

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

Date: January 18, 2021
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-Warren
L. Gallo
D. Garell-Teti
O. liuyomade
M. Lourenco
J. McLeod
V. Monaco
T. O'Brien
Fr. D. Walter

Guests:

P. Daly
R. DeFranco
A. Swinden

Regrets:

Chair: G. Bergin/J. Santos

Recording Secretary A. Brown

1. Opening Prayer & Welcome

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with a welcome from the Chair. G. Bergin welcomed our new member, our new Deanery Representative, Fr. Dave Walter. Fr. Dave led the committee in an opening prayer.

2. Approvals & Revisions

2.1 Agenda

Moved by: S. Furlong-Warren

Seconded by: S. Boulanger

That, the agenda be approved.

CARRIED

2.2 Minutes

Moved by: S. Furlong-Warren

Seconded by: L. Efremova

That, the minutes of the December 7, 202 Catholic Parent Involvement Committee be approved and submitted.

CARRIED

3. Board Update

N. Dinolfo shared the [Land Acknowledgement](#) video, an initiative which was created by the Corpus Christi Family of Schools under the direction of S. Saevil, our Indigenous Education Advisor and K. Moro, Principal of Corpus Christi, putting together this beautiful [Land Acknowledgement](#) presentation that we now have for the system.

➤ **Board Update – N. Dinolfo**

- at this time all K to 12 academic program is taught remotely.
- There has been no change to the delivery model for K to 8 students in virtual school from before Christmas.
- Students in Gr. 9 to 12 are all Cohort C for the final 3 weeks of their second quadmester.
- Face to face K to 8 students are now receiving their program remotely from their face to face teacher.
- The planned Jan 11th elementary change in learning environment placement from the November 2020 survey is on hold until K to 8 students are back face to face school learning environment, then the change will take place.
- We currently have 22 elementary schools with special education students whose IEP cannot be delivered remotely. Those students are face to face with instruction from their assigned special education teacher and EAs in the face to face setting.
- All of our high schools with category 4 or 5 students (Community Living, Structured Teaching) have students attending.
- Waiting for Ontario Ministry of Health update on January 20th to confirm if HCDSB will resume face to face instruction on Monday, January 25th.
- Friday, February 5th is a PA for elementary and secondary students. There will be no school for students. If we continue to be remote, it will be a remote PA Day. This is a reporting day for elementary teachers and a professional development day for secondary teachers.
- February 8th is the beginning for quadmester 3 for secondary students. Elementary teachers are in the middle of their reporting period. Term 1 report cards go home on Wednesday, February 24th.
- Kindergarten registrations continue online. Community outreach is taking place during the month of January. When we return face to face, documents will be verified to complete the registration process.
- Before Christmas, our new Milton Secondary School Principal was announced. Kevin Wong, currently at Loyola is transitioning to prepare our new Milton Secondary School.
- Gillian Federico, our System Chaplain has asked for a member of CPIC to sit on the Home-School-Parish partnership Committee. The commitment is 2 to 3 meetings per year. Please email Gerry or Jennifer if you are interested.
- Nancy introduced Andrea Swinden, our Manager of Strategic Communications to share the info. and navigating our new website, especially regarding parent involvement. Andrea introduced Rob DeFranco, our Creative Design Officer and both showed new logo options and new website.
 - Suggestion from members include: found CPIC portion hard to find. Would like CPIC more visible, to increase awareness of CPIC.
 - Perhaps a link to CPIC page from board website added to school websites, CPIC Facebook and Twitter accounts.

- A. Swinden and R. DeFranco presented 2 options for new CPIC logo, in keeping with the Board logo regarding colour and style.

- HCDSB colour palette
- similar iconography to current logo
- modernized, remove literal/silhouette design
- friendly, approachable design
- more balanced typeface compared to original logo
- less literal (remove church, building can represent all – home/parish/school - as well as belonging, protection, structure)
- subtle speech bubble on P (see notes below)



- HCDSB colour palette
- modernized, remove literal/silhouette design
- friendly, approachable design
- more balanced typeface compared to original logo
- focus on CPIC acronym, speech balloon icons created through negative space (subtle, offers depth)
- speech balloons represent: parent voice, participation, conversations/dialogue, involvement, sharing/exchanging ideas- future creative uses of graphic element

graphic element



using palette



Catholic Parent Involvement Committee

- G. Bergin and N. Dinolfo thanked Andrea and Rob and the subcommittee for their efforts regarding the new logo and the committee will get back to them with their decision.

➤ **Upcoming notable items**

- N. Dinolfo then addressed a question that was asked at the last CPIC meeting regarding the PRO Grant funds from last year. Unfortunately, money from last year has been returned to the Ministry. We have info. that the Ministry is going forward with PRO Grant for this year and each FOS has been given \$10,000.00. FOS Superintendents will present this to Family of School Administration and they will reach out to School Councils on how money will be spent this year. We are waiting for Business Services to give us the outline on how the money can be expensed during this time when we can't bring people together.

4. Trustee update

➤ **General update**

- Trustee Duarte started with his appreciation of the new board website and CPIC logo.
- At the December 15th Board Meeting, the Keeping Christ in Christmas contest award was presented. We had 250 submissions, they were very creative.
- EFI discussion Trustees gave direction to Director to add 2 FI classes in each municipality based on demand and space availability for 2021-2022. Through an earlier motion, a boundary review is scheduled to be held in municipalities in Feb. Staff has laid out a plan to do that.
- Finally received approval from the Ministry to proceed with Milton #10 elementary school. This will be the holding school for Milton #3 Secondary School. Staff are working on tenders and we are hoping to have shovels in the ground soon. Staff coming up with timelines today or tomorrow.
- Trustees attended the annual OSBTA seminar online last weekend. This seminar brings Trustees from all over Ontario for seminars and workshops. It was very well attended with over 450 trustees. The sessions were very informative.
- Chair of the Board Murphy and Trustee Duarte attended intensive human rights program for school board leaders last week, presented by York University in conjunction with the Ministry. Part 1 was a half day workshop. Our board, through various initiatives and policies, is doing very well on this front. There is another session scheduled for later this year.
- This year, Trustees will undertake 5 PD sessions starting in Feb. Some topics are: Supporting Equity and Inclusion through the Catholic lens, Human Rights and Accommodations in Catholic Education, Student Mental Health and Mental Health and Pandemic, How to Write Motions and the History of Catholic Education. Last year we did five sessions. We started off on a trial basis. It took off very well and trustees want more of this because this is what we need to deliver to our students in our system.
- Regarding virtual school, we all know the situation is very fluid and dynamic. I just wanted to say a big thank you to our teachers and admins were done an excellent job with the resources that we have and I must extend my sincere thanks to the Thanks to our parents who have been very supportive and understanding during this times. I have been hearing positive and supportive feedback from parents in our system.

- Question posed: Is there any additional health and safety measures being put into place with return to in person learning from the board?
- N. Dinolfo answered that at this time there hasn't been any adjustment to our return to school plan, so everything that we have in place within our schools. We had the IPAC visits through the Halton Region of Health throughout the fall up until December. They said everything that we're doing in our schools right now is consistent with how we're going to be able to move forward, so there are no changes. We do have some measures in place right now because of the students using lockers in the elementary setting. But right now, we're not changing any of our practices. We don't know if we'll get further direction once we are coming back face to face in the buildings, but for now, what we have in place meets the health standards that are required to do at the school level.
- P. Daly updated the committee that he will be giving an update at the Board Meeting tomorrow night. The Ministry has talked about extending the masking guidelines from Gr.1 to Gr. 12, which we already have masks from K to 12 in our board.
- The biggest change that the Ministry is looking at is implementing targeted Covid testing. They did do a pilot phase one project from mid-November to mid-December in Peel, Toronto, York and Ottawa. 63 schools, about 9000 students, staff and families. They are looking at expanding that voluntary, targeted testing, but it really would be directed in areas that have high rates of Covid, so we're waiting for some additional information with regards to how that will come out.
- One of the things that the Ministry also provided boards with is a kind of a return to school protocol reminder that we would have put in place with our students had we come back right after Christmas. Administrators and classroom teachers will be reviewing those when we do come back in person. As well, some other reminders for both for elementary, but particularly secondary students, around congregating. Staff are finding that they can do a pretty good job of keeping kids physically distanced while they're at school with the protocols we have in place, but there is concerns about what happens with students when they leave the property., They will follow direction until they get across the street and then they are off to Tim Horton's or they want to see their friends. So a large part of the work will be getting back into the really good routines that our teachers had they established with our students and will be waiting or for some additional information from the Ministry, I would think probably by Wednesday of this week.

5. OAPCE Update

- D. Garell-Teti has a Board of Directors meeting on January 30th and she will provide an update in her February newsletter which will be sent to all OAPCE reps.
- She is very appreciative of the communication help she is receiving and is getting responses to some of the things she poses in her newsletters to her OAPCE Halton email address. She is happy to see the communication improving.
- She added that she would like to see an OAPCE networking session again at the next Council of Chairs meeting in February and going forward.

- OAPCE sent their feedback to the Minister of Education on the education funding guide that was sent to OAPCE directors for input and feedback.
- OAPCE was asked to join conference call with Dr. Joshua Tepper, a strategic advisor to the Deputy Minister of Education, on feedback on re-opening schools and remote teaching.

6. Subcommittee Updates:

▪ School Council Support:

T. Arruda Newns updated the committee that the goal of the School Council Support Subcommittee is to collaborate with the school council to support them in all areas possible. In this effect, the following is suggested:

1. every School Council might reflect the vision of the HCDSB, even though every school works independently. We need to achieve the common goal of the School Board.

Vision Statement: The HCDSB is a modern learning community widely recognized as distinctively Catholic, providing exceptional education while nurturing the call to love and to serve a people of faith living out God's plan.

Mission Statement: The HCDSB, in partnership with home and church is dedicated to providing excellence in Catholic education by developing Christ-oriented individuals and abled to transform society.

Discussion on how to communicate with School Councils: perhaps create a Family of Schools chart and assign CPIC members to each FOS as a contact to provide resources and would include contact information.

Revisit social media initiatives (Facebook, Twitter) and use these platforms as a means of communication.

Create a platform for Parent Engagement (CPIC, School Councils) as a centre to share information such as fundraising events/ideas, vendors, DJs, Santas, banquet facilities, retailers etc. A place to share best practices and feedback. Also use this platform to help with the definition of the roles – CPIC, Councils, regulations, questions asked and answer. Basically, open line of communication; a central point where Councils can go for information.

▪ Parent and Community Engagement

J. MacLeod informed the committee that this subcommittee discussed getting the new CPIC logo up and running and was very happy that this has been completed. Once a logo is picked, it will go up on CPIC social media platforms and get them active again. They want to use these channels to ask parents what they need from CPIC regarding resources etc. with infographics for and easy way to create and share.

Put CPIC and SEAC Facebook and social media contact info. incorporated into board wide messaging as a footnote at the bottom.

Stay in touch with other subcommittees and communicate their needs with a central platform.

Reach out to current HCDSB FB groups, formal school council FB groups, informal parent groups etc. to introduce CPIC and let them know what resources are available for them.

Add CPIC information to all school websites.

▪ **CPIC Bylaws/Election Subcommittee**

S. Boulanger informed the committee that members of the subcommittee reviewed the document individually and entered comments/changes to be made and then discussed in length. G. Bergin drafted update on new word document addressing structure of document, typos etc. This document is in need of update, as last update was in 2017, and also to be sure that it aligns with School Council documents and regulations under the Education Act. Some more pressing items regarding CPIC membership and a more detailed and updated election process. Subcommittee needs more time to work towards a document that is clear and detailed to all stakeholders that reflect current times. We've seen growth in the board in the last 4 years and want to be sure it reflects that, as well as align with School Council bylaws and regulations.

G. Bergin explained their process on how they began to update the by-laws, starting with cleaning up the duplications, contradictory information, typos etc. to help make bylaws flow in a more logical way, but have not made fundamental changes to bylaws themselves. This would require the whole committee's input. Some bylaws need to be looked at now, regarding policies and procedure reviews that are happening with the Board of Trustees. The goal is to get the bylaws up to par by end of school year.

7. CPIC Representation at Board Committees

Bullying Prevention – S. Furlong updated the committee of a meeting on Wednesday the 20th for a final look at the revised policy, then it will go to various committees including CPIC to look at and discuss at the next meeting to address any questions or concerns before it goes to the larger board meeting.

Question: Is this directed towards students, or to staff and parents as well?

Answer: students only at this time. Will see if there is a section that pertains to adults.

Mental Health Committee - L. Efremova updated the committee that she attended a Mental Health Committee meeting in November and the mandate was from the Ministry of education for each school board to address mental health issues and follow the province wide policies and guidelines.

Our school board initiative was to survey 1000 students and get their feedback on their mental health. The most striking response was that 1/3 of students surveyed don't have an adult who they can discuss their problems confidentially. The school board has creating an initiative in where each school will form a committee where students can discuss their issues and problems. This is in the early stages and she hopes to have more updates on the execution of this initiative at our next meeting.

8. Council of Chairs meeting Agenda

Update on CPIC elections for 2021-2022 School year

- Hoping to start elections after March Break and be finished by April to have our new 2021-2022 committee in place by the beginning of the school year.

- Anti black racism speaker – Sita Jayaraman, Senior Manager, Human Rights & Equity. N. Dinolfo advised that Sita is currently working on her presentation for Council of Chairs with the most up to date information to share. Her presentation will be visually appealing and will have time for questions and answers.
- Home-School-Parish partnership – thoughts into how we want to address this. How can we strengthen this partnership especially during lockdown.
- Breakout rooms at beginning of meeting or during - topic fundraising ideas and in initiatives.

Other suggestions made:

Best practices for virtual learning and strategies and guidance for how parents can best support. Vary by grade – ways parents can help.

Renewing the Promise – at Council of Chairs put out the question, why Catholic education? Have a session on why they choose Catholic education? School chairs would be great people to ask, as they are committed to Catholic education. Perhaps have an interactive component to meeting.

Catholic School Council of Chairs meeting – February 24, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

CPIC meeting – March 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

9. Other Business/Future Agenda items

CPIC subcommittees will become standing items on agenda.

Discussion on 3rd Council of Chairs meeting agenda

Regarding the policy feedback from councils – do we have any information on what other board policies are regarding Councils? What do other school boards do? Do other boards have this policy? G. Bergin will add to next agenda for conversation. Hopefully, all feedback will be back by then. He has some already with mixed responses.

10. Closing Prayer

Fr. Dave led the group in a closing prayer.

11. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.