

HAMILTON-WENTWORTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: October 11, 2022

ITEM 1 PRAYER/WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. via Zoom and J. Angiolillo led the committee in the opening prayer. D. Eberts chaired the meeting.

ITEM 2 ATTENDANCE

PRESENT - COMMITTEE:

D. Eberts, Co-Chair, L. Perini Parkes, Co-Chair
L. Fraser, T. Hartnett, S. Heenan, A. Mari

BOARD/ADMINISTRATION:

D. Hansen, Director of Education
J. Angiolillo, Superintendent of Education

REGRETS:

R. Gambale, P. Daly, Chairperson of the Board

RECORDING SECRETARY: K. Bullard

ITEM 3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2022 MEETING

MOTION:

THAT THE CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
OF MAY 16, 2022 BE APPROVED.

MOVER: S. HEENAN

SECONDER: L. PERINI PARKES

CARRIED

ITEM 4 REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) D. Eberts/L. Perini Parkes

D. Eberts provided a brief report regarding activities currently underway. Items included: the \$500 Catholic School Council Component and Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Funds. School applications for the PRO Funds are due November 11, 2022.

She also reported that the CPIC Co-Chairs met with A. Ralph - Equity Officer to discuss the student census survey. Items discussed included the plan, participation, strategies and promotion. The survey opens October 20th and will provide important data on student demographics.

The 30th Annual Parent Conference will be held on November 10, 2022 at Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School. The Conference will begin with an in-person Mass at 6:00 p.m. followed by two breakout workshops. Registration for this Conference with open within the next couple of weeks.

A second part to the Parent Conference will include a virtual keynote speaker. This event is being planned for the Spring of 2023.

D. Eberts extended congratulations to L. Perini Parkes on her new role with The Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) and for her continued commitment to Catholic Education.

b) D. Hansen

Mr. Hansen reported on the following:

i) Return to School Update

Those staff and students who wish to wear masks continue to be supported and other safety precautions also continue. Enhanced cleaning at schools continues to be a priority. A parent letter will be sent outlining the various investments done to schools throughout the Board on air quality improvements.

In-person sports and school activities have resumed i.e., Grade 9 dances, student retreats, school Masses and assemblies, and Halloween for Hunger.

The Board continues to support elementary and secondary students who opted to attend the fully virtual school. Currently the Board has 131 elementary students registered from a variety of grades and 172 secondary students.

ii) See Me in HWCDSB

The survey will provide a comprehensive demographic view of the Board's student population and school community and, will assist the Board in identifying barriers experienced in student success, equity and well-being. It will assist in identifying what is needed to address any systemic barriers to student success.

The survey is voluntary and will be completed by parents for students in grades Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8. Secondary students, if they wish to participate, will complete the survey on their own. To encourage participation, promotion and advertising is being planned. The survey opens October 20, 2022.

The Board is also conducting a similar survey for staff.

A brief discussion took place regarding the creation of survey. The Ministry of Education provided some mandatory questions and the Board, working in partnership with its Equity Officer and other stakeholders, further developed the survey to ensure it would be consistent with the needs of the Board.

iii) Graduation Rate

A report was brought to the Board in June outlining the most recent graduation rate for the Board. The process for establishing the Graduation Rate was outlined. Provincial level data is not currently available for the 2016-2017 graduation cohort.

It was reported that Board data for the Grade 9 cohort from 2016-2017 (graduated in 2019-2020 or 2020-2021) - 92% of students achieved a Graduation Diploma in five years and 86% achieved it in four years. The Board graduation rate provided by the province (which includes students who left for other school boards) is slightly lower, 89% achieving a Graduation Diploma in five years and 83% in four years.

T. Hartnett expressed concern regarding current research findings involving male students having lower scores. D. Hansen advised that the Board's curriculum department is currently looking at programming for male students including early reading interventions.

iv) Credit and Non-Credit Summer Courses

Summer programs, through St. Charles Adult Education Centre, were provided for students in the areas of credit and non-credit.

Credit courses allow students to regain a credit, upgrade a credit or get a reach-ahead credit. 2,170 students registered for credit courses this past summer.

Non-credit programs include tutoring, French summer school booster, reading intervention, Focus on Youth, transition programs in Literacy and

Mathematics, Passport to Grade 9 Program and, Student Mental Health and Well-being Programs.

v) Special Education Specialized Programs

One reception classroom to support students with significant special education needs adapt to the school environment, was opened at St. Anthony Daniel Catholic Elementary School last year. A second reception classroom is planned for Canadian Martyrs Catholic Elementary School. These classrooms support students on the Autism Spectrum and assist with the transition to school. Positive gains have been noted i.e., increased ability to self-regulate behaviour, increased communication skills and increased transition to activities. The Board is looking to expand this program over the next 3-4 years.

vi) Labour Discussions

Negotiations continue centrally with various union groups. It is hoped that a negotiated settlement will be reached with all employee groups. The Board will continue to communicate with parents throughout this process.

c) J. Angiolillo

J. Angiolillo shared the following memorandums:

- Catholic School Council Memo/Catholic School Council Component \$500;
- Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Funds; and
- Funding Available to Support Home, School and Parish Relationship. This new funding has been made available to schools to support the relationship between Home, School and Parish.

She also provided updates on the following events:

i) Catholic School Council Orientation

The Catholic School Council Orientation will be held on October 25, 2022 at 7:00pm at the Nicholas Mancini Centre. The Co-Chairs will discuss with J. Angiolillo Catholic School Council updates/reminders.

ii) Parent Conference

The Parent Conference will be held on November 10, 2022 at Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School, 6pm-9pm. The evening will start the celebration of Mass followed by workshops.

iii) Catholic School Council Breakfast

The Catholic School Council Breakfast is scheduled for February 3, 2023 at 8:30am at Michelangelo Banquet Centre.

d) Other Business

D. Hansen provided dates of upcoming events:

- October 24, 2022 – Election Day;
- November 15, 2022 – Inaugural Board Meeting; and
- November 22, 2022 – Awards for Distinguished Service.

ITEM 5 MEETING DATES

Next meeting dates are:

- Tuesday, December 13, 2022
- Tuesday, March 28, 2023
- Tuesday, May 23, 2023.

ITEM 6 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

THAT THE CATHOLIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED.

MOVER: L. PERINI PARKES

SECONDER: T. HARTNETT

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.