

## **Agenda**

Catholic Education Centre 322 Fairview Drive Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

#### Board Meeting Tuesday, November 26, 2024 ♦ 7:00 p.m. Boardroom

#### Trustees:

Rick Petrella (Chair), Carol Luciani (Vice-Chair), Dennis Blake, Bill Chopp, Dan Dignard, Mark Watson Riley O'Brien (Student Trustee), Ryan Toft (Student Trustee)

#### Senior Administration:

Michael McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), John Della Fortuna, Kevin Greco, Lorrie Temple, Phil Wilson (Superintendents of Education)

#### 1. Opening Business

1.1 Opening Prayer

Almighty God, bless us as we gather today for this meeting. Guide our minds and hearts so that we will work for the good of our community and be a help to all people. Teach us to be generous in our outlook, courageous in the face of difficulty, and wise in our decisions. We give you praise and glory, Lord our God, forever and ever. **Amen** 

1.2 Attendance

1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Pages 1-2

- **1.4** Declaration of Interest
- **1.5** Approval of Board Meeting Minutes October 22, 2024 Approval of Special Meeting of the Board Minutes October 28, 2024

Pages 3-5 Pages 6-7

- **1.6** Business Arising from the Minutes
- 2. Presentations
- 3. Delegations
- 4. Consent Agenda
- Committee and Staff Reports
  - **5.1** Unapproved Minutes and Recommendations from the Committee of the Whole

Pages 8-21

- November 19, 2024

Presenter: Carol Luciani, Vice-Chair of the Board

- Insurance Renewal (pages 9-10)
- Student Achievement Action Plan (pages 11-15)
- French Immersion 2025/2026 (pages 16-17)
- **5.2** Student Trustee Report

Pages 22-24

Presenters: Riley O'Brien and Ryan Toft, Student Trustees

- 6. Information and Correspondence
- 7. Notices of Motion
- 8. Notices of Motion Being Considered for Adoption
- 9. Trustee Inquiries
- 10. Business In-Camera
  - 7 (2) Closing of certain committee meetings. A meeting of a committee of a board, including a committee of the whole board, may be closed to the public when the subject-matter under consideration involves:
    - a. The security of the property of the board;
    - The disclosure of intimate, personal or financial information in respect of a member of the board or committee, an employee or prospective employee of the board or a pupil or his or her parent or guardian;
    - c. The acquisition or disposal of a school site;
    - d. Decisions in respect of negotiation with employees of the board; or
    - e. Litigation affecting the board.

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## 12. Future Meetings and Events

Pages 25-26

## 13. Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your gifts to us: for making us, for saving us in Christ, for calling us to be your people. As we come to the end of this meeting, we give you thanks for all the good things you have done in us. We thank you for all who have shared in the work of this Board and ask you to bless us all in your love. We offer this prayer, Father, through Christ our Lord. **Amen** 

## 14. Adjournment

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 17, 2024, 7:00 p.m., Boardroom



Catholic Education Centre 322 Fairview Drive Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

# Board Meeting Tuesday, October 22, 2024 ♦ 7:00 p.m. Boardroom

#### Trustees:

Rick Petrella (Chair), Carol Luciani (Vice-Chair), Dennis Blake, Bill Chopp, Dan Dignard, Mark Watson, Riley O'Brien (Student Trustee), Ryan Toft (Student Trustee)

#### **Senior Administration:**

Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), John Della Fortuna, Kevin Greco, Lorrie Temple Phil Wilson (Superintendents of Education)

## 1. Opening Business

## 1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Chair Petrella.

#### 1.2 Attendance

Attendance was as noted above.

## 1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Dennis Blake Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the

October 22, 2024 Board meeting.

Carried

#### 1.4 Declaration of Interest - Nil

## 1.5 Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – September 24, 2024

Moved by: Bill Chopp Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the

September 24, 2024 Meeting of the Board.

Carried

#### 1.6 Business Arising from the Minutes - Nil

#### 2. Presentations

- **2.1** The board remembered Jeff De Prosperis, Teacher at St. John's College.
- 2.2 The board remembered Paul Grace, Custodian at various locations throughout the Board.
- **2.3** The board remembered Melissa Mattan, Teacher at Assumption College School.

#### 3. Delegations – Nil

#### 4. Consent Agenda

There were no agenda items on the consent agenda. Instead at this time, Chair Petrella took a few minutes to read a statement related to recent trustee travel and for the commissioning of Catholic Sculptures for St. Padre Pio Catholic Secondary School and Pope Francis Catholic Eleggentary, School.

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## 5. Committee and Staff Reports - Nil

**5.1** Vice-Chair of the Board, Trustee Luciani presented a summary of the October 15, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting along with the recommendations which include;

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the Trustee Honoraria for the period November 15, 2024 to November 14, 2025.

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the EQAO board report on results for the 2023-2024 School year.

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the excursion request from Holy Trinity for the Portugal Soccer Tour Excursion from Thursday, March 12, 2026, to Friday, March 20, 2026.

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the excursion request from Assumption College for an excursion to New York City from Thursday, May 14, 2026, to Monday, May 18, 2026.

Moved by: Carol Luciani Second by: Mark Watson

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 15, 2024.

Moved by: Carol Luciani Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 15, 2024.

#### 5.2 Student Trustee Report

Superintendent Phil Wilson presented the September and October Student Trustee reports. All three high schools had a successful first month and a half of school. Some of the highlights include Grade 9 orientations, colour nights, homecoming dances and the start up of fall sports and clubs. Social justice and outreach initiatives have begun at St. John's and Assumption College which include pink nights to raise awareness for breast cancer and organizing food drives for St. Vincent DePaul. The success of Holy Trinity students during the Young Canada Day Celebrations at the Norfolk County Fair was also highlighted along with the first meeting of the student senate.

Moved by: Carol Luciani Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the information and correspondence items since the last meeting.

Carried

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## 6. Information and Correspondence

6.1 The Save the Date information for the 2025 Celebration of the Arts event at the Sanderson Centre in Brantford was shared with the Trustees. This event showcases the incredible artistic talents from our school communities, and we look forward to highlighting the creativity of our students each year.

Moved by: Carol Luciani Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the information and

correspondence items since the last meeting.

Carried

#### 7. Notices of Motion - Nil

## 8. Notices of Motion Being Considered for Adoption - Nil

#### 9. Trustee Inquiries

The crossing guard vacancies at two local intersections were discussed.

#### 10. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Carol Luciani Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board moves to an In-Camera session.

Carried

## 11. Report on the In-Camera Session

Moved by: Dan Dignard Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the business of the

In- Camera session.

Carried

#### 12. Future Meetings and Events

Chair Petrella drew attention to the upcoming meetings and events.

## 13. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Chair Petrella.

## 14. Adjournment

Moved by: Bill Chopp

Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the October 22, 2024 Board

meeting. Carried

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, November 26, 2024, 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom



Catholic Education Centre 322 Fairview Drive Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

## Special Meeting of the Board Monday October 28, 2024 ♦ 7:00 pm Boardroom

#### Trustees:

Rick Petrella (Chair), Carol Luciani (Vice-Chair), Dennis Blake, Bill Chopp, Dan Dignard, Mark Watson

#### **Senior Administration:**

Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary)

**Regrets:** John Della Fortuna, Kevin Greco, Lorrie Temple, Phil Wilson (Superintendents of Education)

#### 1. Opening Business

#### 1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Chair Petrella.

#### 1.2 Attendance

#### 1.3 Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was amended as there are no in-camera agenda items, and the in-camera portion of the meeting was removed from the agenda.

Moved by: Dan Dignard Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the October 28, 2024, Special Meeting of the Board.

Carried as Amended.

#### 2. Committee and Staff Reports

#### 2.1 Unapproved Recommendations of the Policy Committee

Chair of the Board, Rick Petrella presented the minutes and recommendations from the October 24, 2024 Policy Committee meeting. Discussion regarding meal expenses allowed in the new policy as per the BPS versus the actual cost of meals was had. It was clarified that a receipt can be submitted for the cost of a meal greater than what is in the policy, however only the approved amount in the policy will be reimbursed. The language regarding the responsibilities of the Chair of the Board approving Trustee expenses was discussed. Trustee Blake presented a motion to have all Trustee expenses be approved by the Superintendent of Business & Treasurer instead of the Chair of the Board. Debate ensued with regards to the motion. No trustee seconded the motion. The vote was called to approve the Trustee Expenses Policy and all trustees voted in favour.

 THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the Trustee Expenses Policy #100.10

Moved by: Bill Chopp Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved

minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting of October 28, 2024

**Carried Unanimously** 



Catholic Education Centre 322 Fairview Drive Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

Moved by: Bill Chopp Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the

recommendations of the Policy Committee Meeting of October 28, 2024

**Carried Unanimously** 

## 3. Closing Prayer

The meeting was closed with prayer led by Chair Petrella.

## 4. Adjournment

Moved by: Dan Dignard Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board adjourns the October 28, 2024

Special Meeting of the Board.

Carried

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 26, 2024, 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE BOARD FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

November 26, 2024

AGENDA ITEM	MOTION
5.1	THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the 2025 insurance renewal premium, payable to the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange, in the amount of \$186,983.00, excluding PST.
	THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the 2024-2025 Student Achievement Plan to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.
	THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the changes to the French Immersion Kindergarten (Year 1 and Year 2) Program beginning in September 2025 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 19, 2024.

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 19, 2024.

## REPORT TO THE BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Prepared by: Mike McDonald, Director of Education & Secretary

Presented to: Committee of the Whole Submitted on: November 19, 2024

Submitted by: Mike McDonald, Director of Education & Secretary

## INSURANCE RENEWAL

Public Session

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Board's property and liability insurance is currently covered by the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange (OSBIE), which is a reciprocal cooperative established in 1987. OSBIE insures most school boards and several joint ventures in Ontario.

As of January 1, 2025, OSBIE is in year four of the current five-year Subscription Period, which ends on December 31, 2026.

### **DEVELOPMENTS:**

Overall premiums are determined by OSBIE's appointed actuary to cover expected future claims. Premiums vary from year to year based on a number of factors such as: general experience of the entire pool, exposure and loss experience of the Board over the past five years, and inflation. It should be noted, as a not-for-profit, OSBIE does not build profit into funding models.

Based on actuarial estimates, OSBIE was able to provide the following general rate adjustments for 2025:

Insurance Line	Rate Adjustments		
insurance Line	General	BHNCDSB	
Property	0.99%	8.3%	
Boiler & Equipment	0.0%	50.0%	
Liability	7.29%	4.3%	
Cyber	13.01%	10.0%	
Legal	7.29%	43.0%	
Crime	0.0%	0.0%	
Fleet	0.0%	0.0%	

In addition to their regular insurance program, OSBIE provides an incentive program to help reduce fees even further. As a subscriber, OSBIE provides additional value by returning premiums based on the pool's experience. In 2024, the Board received a premium refund of \$29,487.64.

Appendix A summarizes the premium breakdown for 2025, compared to prior years.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the 2025 insurance renewal premium, payable to the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange, in the amount of \$186,983.00, excluding PST.

# Appendix A OSBIE INSURANCE PREMIUMS

Insurance Line	2022	2023	2024	2025	Change (%)
Property	36,459.00	36,870.00	33,580.00	32,640.00	-2.8%
Crime	5,650.00	5,787.00	6,098.00	6,550.00	7.4%
Boiler & Equipment	7,003.00	7,276.00	8,009.00	12,018.00	50.1%
Liability	70,380.00	73,198.00	84,179.00	94,368.00	12.1%
Cyber	5,412.00	8,053.00	7,659.00	10,010.00	30.7%
Legal	14,432.00	14,783.00	15,579.00	23,859.00	53.1%
Fleet	6,137.00	7,232.00	7,538.00	7,538.00	0.00%
<b>Total Premium</b>	145,473.00	153,199.00	162,642.00	186,983.00	15.0%

Insurance Line	Coverage	Deductible
Property	Unlimited	\$10,000 / per occurrence
Crime	\$1 million	\$500 / per occurrence
Boiler & Equipment	\$5 million	\$5,000 / per occurrence
Cyber	\$1 million	\$50,000 / per occurrence
Legal	\$500,000	N/A

## REPORT TO THE BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Prepared by: Lorrie Temple, Superintendent

Presented to: Board of Trustees Submitted on: November 19, 2024

Submitted by: Mike McDonald, Director of Education & Secretary

## Student Achievement Plan for 2024-2025

Public Session

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board facilitated and created an improvement plan for student achievement that is developed within the context of our Vision, Motto, and Values. All commitments and goals for students, staff, and the community are based on our focus to ensure a commitment to Christ-centred, life-long learning rooted in the Essential Practices.

The Essential Practices include knowing the learner, learning goals and success criteria, as well as descriptive feedback.

This Student Achievement (SAP) stems from, aligns with, and is an extension of the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan launched last September 2023, as well as current Ministry of Education priorities.

The Ministry priorities are:

- 1. Achievement of Learning Outcomes in Core Academic Skills
- 2. Preparation of Students for Future Success
- 3. Student Engagement & Well-Being

Included in this year's SAP is a focus on EQAO data for literacy (reading and writing), early reading screening data, as well as success and achievement in mathematics. In addition, there is a focus on attendance, suspension data, 16 credits by age16 attainment in secondary, as well as a continued focus on mental health and well-being including equity and belonging to support engagement.

#### **INFORMATION GATHERING and RECOMMENDATION:**

A small team of consultants and leads have met with different community partners, reviewed EQAO data and report card data, looked at success of the MAAP (Math Achievement Action Plan) and school climate surveys, to develop this year's goals and plan moving forward.

Superintendent of Education for Curriculum, as well as Curriculum Student Achievement Lead, have met with all school administrators to discuss EQAO data, plans for this year and how the goals will be monitored and met. We will continue these visits in February to challenge schools to look at who is doing well and how to move them forward; look at what the educators need to support moving these students forward; and what supports are needed from the SAT team to meet and support the achievement of these goals to ultimately support student success and better EQAO scores and overall skill building for our students and staff.

## School Student Achievement Plans (SAPs):

The Ministry documents, including the 11 indicators, were shared with each school administrator and the Family of Schools, Superintendent. School Principals were also shared all the data to support decision making and encouraged to focus on a few key areas: Literacy and Numeracy; Engagement (Equity and Mental Health); and Faith (bringing the Spiritual Theme to life across the district uniquely in each school community). Principals were asked to complete action items for each of the indicators. We challenged them to go deep; meaning specific instructional practices in literacy and numeracy that could be monitored and supported. We asked them to look at students not achieving success and share with staff to discuss a plan to support moving them forward, with a focus on level 2 students. Our BHNCDSB EQAO data showed us that this is where the focus needs to be.

Highlighting a few key areas of focus for 2024-2025:

#### Math Achievement Action Plan (MAAP)

The Ministry shared once again, a list of priority schools for us to support; however, using our own data; the focus to build support using the staff and funding we have; the educators in those classrooms, and our own data from last year, we tweaked those schools to include:

Grade 3 Schools	Grade 6 Schools
Notre Dame Brantford	Notre Dame Brantford
St Pius	St Mary
Holy Cross	Holy Cross
St Michael's Dunnville	St Michael's Dunnville
Madonna Della Libra	St Bernard
Christ the King	St Frances Cabrini

We have three priority action areas (see chart in Appendix 1):

- 1. Ensuring fidelity of curriculum implementation including the intentional use of proven strategies that support academic math achievement
- 2. Engaging in ongoing math learning on mathematics content knowledge for teaching
- 3. Knowing the mathematics learner, and ensuring mathematical tasks, interventions, and supports are relevant and timely

#### Priority Action 1:

As the appendix notes, each area has a need, and then action items at the classroom, school, and board level. We have included monitoring actions as well to support tracking the work intentionally.

- a. Highlighting the High Impact Instructional Practices. We chose three (tools and representations, small group instruction, and math conversations)
- b. Looking for a shift in confidence from educators and students.
- c. Looking for PD engagement and the focus in on the priority schools, Grades 3 and 6 as noted above
- d. Looking for a shift in practice utilizing a checklist for administrators to use to track and monitor; and board supported resources.

#### Priority Action 2:

- a. We are focusing the work on computational fluency for Grade 3s and Algebra and Spatial Sense for Grade 6
- b. Looking for a shift in practice utilizing a tracking form by our Math Facilitators
- c. Collaborative work: content webinars, coaches' corner, number routines, and EQAO support sessions (November, February, and April)
- d. Looking for a shift in confidence with content knowledge as noted by a self-assessment survey
- e. Looking for student progress using Knowledgehook data in Grades 3 and 6 priority school classrooms,

## **Priority Action 3:**

- a. Utilizing and supporting board supported diagnostic tools to get to know students
- b. Looking for a shift in practice using diagnostic tools to respond with instruction and assessment intentionally. Using Knowledgehook data and surveys
- c. Looking for a shift in practice in use of relevant and responsive interventions and instruction
- d. Looking for student progress in use of digital tools to support learning as noted by Knowledgehook reporting, teacher usage and EQAO results.

## **Literacy Plan**

## Elementary K-8:

We have successfully screened, all 2458 students in year 2 Kindergarten – Grade 2 across BHNCDSB since September. Using that data, broken down to school, classroom, and student level, the literacy team met with educators to support next steps. Those steps include creating small groups to support intentional and explicit teaching of the skills that need growth, using FlyLeaf, Heggerty, and the Phonics Companion (Board Supported Resources) at the Tier I level. Special Education is supporting Tier 3 via Lexia licenses and Empower reading to support 6% of the population needing this extensive support.

Our next learning and action is how to best support Tier 2 instruction focusing on Grade 2, where our data shows the gaps in learning and students not meeting benchmark using the Acadience screener; as well as piloting other resources such as Catch Up Your Code beyond Grade 4 to continue to close learning gaps and address skill deficits in Junior and Intermediate.

Our EQAO data shows that we are on par for Primary reading and our focus needs to be on writing in Junior and Intermediate as well as ensuring all students can read as early as they can. Schools are using a writing focus with EQAO questions, monthly writing challenges, and SAT is piloting, tracking, and monitoring, some other Junior and Intermediate resources (Write to Read and Teaching Phonics and Word Study in the Intermediate Grades) to support gap closing in those divisions.

The Student Achievement Literacy Team continues to grow their knowledge, skills, and work with the new curriculum, structured literacy, supporting the screener roll out, and intervention work for Tier 1 and 2 instruction (teaching and learning) across the system.

#### Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT):

The Literacy Consultant for Secondary has met with all secondary school administrators with literacy as their portfolio. A plan was created for each school regarding when students would write and who would write when (spring or fall). Detailed preparation supports unique to each school were developed and direct school support from the Consultant for test prep and writing is happening consistently and regularly.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the Student Achievement Plan 2024-2025.



# Appendix A Key Performance Indicators for the Three Priority Action Items: MAAP 2024-2025

	Priority Action 1	Priority Action 2	Priority Action 3
	Ensuring fidelity of curriculum implementation including the intentional use of proven strategies that support academic math achievement (HIIP)	Engaging in ongoing learning on mathematics content knowledge for teaching	Knowing the mathematics learner, and ensuring mathematical tasks, interventions and supports are relevant and responsive
Needs	<ul> <li>Focused work on Algebra and Spatial Sense (Number) expectations and using the teachers' resources in the DCP</li> <li>Highlighting three HIIP: Small group instruction, conversations, Tools &amp; Representations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Grade 3 – Computational Fluency (fall);</li> <li>Grade 3 and 6 - Focused work on Algebra and Spatial Sense (Number) expectations and using the teachers' resources in the DCP</li> <li>Highlighting three HIIP: Small group instruction, conversations, Tools &amp; Representations</li> </ul>	Educators need support in better utilizing student assessment data, from a variety of sources, to determine student learning needs
	> Shift in confidence	> Shift in practice	> Shift in practice
Classroom	100% of Grade 3 and 6 Priority School educators priority school will report an increase in confidence using the <b>DCP</b> and the <b>high-impact instructional practices</b> (i.e. teacher supports; tools and representations, math conversations, small group instruction) through job-embedded support	100% of Grade 3 and 6 Priority School educators will work collaboratively with a math facilitator or consultant to deepen their content knowledge in Algebra and Spatial Sense so that they plan and teach at least one activity together	100% of Grade 3 and 6 Priority School educators will use diagnostic assessments in Algebra and Spatial Sense (e.g. Knowledgehook, MathUP, Nelson Pre-Assessments) to identify student learning needs and respond accordingly in their instruction and assessment
วเว	Current Value: Survey question	Current Value: track using a form completed by Math Facilitator	Current Value: KH tracking, Self-Assessment Survey
		Collaborative work includes content webinars, coaches' corner, number routines, EQAO support sessions	
	PD engagement	> Shift in confidence	> Shift in practice
School	100% of Grade 3 and 6 Priority School educators will participate in PD sessions focusing on the use of High Impact Instruction Practices (e.g. visual representations) in the <u>Algebra</u> and <u>Spatial Sense</u> strand.  Current Value: Attendance tracking	After engaging in collaborative meetings (e.g. MOE webinars), 100% of Grade 3 and 6 Priority School educators will report increased confidence of their content knowledge of Algebra and Spatial Sense  Current Value: Self-Assessment Survey	100 % of Grade 3 and 6 Priority School educators will report an increased use of mathematics achievement data from a variety of sources, (e.g. EQAO, report cards, board-developed assessment tools) to provide relevant and responsive interventions.  Current Value: Survey
	➤ Shift In Practice	> Student progress	> Student progress
Board	Using board-created materials to share during staff meetings, Administrators of all schools will report an increased number of classroom observations of <b>high-impact instructional practices</b> (i.e. tools and representations, math conversations, small group instruction) documented through a board-provided observation checklist  Current Value = Administrator observation checklist	In Grade 3 and 6 Priority Schools, 100% of students will show improvement in Algebra and Spatial Sense scores (i.e. pre and post assessment in Knowledgehook).  Current Value: KH reports - Last year's scores as a baseline	An increased use of digital tools (e.g. Knowledgehook) to provide relevant and responsive interventions (e.g. teacher supports) will result in an increase in the number of Grade 3 and 6 students at provincial standard as measured by EQAO (spring 2025 data)  Current Value: KH report – teacher support usage + results by strand; EQAO results

## REPORT TO THE BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Prepared by: Lorrie Temple, Superintendent of Education

Presented to: Committee of the Whole Submitted on: November 19, 2024

Submitted by: Mike McDonald, Director of Education & Secretary

## French Immersion Programming 2025-2026

**Public Session** 

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

To support evidence and research coming from the Right to Read and changes to the Language Curriculum, as well as the anticipated new Kindergarten program, the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board is proposing a change to the French Immersion Programming beginning next September for the 2025-2026 school year for Year 1 and Year 2 Kindergarten.

#### **DEVELOPMENTS:**

#### Research and Evidence:

Research, brought to light through the Science of Reading Report and move to structured literacy in the Language curriculum with explicit instruction of skills, clearly shows that students need a good foundation in the English Language and with literacy skills, before moving on to learn a new language. The BHNCDSB wants to ensure students are prepared in Grade 1 for the acquisition of another language, building on a solid foundation of what is learned in Kindergarten and from families at home, prior to formal school starting.

Shifting French Immersion to Grade 1 supports the need to develop fluency and strong foundational English language skills first. The move we are proposing will provide more time for children to develop foundational English language skills including oral language, fluency, decoding, and good reading and writing success.

In addition, the BHNCDSB would be able to access French Kindergarten educators for other French staffing positions to serve the needs of the system in French Immersion and Core French Programming.

As the BHNCDSB makes this shift in programming it would:

- 1. Still permit registration to French Immersion in Kindergarten to allow all children a seamless start to school and into the Grade 1 French Immersion Program.
- 2. Offer opportunities for French language and French cultural experiences in Year 1 and Year 2 Kindergarten in those classes.
- 3. Build in intentional French opportunities through play-based Kindergarten program such as French songs and games in all four frames of the Kindergarten Program, as well as through centres/provocations set up in the classroom.
- 4. Continue to allow for children/families to enter the Grade 1 French Immersion program, if there are spots available from Kindergarten.
- 5. Allow for the continuation of caps for the French Immersion program as they currently exist following the same registration period that runs January 6-Febrary 21, 2025.

#### Timelines:

Once approved, communication will happen with Administrators of the French Immersion schools. Followed by communication to families of current Year 1 students moving to Year 2 French Immersion. After which, communication for registration will happen explaining this change to all families looking to register for French Immersion in 2025-2026.

The French and Early Years Consultants, alongside the Administrators of the French Immersion schools, would support the transition and focus on offering good French language and cultural opportunities for Year 1 and Year 2 students at those French Immersion schools in the Kindergarten Program.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the changes to the French Immersion Kindergarten (Year 1 and Year 2) Program beginning in September 2025 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.



Catholic Education Centre 322 Fairview Drive Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

# Committee of the Whole Tuesday, November 19, 2024 ♦ 7:00 pm Boardroom

#### Trustees:

Rick Petrella (Chair), Carol Luciani (Vice Chair), Dennis Blake, Bill Chopp, Dan Dignard, Mark Watson Riley O'Brien (Student Trustee), Ryan Toft (Student Trustees)

#### **Senior Administration:**

Mike McDonald (Director of Education & Secretary), John Della Fortuna, Kevin Greco, Lorrie Temple, Phil Wilson (Superintendents of Education)

#### 1. Opening Business

## 1.1 Opening Prayer

The meeting was opened with prayer led by Vice Chair Luciani.

#### 1.2 Attendance

Attendance was as noted above.

## 1.3 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Dan Dignard Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the agenda of the November 19, 2024, meeting.

Carried

#### 1.4 Declaration of Interest – Nil

## 1.5 Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes - October 15, 2024

Moved by: Dennis Blake Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the minutes of the October 15, 2024, meeting.

Carried

#### 1.6 Business from the Minutes - Nil

#### 2. Presentations - Nil

#### 3. Delegations- Nil

#### 4. Consent Agenda

Clarification surrounding two items in the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes were requested. The questions were regarding the Empower Reading Program PD and the recent creation of the document, *Considerations When Programming for Students with Complex Needs*, which is a compilation of Health & Safety and Special Education resources now in one central location. This document will be released to the system soon.

Catholic Education Centre 322 Fairview Drive Brantford, ON N3T 5M8

## 4.1 Unapproved Minutes from the Special Education Advisory Committee – October 15, 2024

Moved by: Mark Watson Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of October 15, 2024.

# 4.2 Unapproved Minutes from the Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee – October 21, 2024

Moved by: Mark Watson Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved minutes of the Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of October 21, 2024.

# 4.3 Unapproved Minutes from the Accessibility Steering Committee – October 31, 2024

Moved by: Mark Watson Seconded by: Carol Luciani

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the unapproved minutes of the Accessibility Steering Committee Meeting of October 31, 2024.

## 5. Committee and Staff Reports

#### 5.1 2025 Insurance Renewal

Director McDonald presented the 2025 Insurance renewal report. The Board's property and liability insurance is currently covered by the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange (OSBIE). As of January 1, 2025, OSBIE is in year four of the current five-year subscription period, which ends on December 31, 2026. Overall premiums are determined by OSBIE's appointed actuary to cover expected future claims. Premiums vary from year to year based on several factors including enrollment and coverage. Discussion regarding the rate increases in a couple of line items was had.

Moved by: Dennis Blake Seconded by: Dan Dignard

THAT the Committee of the Whole the Committee of the Whole recommends that the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board approves the 2025 insurance renewal premium, payable to the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange, in the amount of \$186,983.00, excluding PST.

Carried



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### 5.2 Student Achievement Plan for 2024-2025

Superintendent Temple presented the 2024-25 Student Achievement Plan. This Student Achievement (SAP) stems from, aligns with, and is an extension of the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan launched last September 2023, as well as current Ministry of Education priorities. Included in this year's SAP is a focus on EQAO data for literacy (reading and writing), early reading screening data, as well as success and achievement in mathematics. In addition, there is a focus on attendance, suspension data, 16 credits by age16 attainment in secondary, as well as a continued focus on mental health and well-being including equity and belonging to support engagement. The math achievement and literacy plans were highlighted along with computation fluency.

Moved by: Carol Luciani Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the 2024-2025 Student Achievement Plan to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

Carried

#### 5.3 French Immersion 2025-2026

Superintendent Temple presented the French Immersion 2025-26 report. To support evidence and research coming from the *Right to Read* report and changes to the Language Curriculum, as well as the anticipated new Kindergarten program, the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board is proposing a change to the French Immersion Programming beginning next September for the 2025-2026 school year for Year 1 and Year 2 Kindergarten. The changes will include a shift to full French Immersion programming which will begin in grade one. However, students will still enter the class at the designated French Immersion school in Kindergarten with programming to include building in monthly French culture and language experiences and opportunities. The program changes, timelines, and communication to the system were all addressed.

Moved by: Carol Luciani Seconded by: Mark Watson

THAT the Committee of the Whole refers the changes to the French Immersion Kindergarten (Year 1 and Year 2) Program beginning in September 2025 to the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board for approval.

Carried

## 6. Information and Correspondence

#### 6.1 Con Ed Afternoon Programming

Superintendent Della Fortuna provided information regarding the addition of the pilot con-ed afternoon programming. Information will be sent out to parents shortly. It was noted that transportation will not be provided and the SWAC and Dual credit programs are still available.

Moved by: Carol Luciani Seconded: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board

receives the information and correspondence since the last meeting.

Carried

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## 7. Trustee Inquiries

Math tutoring was discussed and as per the funding, is only being offered to grade nine students.

#### 8. Business In-Camera

Moved by: Carol Luciani Seconded by: Dennis Blake

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board moves to an In-Camera session.

Carried

#### 9. Report on the In-Camera Session

Moved by: Carol Luciani Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board

approves the business of the In-Camera session.

Carried

## 10. Future Meetings and Events

Chair Petrella drew attention to the upcoming meetings and events.

## 11. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was led by Chair Petrella.

## 12. Adjournment

Moved by: Dennis Blake Seconded by: Bill Chopp

THAT the Committee of the Whole of the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board

adjourns the November 19, 2024 meeting.

Carried

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 7:00 p.m. – Boardroom

## REPORT TO THE BRANT HALDIMAND NORFOLK CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Prepared by: Riley O'Brien, Ryan Toft, Student Trustees

Presented to: Board of Trustees Submitted on: November 21, 2024

Submitted by: Mike McDonald, Director of Education & Secretary

## STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

**Public Session** 

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

St. John's College (SJC), Assumption College School (ACS), Holy Trinity Catholic High School (HT), and St. Mary' Catholic Learning Center (SMCLC) have continued to have strong years as they enter the months of October and November, with various dances, sporting events, and additional activities taking place.

#### **DEVELOPMENTS:**

October's Student Senate meeting took place on October 15, 2024, via Teams and November's meting was held on November 19, 2024, at the Board Office. At both meetings, plans for our upcoming retreat on December 10, 2024, were discussed.

#### **SCHOOL NEWS:**

St. John's College has had another amazing month and a half of school activities for October and November. Beginning with Student Council involvement, SJC had their first pep rally of the year on October 17<sup>th</sup> where school spirit was raised through participation in various games. Next, SJC held their homecoming dance on October 30, under the theme, "Haunted HoCo". The dance saw great success with approximately three hundred tickets being sold and most students dressing up in their Halloween costumes and participating in the walk-through haunted house, run by the drama students. For Halloween, Student Council coordinated a categorized Halloween costume contest for students who dressed up to participate and possibly win prizes. St. John's Student Council next led event is their Semi-Formal dance, which will be held on November 29-2024, and dons the theme of, "New York: The City that Never Sleeps".

In sports news, the seasons for football and senior boys' volleyball have just concluded, while those for curling, boys' basketball, and girls' volleyball have just begun. Notable accomplishments for St. John's College's sports teams include the Junior girl's basketball team's advancement to CWOSSA following their win against ACS for the AABHN title. The junior girls went on to win the CWOSSA finals. Additionally, both Junior and Senior football teams made it to the AABHN championship, but unfortunately lost to Brantford Collegiate Institute. Lastly, the girls' fast pitch team won AABHN championship, beating Hagersville Highschool for the title.

In other school news, the Social Science Club, STEM Club, ACE Club, and Eco Club have begun or are continuing to hold meetings and are seeing active participation. St. John's is also proud of one of their students, Jessica Harrison, as she participated in and won the City of Brantford's Remembrance Day speech writing competition. As a part of her win, she had the honour of presenting her winning submission during the City of Brantford's Remembrance Day Ceremony, held on November 11, 2024. Finally, the Grade 10 Hospitality class hosted a wonderful bake sale on November 14, with all items sold being made from scratch. The students of SJC look forward to the remainder of November's activities as well as any other future events.

This past month has been jammed packed with events at Assumption College. One of the biggest events, Assumption Scares Hunger, occurred on October 30. This year was one of the

biggest years vet with over 25,000 pounds of food collected from 70 routes, up from 35 last year. The school community came together with over 350 students participating in this charity event. The week of October 28 to November 1, Student Council organized a spirit week to boost school spirit. The themed days included grade colour day (i.e. where each grade dressed in a certain fall colour in place of a uniform top), PJ Day, knit sweater day, Halloween costume day, and a day where hot chocolate and apple cider was sold in the cafeteria. On October 25, ACS hosted a senior sunrise to raise money for Pennies from Heaven, the annual Christmas charity event to help families in our community. This event was only for grade 12 and grade 13 students, who were invited to the school to watch the sunrise as a community. On October 31, ACS hosted their first pep rally of the year. All the fall sports teams were announced at the school and there were many performances including the dance team and vocal ensemble. There were also Halloween themed games that encouraged student participation to enhance school spirit. On November 14, 2024, ACS had their first Coffee House of the year. There were many performances from a variety of singers that entertained the audience. As well, food was handed out as a snack for all those who attended. Coming up, ACS is focusing on their Pennies from Heaven campaign and on November 14, 2024, Assumption Marketplace was held. This event has homeroom classes making booths to sell items to students, with all money raised going directly to the campaign. The Nutcracker/Candy Land themed Semi-Formal will occur on December 6, 2024, and there will be decorations, food, and more. There will also be a donation and Giving Tree campaign available during December to help raise even more for those in need. December will additionally feature five days of spirit the week before Christmas break, including various dress down days as well as themed activities to encourage school spirit. On the last day of school before the holiday break, there will also be the Spirit of Christmas event which includes many different pep-rally themed games, as well as performances from the student body.

In sports news, ACS's fall sports teams have been extremely successful this year. The senior girls' basketball team won the CWOSSA finals and are continuing to OFSAA. This also was a record year for the tennis team as they won CWOSSA and went to OFSAA. Now, Assumption looks to pivot into winter sports and continue their success.

Holy Trinity has also had an activity-packed two months with a variety of activities and events being held. Holy Trinity's Student Council has been busy planning and executing events for the months of October and November, starting with their Halloween Spirit Day on October 31, 2024. Students were allowed to and encouraged to dress in their Halloween costumes, and activities consisted of a student costume contest, teacher costume contest, pumpkin hide-and-seek activity, candy bags, and a guess the amount of candy in the jar contest. The day was a great success, and everyone enjoyed themselves. On November 15 2024, Holy Trinity held its annual Semi-Formal dance, themed, "Masquerade". Student Council helped plan this wonderful evening, featuring decorations and food options that approximately three hundred students were able to enjoy. Holy Trinity's Student Council is currently in the process of planning the school's holiday activities for the month of December and cannot wait to bring holiday spirit to the student body.

In sports news, the seasons for the Junior boys' volleyball and Senior girls' basketball has ended, with the girls' basketball team winning the AABHN championships. Meanwhile, the Senior girls' volleyball and curling season have begun, and Holy Trinity's cheer team has begun recruiting new members.

In other news, Holy Trinity's leadership class has been running several charitable events, including the Titans Scare Hunger program in which non-perishable foods were collected throughout the month of October, and The Giving Tree campaign to collect gifts and essential supplies for families in need. Additionally, several Senior students welcomed and helped lead Grade 8 classes of the BHNCDSB elementary schools at an open house where these students

got their first taste of high school life. Grade 9 Titans also got to partake in their first Take Your Kid to Work Day as they accompanied their parents or guardians to their workplace to gain insight into career options and planning. Lastly, Holy Trinity's Book Club, French Club, Music Ministry, and various musical bands have begun, or are continuing to meet, and have been seeing great engagement. Holy Trinity's Titans cannot wait to see what the rest of November has instore and are excited for this upcoming holiday season.

At St. Mary Catholic Learning Centre, their new Student Council has been hard at work at creating student-centered and student-led initiatives to generate school spirit and positive support networks for their community during the first few months of school. St. Mary's started their year off by formulating a Student Council that gathers weekly during the afternoon. From there, the Student Council planned a "Welcome Back to School" event that included karaoke, dancing, art, outdoor games, and a pizza lunch with cake for dessert. In October, St. Mary's Student Council planned a Truth and Reconciliation week which was composed of activities such as: Orange Hearts of Support initiative, virtual learning opportunities through the National Center for Truth and Reconciliation, and Orange Shirt Day. At their following meeting, the Student Council collaborated with the Public Health Nurse from Brant County Health Unit and a Child and Youth Worker to generate ideas of how the breakfast program could be modified to better meet student needs. For Bully Prevention Week, more engaging activities were run, including making friendship bracelets, pink hearts with inspirational messages, "take what you need, leave what you can" on an inspirational message board, and a self-care checklist. For Treaties Recognition Week, the Student Council provided resources and went to each classroom to show the students some of the different Wampum Belts. On Remembrance Day, Student Council read the poem "In Flander's Fields" during announcements, and all students and faculty took a moment of silence to reflect on the fallen soldiers. Lastly, as their attempt to allow all student voices to be heard throughout the year, St. Mary's Student Council has placed a suggestion box in their school foyer for the school community to use. Aside from Student Council activities, St. Mary's has also recently formed their Eco Team, who have brainstormed eco activities and information to share with the school. The students of St. Mary's look forward to the many more initiatives their new Student Council will bring to their school community.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board receives the Student Trustee Report.

2024-25
Trustee Meetings and Events

Trustee Meetings and Events			
Date	Time	Meeting/Event	
November 19, 2024	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee	
November 19, 2024	7:00 pm	Committee of the Whole	
November 25, 2024	9:00 am	Mental Health Steering Committee	
November 26, 2024	7:00 pm	Board Meeting	
December 2, 2024	3:00 pm	Accommodations Committee	
December 4, 2024	3:00 pm	Executive Council	
December 10, 2024	7:00 pm	Annual Board Meeting	
December 11, 2024	3:00 pm	Budget Committee	
December 17, 2024	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee	
December 17, 2024	7:00 pm	Board Meeting	
December 23 2024- January 3, 2025		CHRISTMAS BREAK	
January 15, 2025	3:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting	
January 17-18, 2025	'	OCSTA Trustees Seminar	
January 21, 2025	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee	
January 21, 2025	7:00 pm	Committee of the Whole	
January 28, 2025	1:30 pm	Faith Advisory Council Meeting	
January 28, 2025	7:00 pm	Board Meeting	
February 3, 2025	9:00am	Mental Health Steering Committee	
February 3, 2025	6:30pm	Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee	
February 12, 2025	3:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting	
February 18, 2025	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee	
February 18, 2025	7:00 pm	Committee of the Whole	
February 25, 2025	9:00 am	Student Transportation Services BHN	
February 25, 2025	1:00pm	Accessibility Steering Committee	
February 25, 2025	7:00 pm	Board Meeting	
March 5, 2025	3:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting	
March 10-14, 2025	,	MARCH BREAK	
March 18, 2025	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee	
March 18, 2025	7:00 pm	Committee of the Whole	
March 25, 2025	7:00 pm	Board Meeting	
April 7, 2025	3:00 pm	Accommodations Committee Meeting	
April 9, 2025	3:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting	
April 14, 2025	6:30 pm	Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee	
April 15, 2025	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee	
April 15, 2025	7:00 pm	Committee of the Whole	
April 17, 2025	1:30 pm	Faith Advisory Council Meeting	
April 22, 2025	7:00 pm	Board Meeting	
May 1-3, 2025	-	OCSTA AGM & Conference	
May 5-9, 2025		Catholic Education Week	
May 5, 2025	5:00 pm	Catholic Student Leadership Awards	
May 7, 2025	3:00 pm	Budget Committee	
May 12, 2025	1:00 pm	Accessibility Steering Committee	
May 12, 2025	6:30 pm	Regional Catholic Parent Involvement Committee	
May 14, 2025	3:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting	
May 20, 2025	1:00 pm	Special Education Advisory Committee	
May 20, 2025	7:00 pm	Committee of the Whole	
May 26, 2025	9:00 am	Mental Health Steering Committee	
May 27, 2025	9:00 am	Student Transportation Services BHN	
May 27, 2025	7:00pm	Board Meeting	

June 5-7		CCSTA AGM
June 9, 2025	1:00 pm	Accessibility Steering Committee
June 9, 2025	5:00pm	Audit Committee
June 10, 2025	1:30 pm	Faith Advisory Committee Meeting
June 10, 2025	1:30 pm	Mental Health
June 11, 2025	3:00 pm	Executive Council Meeting
June 17, 2025	7:00 pm	Committee of the Whole
June 24, 2025	7:00 pm	Board Meeting
June 26, 2025	4:45 pm	Assumption College Graduation
	6:30 pm	Holy Trinity Graduation
	7:00 pm	St. John's College Graduation

Meetings scheduled at the Call of the Committee Chair: Accommodations Committee, Audit Committee, Budget Committee, Faith Advisory Committee, Policy Committee.