

MINUTES OF THE CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (CPIC)

Date: September 20, 2021
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Virtual Meeting

Members Present: T. Arruda-Newns
G. Bergin
V. Burany
V. Chininea
J. Crans
N. Dinolfo
M. Duarte
L. Gallo
K. Kamau
V. Monaco
T. O'Brien
J. Santos
S. Sywash

Guests:
B. Agnew
P. Daly
N. Guzzo

Regrets: C. Bardwell
D. Garell-Teti
M. Lourenco
Fr. D. Walter

Chair: J. Santos

Recording Secretary A. Brown

1. Opening Prayer & HCDSB Land Acknowledgement

- The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. N. Dinolfo led with a prayer and an acknowledgement of our land and ancestors

2. New Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Members

- J. Santos introduced CPIC members for the 2021-2022 school year.
- J. Santos reviewed the CPIC bylaws and encouraged all members to read the by-laws.
- Declarations and Pledge will be emailed to members to complete.
- Commissioning prayer service was led by N. Dinolfo

3. Appointments

- G. Bergin was appointed as Co-chair for the 2021-2023 term
- The appointment of Community Representative has been deferred until the October 18th 2021 meeting.

4. Approvals & Revisions

4.1 Agenda

Moved by: G. Bergin

Seconded by: J. Crans

That, the agenda of the September 20, 2021 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

4.2 Minutes

Moved by: G. Bergin

Seconded by: S. Sywash

That, the minutes of the June 7, 2021 Catholic Parent Involvement Committee be approved.

CARRIED

5. Board Update (N. Dinolfo)

5.1 General update

- Welcome our CPIC members new and returning members, Director Daly, Vice Chair Duarte and Trustee O'Brien, Trustee Guzzo and Trustee Agnew are also present tonight as guests and our administrator reps Vince Monaco and Vince Chininea.
- We are so pleased to welcome our students, staff and parents back for the 2021/22 school year. There was complete joy to have the children, our students the young and older ones back in our schools and in virtual learning placements at the elementary and secondary level.
- All of our schools are running with students in classrooms in our elementary and secondary buildings. We have 976 students in our virtual elementary school which is its own school and students are registered to the virtual school. With our secondary students we continue to provide the hybrid learning model where teachers are in the classroom face to face with students and providing the experience remotely to approximately 1,020 secondary students virtually.
- Our schools continue to maintain the health and safety protocols as outlined by the MOE and Halton Region Public Health. Staff and Students from K-12 are wearing masks inside the building and classroom with a minimal number of students requiring a medical exemptions.
- Students in elementary continue to be cohorted as a class in the classroom and on the playground. Secondary students are cohorted in their two classes per quadmester.
- We continue to work with Halton Region Public health in maintaining a healthy and safe environment for all our students. We have had some COVID cases in our schools. When there is a positive case in Kindergarten to Grade 6 where students are not vaccinated public health has closed the class for a 10 day period. With our Grade 7 - 12 classes where students are vaccinated, vaccinated students have been able to

return to school and those unvaccinated have been asked to remain at home for a 10 day period. Halton Region Public Health is report approx. 82% of Halton region 12 + students are fully vaccinated and approximately 90% have received their first dose.

- Masking, hand hygiene and social distancing continue to be important for the health and safety of our staff in students in our schools.
- Schools have begun to plan our traditional September start up activities including virtual liturgies, divisional code of conduct assemblies and curriculum night. Extra-curricular activities have begun at the secondary level with competitive games beginning in the next week within our district. Our elementary inter school sport committee is meeting later this week to begin to plan for elementary inter school sports. For our secondary program we have begun the discussion on fans and fan capacity for outdoor events and will provide the plan to parents in the upcoming weeks.
- Our parish priests have communicated with our schools and are providing the sacrament of Confirmation and First Communion to the students in grade 3 and 8 who did not have an opportunity to receive the sacrament and are also planning for our Grade 2 and 7 students for First Communion and confirmation this year. Our parish priests are working collaboratively with the school to reconnect virtually through class meetings, liturgies and school masses.
- In our classrooms both at the elementary and secondary, teachers are administering various diagnostic assessments to assess where the students are at and if there are learning gaps and to plan their program accordingly.
- For our secondary courses our subject council met last week to discuss final assessments for the courses and what courses may have exams. The final course evaluation plan will be shared with parents and students once decided.
- Next week on September 30th our schools will recognize National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – The day recognizes the colonial legacy of residential schools, honours indigenous survivors and is vital to the ongoing reconciliation process – one symbol for the day will be the wearing of orange shirts throughout our community.
- We look forward to welcoming parent volunteers in our schools soon – we are working through the tool we will have in place for our parent volunteers to show proof of self screening, with a plan to have parent volunteers in the school after Thanksgiving – hot lunch programs will be reintroduced following health and safety protocols.
- Business Service is working with our provider in our high school cafeterias – when protocols are established and the server spaces are ready with the requirements set out by Public Health – our cafeterias will open later in the fall.
- Last week I had an opportunity to meet with school administrators to review Policy 1-23 and Procedure VI-84 in establishing their new Catholic School School. I am willing to support our subcommittee working together with Catholic School Council chairs if there is a desire to have a session for Chairs later in October.

Questions for Superintendent Dinolfo were asked and answered.

6. Trustee update (T. O'Brien)

6.1 General update

- The trustees have been somewhat busy since the last CPIC meeting on June 7. We have had 2 board meetings and 5 Special Board meetings.

June 15 Regular Board Meeting

- The Board ratified the memorandum of Settlement between the Board and the Halton Ontario English Catholic Teachers association) OECTA to be effective Sept. 1/2019.
- We heard four excellent delegations on: Youth Vaccinations, Student Experience with Racism, Indigenous Human Rights and Equity Roadmap and the Importance of Student Voice.

At the June 16 Special Board Meeting, the trustees passed the following

- Bullying Prevention and Intervention.
- Inclusion and Range of Placement Options for Identified Exceptional Students;
- Voluntary, Confidential Self Identification of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Students;
- Catholic School Councils and Catholic Parent Involvement Committee; The amendments which included a move to change the number of non-Catholics on CPIC was defeated.
- We also passed a policy on School Anniversary Celebrations;

June 24th Special Board Meeting:

- One of the responses to the previous board meeting was to include the land acknowledgement for all regular and special Board meetings.
- Another motion that was passed in response to non-Catholic students who are seeking leadership opportunities; but who can't run for trustee because they are not Catholic.
- The trustees passed a motion to start a system wide Equity Audit which is under way right now.

The committee met over the summer. The terms of reference for the committee was passed at the Aug. 17 Special Board Meeting

September 7 Regular Meeting of the Board:

- The one motion that was passed regarding menstrual equity stated that in collaboration with the HDSB, our board would write a letter to the minister of Education to urge the implementation of accessible and free menstrual hygiene products in and across Ontario schools.

Sept. 16 Special Board Meeting:

- We passed a motion of data collection which will allow on forms and surveys a fuller range of options for gender identity and sexual orientation
- We also pass a motion on Indigenous studies that will promote more culturally diverse secondary courses in Native Studies.
- As well, we passed a comprehensive motion on Indigenous Equity and Human Rights Roadmap which covered many aspects of this topic to allow for safer schools.
- Another motion was passed to ask for a report to consider the expansion of elementary community classrooms to more sites in order to provide better access.
- As well, as you know, we have all seen the Director's monthly report outlining our board's successes. We are now extending that to our Superintendents so that we will hear from all of them.

6.2 Upcoming Notable Items:

- One motion that will be brought forward to the Sept. 21 Regular Board Meeting will be on using MPAC data to solicit stakeholder feedback for the multi-year strategic plan.
- We are aiming for a completion date of the multi-year strategic plan by March 2022.
- Trustees will be attending the regional fall meeting next week.

7. Standing Items:

7.1 OAPCE Update (D. Garell-Teti)

- I am very excited to begin the school year as the Halton OAPCE director and look forward to another year of planning, communicating and updating our CPIC on OAPCE events and news.
- The first Board of Directors meeting for OAPCE for this school year will take place on Oct 2nd. For review at that meeting will be the 2021/22 OAPCE strategic plan.
- OAPCE has also posted the tabulated results of its first ever Parent Crowdsourcing Idea Board which was conducted in June/July. This idea board lists what parents think should START, STOP and Continue in publicly funded Catholic Education in Ontario. Feel free to visit oapce.org to view the categories and parent feedback.
- I will be working to prepare for the commissioning ceremony of our Halton OAPCE reps at the first council of chairs meeting on Nov 3rd.
- I will present as well, some of the Halton OAPCE initiatives that are also in the planning stages as well.

7.2 CPIC Subcommittees

The following subcommittees were agreed upon for the 2021-2022 school year:

7.2.1 School Council Support Committee (T. Arruda-News/L. Gallo)

7.2.2 Parent/Community/Parish Engagement Committee

7.2.3 By-laws

7.3 CPIC Representation on Board Committees

7.3.1 Mental Health

Jordan Cran volunteered to represent CPIC

7.3.2 Home-School-Parish Partnership

Violeta Burany volunteered to represent CPIC

7.3.3 Walk with Jesus

Tiana Arruda-Newns volunteered to represent CPIC

7.3.4 Destreaming (J. Santos)

Jennifer Santos is currently representing CPIC on this committee as it started over the summer.

- J. Santos shared a brief description of the goals of this committee.

7.3.5 Equity Audit (J. Santos)

Jennifer Santos is currently representing CPIC on this committee as it started over the summer.

- J. Santos shared a brief description of the goals of this committee.
- Trustee N. Guzzo followed up with more information on where the committee stands right now and the scope of the goals this committee hopes to accomplish at its completion.

7.3.6 School Year Calendar

Tiana Arruda-Newns had volunteered to represent CPIC.

7.3.7 Return to School (M. Lourenco)

Maria Lourenco has represented CPIC on this committee as it met over the summer.

8. Discussion Items:

8.1 School Council Training

- Schools are currently establishing their new councils so the handbook should be available so that CPIC can host drop in session training for Catholic School Council

chairs and co-chairs prior to, or perhaps during the Council of Chairs meeting in November.

- V. Monaco has been in touch with Strategic Communications regarding the updated branding and changes to the handbook coming soon.

8.2 By-laws

- G. Bergin gave an overview of why there was a by-laws subcommittee struck last year. Again, encouraged all members to review the by-laws. By-laws should be an ongoing part of the committee's work and decided it will be kept as a subcommittee.

8.3 Council of Chairs Meeting – Wednesday, November 3, 2021

- Floor was open to suggestions regarding activities/speakers/topics for the first Council of Chairs meeting in November. Members were asked to think about what would be appreciated by parents and bring their ideas to the next CPIC meeting on October 18, 2021.

Suggested topics:

- destreaming
- home/school/parish partnership: social justice. Still have Covid challenges to work with. Want to enhance, not add to church workload.

9. Other Business/Future Agenda Items

9.1 CPIC/Council of Chairs Meeting Dates 2021-2022

10. Closing Prayer

- N. Dinolfo thanked everyone for joining and closed the meeting with a prayer.

11. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.
- Declaration and Pledge was emailed out to all parent members immediately following adjournment.

Next CPIC Meeting: Monday, October 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Council of Chairs Meeting: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.