policy (201.7)
- Employee Workplace Violence Policy (201.11)
- Occupational Health & Safety Policy (201.6)
- Catholic School Councils Policy (800.1)

Please submit your feedback to Jennifer Pellegrini by October 11, 2018

**3. NCPIC PRO Grant 2018-2019**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that the Ministry of Education has not notified school boards on the status of 2018-2019 PRO Grant applications.

**F. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESIGNATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION**

**1. 2018-2019 School Year Calendar**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells provided and reviewed the 2018-2019 School Year Calendar.

**2. 2018-2019 System Events**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells provided and reviewed the 2018-2019 System Events.

**3. 2018-2019 Niagara Catholic System Priorities**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells provided and reviewed the 2018-2019 Niagara Catholic System Priorities.

**4. 2018-2019 NCPIC Membership**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that the available parent/guardian positions for the 2018-2019 on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee are:

Fort Erie/Port Colborne/Wainfleet	1 position	Parent/Guardian Representative
Grimsby/Lincoln/West Lincoln/Pelham	1 position	Parent/Guardian Representative
Niagara Falls/Niagara-on-the-Lake	3 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
St. Catharines	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives
Thorold/Merritton	1 position	Parent/Guardian Representative
Welland	2 positions	Parent/Guardian Representatives

***Community Representatives***

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells shared that Leone Strilec and Shelly Gilbert had submitted their nominations forms and letters of recommendation to continue as community representatives on the NCPIC for the 2018-2019 school year. The nominations for community representatives will be presented at the Board Meeting of September 25, 2018.

***Parent/Guardian Representatives***

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells invited parent/guardian members coming to the end of their two-term to complete and submit the parent/guardian nomination form to the attention of Yvonne Anderson no later than 4:00 p.m. EST., on Friday, October 12, 2018.

**5. Annual Catholic School Council Chairs/Co-Chairs and Members Meeting**

The Annual Catholic School Council Chairs/Co-Chairs and Members meeting will merge with the Faith Formation Teaching Mass.

**6. Health and Physical Education Curriculum**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells provided and reviewed documentation received from the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario, the Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association and the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) regarding the Health and Physical Education Curriculum.

**7. Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE)-Membership**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reviewed a letter addressed to the Director of Education from OAPCE. Discussion occurred on the renewal of the OAPCE membership. The decision of Niagara Catholic having a OAPCE Regional Director on OAPCE was deferred to the November 1, 2018 meeting.

**MOTION**

Moved by: Marion Battersby

Seconded by: Kim Hedden

THAT Superintendent Forsyth-Sells send a letter on behalf of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee thanking OAPCE for the letter to the Director of Education and to extend an invitation for OAPCE to attend a meeting of the NCPIC to provide further information/details on their role as the voice of Catholic parents.

**CARRIED**

**8. NCPIC Financial Report**

A financial statement was provided for information.

**G. COMMUNITY REPORTS**

**1. *Development and Peace-Leone Strilec***

- Leone reported that a retreat for the three dioceses of South-Western Ontario: London, Hamilton and St. Catharines will take place on Saturday, September 15, 2018.
- Development and Peace - Caritas Canada is joining forces with Pope Francis and Caritas Internationalis inviting Canadians to "*Share the Journey*". This campaign aims to create a culture of encounter by educating the public on the realities faced by those forced to flee their homes and to create opportunities for encounters between all community members. A workshop promoting "*Share the Journey*" will take place on Saturday, September 29, 2018 at St. Alfred's in St. Catharines.
- Development and Peace sent an action card asking the federal government to put more effort into working for peace around the world, and is encouraging all to walk in solidarity for those forced to leave their homes, something that Niagara Catholic has been doing for

decades. Leone encouraged all members to get involved in their local pilgrimage on Sunday, October 28, 2018 and remember those living in exile.

**2. Society of St. Vincent de Paul-Shelley Gilbert**

- With the support of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 90 children were able to attend the St. Vincent de Paul Camp in Chatham this year.
- Students from Saint Francis Catholic Secondary School painted the sides of the two-sea container filled with approximately 60,000 lbs of resources and sent to Naajuat Nunavut to support families.
- St. Mary, St. Vincent de Paul Foodbank in Welland was broken into, but thankfully, the supplies were replaced.
- An article was in the local paper making an appeal for support of the Ozanam Centre (Soup Kitchen).

**H. SEAC REPORT-Anna Racine**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells reported that at the September 5, 2018 SEAC meeting Anna Racine was re-elected as the SEAC representative on the NCPIC for the 2018-2019 school year.

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

- Fr. Peter Rowe shared and discussed a copy of the article “Bishops strike profound chord in pastoral letter” by John Kostoff.
- Fr. Peter Rowe discussed the importance of the “Renewing the Promise” document.
- A Penance and Reconciliation Mass will take place on September 14, 2018 at the Cathedral of St. Catharines. Bishop Bergie will say a ‘Prayer for Healing’.
- Fr. Peter Rowe encouraged members to read the various articles written by Monsignor Dennis Murphy.
- Fr. Peter Rowe shared good news that Pope Francis will declare Pope Paul VI and Archbishop Oscar Romero saints of the universal church on October 14, 2018 at the Vatican during the synod of bishops on young people. They will be canonized along with four other blessed: two Italian diocesan priests, Francesco Spinelli and Vincenzo Romano, and a German and a Spanish nun, Maria Caterina Kasper and Nazaria Ignazia di Santa Teresa di Gesu.

**J. STUDENT SENATE REPORT**

Superintendent Forsyth-Sells introduced Camille Peddle as the 2018-2019 Secondary Student Senate Representative on the NCPIC.

**K. STAFF REPORTS-Josie Rocca**

- All staff, students and their families have enjoyed a restful vacation. Niagara Catholic is ready for the 2018-2019 school year and students are eager to learn something new and make new friends.
- Schools are looking forward to the new Three Year Theological Theme 2018-2021 “Seeds of Faith: Mass, Mercy, Mission”.
- Open Houses and Meet the Teacher events will take place during the month of September.
- Elementary students are gearing up for their area Cross Country meets and other sports events as well as their favourite extra-curricular activities.

- Credit classes begin Sept 10, 2018 for Adult and Continuing Education. During the 2017-2018 school year 100% of the graduating Personal Support Workers Program received employment throughout the region.

**L. TRUSTEE REPORTS-Trustee Burtnik**

- Trustee Burtnik reported that all Niagara Catholic schools had successful first day openings.
- Trustee Burtnik emphasized the importance of all partners in Catholic education to continue to support, protect and promote our Catholic schools.
- Trustee Burtnik distributed Certificates of Appreciation to all members, and thanked them for their support and commitment to Catholic education, parent involvement and student achievement and well-being in the Niagara Catholic District School Board.

**M. AGENDA ITEMS-DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

**N. NEXT MEETING:**

Thursday, November 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Catholic Education Centre.

**O. CLOSING PRAYER:** Fr. Peter Rowe led the closing prayer.

**P. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by: Shelley Gilbert

Seconded by: Mary Mannella-Byers

**THAT** the September 6, 2018 meeting of the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement Committee be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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