

**MINUTES OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT
COMMITTEE (CPIC)**

Date: November 9, 2020
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Virtual Meeting

Members Present

T. Arruda Newns
S. Boulanger
V. Chininea
N. Dinolfo
M. Duarte
L. Efremova
D. Foster
S. Furlong
D. Garell-Teti
M. Lourenco
J. MacLeod
V. Monaco
T. O'Brien
J. Santos
S. Sywash

Guests:

B. Agnew
P. Daly
A. Gonzalez
N. Guzzo

Regrets: O. Iiuyomade
A. McKinney
Fr. Francis Salaslar

Chair: G. Bergin

Recording Secretary A. Brown

1. Opening Prayer & Welcome

The meeting opened at 7:02 p.m. with a welcome from the Chair. The prayer was moved to the commissioning ceremony.

2. Approvals & Revisions

2.1 Agenda

Moved by: J. MacLeod

Seconded by: J. Santos

That, the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

2.2 Minutes

Moved by: J. MacLeod

Seconded by: S. Furlong

That, the minutes of the September 29, 2020 Catholic Parent Involvement Committee be approved and submitted.

CARRIED

3. Welcome and commissioning of new members

N. Dinolfo led the commissioning ceremony with a power point presentation with prayers, readings and petitions read by members.

4. Elections and Acknowledgements

4.1 Election of co-chair

The Chair asked members to put their names forward if they were interested in the Co-Chair position, or if you wish to nominate an eligible member. N. Dinolfo and G. Bergin briefly reviewed what the position entails. Nominated members were asked to introduce themselves with a brief bio. 2 members were nominated, one withdrew their nomination.

Moved by: J. MacLeod

Seconded by: L. Efremova

Jennifer Santos was acclaimed as Co-Chair of CPIC. Welcome Jennifer, and Congratulations.

CARRIED

4.2 Acknowledgements of non-returning members

G. Bergin acknowledged the outgoing members for their time, contributions, talents and commitment to CPIC, HCDSB and School Councils over that past many years.

G. Bergin briefly shared information about open positions within CPIC. David Foster joined last year and was acclaimed in September as Community Rep. Discussion continued regarding discrepancies in the by-laws around how OAPSE Director election/appointment is filled. D. Garell-Teti informed members that it is OAPSE who determines the term for the position, not CPIC, and her current position is set to be discussed at the January 2021 OAPSE meeting. She will provide more updates during the OAPSE update.

5. Review CPIC Mandate and goals

N. Dinolfo reviewed CPIC mandate and goals with members:

The Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC) is a group of parents, trustees and Board staff who actively support parent engagement and involvement throughout the Halton Catholic District School Board. CPIC is regulated by [Regulation 330/10 under the Education Act](#), which came into effect in September 2010, and sets out specific requirements regarding the composition of a Parent Involvement Committee, or Catholic Parent Involvement Committee. CPIC provides a regular opportunity for School Council members to network, share, offer input and enjoy informative presentations on a number of education related topics throughout the school year. CPIC makes parental engagement a priority by providing support on a system-wide basis and promoting dialogue between Catholic School Councils, the Board and members of the community.

The Catholic Parent Involvement Committee recognizes that there are goals inherent in the Board's Mission Statement and Governing Values. In addition to these, our goals are:

- To increase parent involvement and responsibility in the Catholic education process.
- To promote and encourage communication among home, school, parish and community.
- To be informed on current educational issues and practices.
- To serve as a vital link between all of our partners and the Halton Catholic District School Board.

6. Board Update

- **General update**
- **Upcoming notable items**

7. Trustee update

- **General update**

Trustee Duarte welcomed new members and was pleased with the interest. M. Duarte discussed the following items:

- STEM extracurricular at both secondary and elementary panels. A committee is being struck and will present at Nov. 17 Board meeting
- A motion was put forward at the Nov. 4 Board meeting and Trustees were unanimously in favour of an initiative resource kit with curriculum ideas and activities to recognize "International Day of Persons with Disabilities"
- Nov. 3 Board meeting, Dr. Meghani, Halton Region Chief Public Health officer presented on how Halton Region works with our schools and system to ensure we keep COVID-19 in control in our schools.
- At the same board meeting, there was 1 delegation on the expansion of Early French Program. Director Daly has been asked to provide a preliminary report on the feasibility of expansion to the next board meeting, and a final report in the first week of December
- Secondary French Immersion Program – a report was presented at the last board meeting and will begin Sept 20/21. Sites are Notre Dame in Burlington, St. Ignatius of Loyola in Oakville, Christ the King in Georgetown and the new Milton Secondary School #3, but these students will temporarily be at Bishop Reding until Milton #3 is built.
- **Upcoming notable items**
 - Milton Secondary School 3 boundary review not complete. Recommendations will come to the next board of trustees for a final vote at the board meeting next week. M. Duarte explained that this boundary review has been very complicated and complimented the members of the review committee and board staff for their hard work.
 - Oakville #4 (North) will have a new elementary school opening September 2022. Capital funding is 14.5 million dollars.
 - M. Duarte asked members if they had questions for Trustees present:

M. Lourenco asked Trustee Guzzo if Catholic School Councils have been given an opportunity to respond to the Catholic School Council and CPIC policy procedures.

Response was: at the policy meeting it was referred to CPIC to be reviewed, and then at that point needed stakeholder feedback so it's returning with a staff report to the policy committee and will be discussed tomorrow at the policy meeting. Many councils just had their first meeting in October with their council just formed and didn't have enough time to discuss this. It is still in process and looking for stakeholder input before it goes further.

D. Foster asked a question to Trustee Agnew with regards to what International Day of Persons with Disabilities could look like:

- B. Agnew gave a brief history of International Day of Persons with Disabilities which happens annually on Dec. 3. This year's theme is "Invisible Disabilities" with curriculum ideas and activities to celebrate this day with inclusion awareness, kindness and acceptance.

8. OAPCE Update

D. Garell-Teti gave a rundown to new members on what OAPCE stands for. OAPCE is the Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education and has been in existence for 81 years. It gives parents a voice at the Provincial level. CPIC is board level. Membership fees are to be paid to have a voice. Each School Council has a responsibility to appoint and OAPCE liaison to communicate from OAPCE to School Council. OAPCE reps attend conferences, webinars and meetings. D. Garell-Teti gave an overview of what her responsibilities are and a description of what her position entails as OAPCE Director of Halton.

Upcoming info. - D. Garell-Teti informed the members of past and upcoming webinars that are available for CPIC members. How information is to be communicated was established. Our board is the communicator to the OAPCE members. Director Denise would like a more efficient method of communicating information to OAPSE members.

N. Dinolfo informed the group that OAPCE email addresses have been collected and information will be distributed through email with School Council Chairs/Co-Chairs and school administration cc'd. Concern was raised that not every school has an OAPCE rep, even though it is mandated by the Ministry of Education. N. Dinolfo clarified that if a school does not have an OAPCE rep, the responsibility falls to the Chair/Co-Chairs.

9. By-law review

G. Bergin proposed to establish a sub-committee as there are some discrepancies and dated by-laws. Last year CPIC did very little review of by-laws. All members were encouraged to read the by-laws and bring forward proposals to amend, revise, delete or add items to bring by-laws up to date. In reviewing by-laws, some were contradictory in terms of reference and by-laws. Examples given on what to look for and thinks it's good practice to review every few years. J. MacLeod suggested if any new members have legal background, to advise as this seems like a big undertaking. N. Guzzo offered staff support to be sure by-laws are in line with board policies.

➤ Establish sub-committee

Moved by: M. Lourenco

Seconded by: T. Arruda Newns

Motion to strike a sub-committee, whose mandate would be to review and put forward recommendations of revisions to CPIC by-laws.

CARRIED

G. Bergin called for anyone who wishes to volunteer, to email their names to cpic@hcdsb.org, as members were having difficulty with the chat feature in TEAMS.

10. Council of Chairs meeting Agenda

- G. Bergin discussed that at prior meetings it was suggested that a board member speak at Council of Chairs meeting about D2L. N. Dinolfo agreed that it was a very good idea and that staff having been working hard to prepare a presentation for parents. Curriculum Dept. has info. to share – similar to info. at Curriculum Night at schools.
- OAPCE reps. will be commissioned that evening.
- Interest in Mental Health speaker to focus on families/children/student stressors of school life and beyond.
- Tech. - assistance in helping families and kids/students manage screen time.
- Include a networking component with small break out groups so council members can interact with each other.
- M. Lourenco inquired if these could be recorded and shared with School Council members at individual schools. She also suggested training sessions around the role of School Council.
- Date for Council of Chairs meeting is Wednesday, November 25th.

11. Other Business/Future Agenda items

- Conversations around finding representatives and alternates for upcoming meetings.
- B. Agnew will present at next Council of Chairs meeting on SEAC and who they are and what they do.

12. Closing Prayer

N. Dinolfo thanked all members for being so productive and minding the norms of using the hands and mics/cameras off for a more efficient meeting. She then closed the meeting with a prayer.

13. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.